

# Report of the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission

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Busan, Rep. of Korea, 27 April – 1 May 2015

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IOTC 2015. Report of the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission. Busan, Rep. of Korea, 27 April – 1 May 2015. *IOTC-2015-S19-R[E]*: 155 pp.



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## ACRONYMS

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| AFAD              | Anchored fish aggregating device   |
| SB <sub>MSY</sub> | Spawning or ‘adult’ equilibrium biomass at MSY                                     |
| B <sub>MSY</sub>  | Biomass which produces MSY   |
| CMM               | Conservation and Management Measure (of the IOTC; Resolutions and Recommendations) |
| CNCP              | Cooperation Non-Contracting Party, of the IOTC                                     |
| CoC               | Compliance Committee of the IOTC   |
| CPCs              | Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties                        |
| DFAD              | Drifting fish aggregating device   |
| DWFN              | Distant Water fishing Nation   |
| EEZ               | Exclusive Economic Zone  |
| FAD               | Fish aggregating device  |
| FAO               | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations                            |
| F <sub>MSY</sub>  | Fishing mortality at MSY   |
| HCR               | Harvest control rule   |
| ICRU              | Improved Cost Recovery Uplift  |
| IOC               | Indian Ocean Commission  |
| IOSEA             | Indian Ocean - South-East Asian Marine Turtle Memorandum                           |
| IO-ShYP           | Indian Ocean Shark multi-Year Program  |
| IOTC              | Indian Ocean Tuna Commission   |
| ISSF              | International Seafood Sustainability Foundation                                    |
| IUU               | Illegal, unreported and unregulated  |
| LRP               | Limit reference point  |
| LSTLV             | Large-scale tuna longline vessel   |
| MPF               | Meeting participation fund, of the IOTC  |
| MSC               | Marine stewardship council   |
| MSE               | Management Strategy Evaluation   |
| NGO               | Non-Governmental Organisation  |
| NPOA              | National Plan of Action  |
| OPRT              | Organisation for the Promotion of Responsible Tuna Fisheries                       |
| OT                | Overseas Territories   |
| PEW               | PEW Charitable Trust   |
| RFMO              | Regional Fisheries Management Organisation   |
| SC                | Scientific Committee of the IOTC   |
| SCAF              | Standing Committee on Administration and Finance, of the IOTC                      |
| SIOFA             | Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement  |
| SWIOFC            | Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission  |
| TCAC              | Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria, of the IOTC                            |
| TRP               | Target referent point  |
| UNCLOS            | United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea                                    |
| VMS               | Vessel Monitoring System   |
| WPEB              | Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch, of the IOTC                               |
| WPM               | Working Party on Methods, of the IOTC  |
| WPTmT             | Working Party on Temperate tunas, of the IOTC                                      |
| WPTT              | Working Party on Tropical Tunas, of the IOTC                                       |
| WWF               | World Wide Fund for Nature (a.k.a World Wildlife Fund)                             |

**MEMBERS OF THE INDIAN OCEAN TUNA COMMISSION****THIRTY-TWO (32) AS OF 1 MAY 2015**

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**AUSTRALIA**  
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**CHINA**  
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**YEMEN**

**COOPERATING NON-CONTRACTING PARTIES OF THE INDIAN OCEAN TUNA COMMISSION****FIVE (5) AS OF 1 MAY 2015**

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**BANGLADESH**  
**DJIBOUTI**  
**LIBERIA**  
**SENEGAL**  
**SOUTH AFRICA**

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) was held in Busan, Rep. of Korea, from 27 April to 1 May 2015, Chaired by Mr Daroomalingum Mauree (Mauritius). A total of 172 delegates attended the Session, composed of 132 delegates from 23 Contracting Parties (Members) of the Commission, 2 delegates from 2 Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties and 38 delegates from 15 Observers to the Commission (including 3 from FAO and 8 invited experts))

The Commission adopted the IOTC IUU Vessels List as provided in [Appendix XIa](#). (para. 66)

The Commission granted the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party until the close of the 20<sup>th</sup> Session in 2016 to Bangladesh, Djibouti, Liberia, Senegal and South Africa. (paras. 70–80)

The Commission adopted the budget for, and the scheme of contributions for 2016 and indicative for 2017 as outlined in [Appendix XIII](#) and [Appendix XIV](#) respectively. (para. 106)

The Commission adopted 11 Conservation and Management Measures in 2015, consisting of 11 Resolutions and 0 Recommendations, as follows:

- [Resolution 15/01](#) *On the recording of catch and effort data by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence*
- [Resolution 15/02](#) *On mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs)*
- [Resolution 15/03](#) *On the vessel monitoring system (VMS) programme*
- [Resolution 15/04](#) *Concerning the IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC area of competence*
- [Resolution 15/05](#) *On conservation measures for striped marlin, black marlin and blue marlin*
- [Resolution 15/06](#) *On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna, and a recommendation for non-targeted species caught by purse seine vessels in the IOTC area of competence*
- [Resolution 15/07](#) *On the use of artificial lights to attract fish to drifting fish aggregating devices*
- [Resolution 15/08](#) *Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan, including a limitation on the number of FADs, more detailed specifications of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species*
- [Resolution 15/09](#) *On a fish aggregating devices (FADs) working group*
- [Resolution 15/10](#) *On target and limit reference points and a decision framework*
- [Resolution 15/11](#) *On the implementation of a limitation of fishing capacity of Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties*



## 1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) was held in Busan, Rep. of Korea, from 27 April to 1 May 2015, Chaired by Mr Daroomalingum Mauree (Mauritius). A total of 172 delegates attended the Session, composed of 132 delegates from 23 Contracting Parties (Members) of the Commission, 2 delegates from 2 Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties and 38 delegates from 15 Observers to the Commission (including 3 from FAO and 8 invited experts). The list of participants is provided at [Appendix I](#).
2. On behalf of the Government of the Rep. of Korea, the Honorable Minister Mr YOO, Ki-June, Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF), Rep. of Korea, gave the inaugural address ([Appendix II](#)), welcomed participants to Busan and declared the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the IOTC open. The Chairperson of the Commission, Mr Daroomalingum Mauree, Mr Rondolph Payet (IOTC Secretariat Executive Secretary), and Mr KIM Kyu-ok (Vice Mayor for Economic Affairs, Busan Metropolitan City), joined in welcoming participants to the meeting ([Appendix II](#)).
3. The Commission **NOTED** the opening remarks made by Mr Arni Mathiesen, the Assistant Director General of the Department of Fisheries, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) [Appendix II](#).

## 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION

4. The Commission **ADOPTED** the agenda provided at [Appendix III](#). The documents presented to the Commission are listed in [Appendix IV](#).
5. The Commission **NOTED** the first statement made by the Republic of Mauritius and the corresponding statement made by the United Kingdom, as provided in [Appendix Va](#).

## 3. ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS

6. The Commission **RECALLED** its agreement made in 2012 that meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies should be open to participation by observers from all those who have attended the current and/or previous sessions of the Commission. Applications by new Observers should continue to follow the procedure as outlined in IOTC Rules of Procedure (note: new Rules were adopted at S18: IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014)).
7. Pursuant to Article VII of the Agreement establishing the IOTC, the Commission admitted the following observers, as now defined in Rule XIV of the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014):
  - Rule XIV.1. *The Director-General or a representative designated by him, shall have the right to participate without vote in all meetings of the Commission, of the Scientific Committee and of any other subsidiary body of the Commission.*
    - i. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
  - Rule XIV.2. *Members and Associate Members of the Organization that are not Members of the Commission are, upon their request, invited to be represented by an observer at sessions of the Commission.*
    - i. Liberia
    - ii. Russian Federation
    - iii. United States of America
  - Rule XIV.4. *The Commission may, on their request, invite intergovernmental organizations having special competence in the field of activity of the Commission, to attend such of its meetings as the Commission may specify.*
    - i. Indian Ocean Commission (IOC)
    - ii. Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC)
  - Rule XIV.5. *The Commission may invite, upon request, non-governmental organizations having special competence in the field of activity of the Commission to attend such of its meetings as the Commission may specify. The list of the NGOs wishing to be invited will be submitted beforehand by the Secretary to the Members of the Commission. If one of the Members of the Commission objects giving in writing its reasons within 30 days, the matter will then be subject to decision of the Commission out of session by written procedure.*
    - i. Convention on International Trade on Endangered Species (CITES)
    - ii. Greenpeace International (GI)
    - iii. International Pole and Line Foundation (IPNLF)
    - iv. International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF)
    - v. Marine Stewardship Council (MSC)
    - vi. PEW Charitable Trusts (PEW)

- vii. US-Japan Research Institute
- viii. World Wide Fund for Nature (a.k.a World Wildlife Fund, WWF)

***Invited experts***

- Rule XIV.9. *The Commission may invite consultants or experts, in their individual capacity, to attend the meetings or participate in the work of the Commission as well as the Scientific Committee and the other subsidiary bodies of the Commission.*
  - i. Taiwan, Province of China

#### **4. UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM THE 18<sup>TH</sup> SESSION**

8. The Commission **NOTED** the paper IOTC–2015–S19–04 which provided updates to each of the previous requests from the Commission to CPCs or the IOTC Secretariat. Contracting Parties provided further updates and clarifications during the Session, although these are not summarised here for brevity.

#### **5. REPORT OF THE 17<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

9. The Commission **NOTED** the report of the 17<sup>th</sup> Session of the Scientific Committee (SC) (IOTC–2014–SC17–R) which was presented by the Chair of the SC, Dr Tsutomu Nishida (Japan). A total of 62 individuals (75 in 2013) attended the Session, comprised of 53 delegates (60 in 2013) from 22 Contracting Parties (21 in 2013), 0 delegates from Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (2 in 2013), and 9 observers, including 2 invited experts (12 observers in 2013).
10. The Commission **CONSIDERED** the list of recommendations made by the SC17 ([Appendix VI](#)) from its 2014 report (IOTC–2014–SC17–R) that related specifically to the Commission. The Commission **ENDORSED** the list of recommendations as its own, while taking into account the range of issues outlined in this Report (S19) and incorporated within Conservation and Management Measures adopted during the Session and as adopted for implementation as detailed in the approved annual budget and Program of Work.
11. The Commission **NOTED** the Scientific Committee recommendation *SC17.09*, which indicated that shortbill spearfish (*Tetrapturus angustirostris*) should be included in the list of species to be managed by the IOTC considering the ocean-wide distribution of this species, its highly-migratory nature, and that it is a common bycatch in IOTC managed fisheries. However, adding a new species to the official list of those to be covered by the IOTC mandate would require a modification of the IOTC Agreement. Such an inclusion would be considered at that time.
12. The Commission **NOTED** some minor improvements in the quantity of fisheries statistics available to the SC and its Working Parties in 2014 but reiterated its concerns about the lack of fisheries data from some gears and fleets for target and bycatch species. Specifically, many fisheries statistics are missing or incomplete for some industrial and artisanal fisheries.

##### **5.1 Status of the stocks**

13. The Commission **NOTED** the latest stock status and management advice for each of the 16 species under the IOTC mandate, as well as seven shark species/groups directly impacted by vessels fishing for tuna and tuna-like species, contained in the stock status table provided at [Appendix VII](#).

##### **5.1.1 Albacore**

14. The Commission **RECALLED** that at its last Session, it agreed that pending the results of the 2014 albacore stock assessment, it should take a precautionary approach to the management of albacore and consider, at its 19<sup>th</sup> Session, proposals for Conservation and Management Measure to reduce fishing pressure for albacore; including the consideration of zone-based management of fishing effort. The 2014 stock assessment of albacore has indicated that considerable uncertainty remains in the assessments undertaken, indicating that a precautionary approach to the management of albacore should be applied by reducing fishing mortality or capping total catch levels to those taken in 2012 (34,000 t).
15. The Commission **NOTED** that no proposals for albacore Conservation and Management Measures were tabled for the Session, despite the concern raised by the Scientific Committee. Further capacity building activities should continue in 2015 and 2016, particularly in those CPCs who catch large proportions of the total catch of albacore.

### 5.1.2 *Black marlin and blue marlin*

16. The Commission **NOTED** the advice from the Scientific Committee that indicates that black marlin is currently subject to overfishing, and that blue marlin is currently overfished.
17. The Commission **NOTED** that CMM proposal IOTC–2015–S19–PropE will provide a discussion point for these species, to address the concerns raised by the Scientific Committee.

### 5.1.3 *Longtail tuna*

18. The Commission **NOTED** the advice from the Scientific Committee that indicates that longtail tuna is currently subject to overfishing and that there is a high to very high risk of breaching rules associated with MSY-based reference points by 2015, even if catches are reduced.
19. The Commission **NOTED** that CMM proposal IOTC–2015–S19–PropE will provide a discussion point for this species, to address the concerns raised by the Scientific Committee.
20. The Commission **NOTED** that the IOTC Secretariat had issued a call for Expressions of Interest for a project involving genetic research to determine the connectivity of neritic tunas throughout their distributions, among other IOTC species and sharks. The project was conceptualised following the recommendation in 2013 by the Working Party on Neritic Tunas (WPNT) which recommended that research on stock structure of neritic tunas (including longtail tuna) under the IOTC mandate.

### 5.1.4 *Striped marlin*

21. The Commission **NOTED** the advice from the Scientific Committee that indicates the striped marlin stock is currently subject to overfishing and that biomass is below the level which would produce MSY. The stock has been subject to overfishing for some years, and that as a result, the stock biomass is well below the  $B_{MSY}$  level and shows little signs of rebuilding despite the recent declining effort trend.
22. The Commission **RECALLED** that at its last Session, it agreed that it should take a precautionary approach to the management of striped marlin and consider, at its 19<sup>th</sup> Session, proposals for Conservation and Management Measures to reduce fishing pressure for striped marlin.
23. The Commission **NOTED** that CMM proposal IOTC–2015–S19–PropE will provide a discussion point for this species, to address the concerns raised by the Scientific Committee.

### 5.1.5 *Yellowfin tuna*

24. The Commission **NOTED** that although no new stock assessment was carried out for yellowfin tuna in 2014, previous estimates Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) for the whole Indian Ocean was 344,000 t with a range between 290,000–453,000 t. Management advice from the SC indicated that annual catches of yellowfin tuna should not exceed the lower range of MSY (300,000 t) in order to ensure that stock biomass levels could sustain catches at the MSY level in the long term. Catches have exceeded this level in 2011, 2012 and 2013 (402,084 t).
25. The Commission **NOTED** that no proposals for yellowfin tuna Conservation and Management Measures were tabled for the Session.

### 5.1.6 *Swordfish*

26. The Commission **NOTED** that the Scientific Committee had agreed with the advice from the Working Party on Billfish that there is no evidence of a separate genetic stock of swordfish in the southwest Indian Ocean, although this region has been subject to localised depletion over the past decade, or longer. Accordingly, until new evidence becomes available there is no need to conduct a separate stock assessment for this area.
27. **NOTING** the advice from the Scientific Committee on swordfish stock structure, and that the original concern expressed by the Commission was not about there being a separate stock, but rather, about the documented localised depletion in the southwest Indian Ocean, the Commission **AGREED** that a separate stock assessment is not necessary.

### 5.1.7 *Sharks*

28. The Commission **NOTED** that the stock status of all shark species is uncertain, and in December 2014 the IOTC Scientific Committee adopted a multiyear shark research program be prepared by a small group of shark experts and the IOTC Secretariat. The main objective of the IO–ShYP is to “*promote cooperation and coordination among IOTC researchers, to improve the quality of the scientific advice on sharks provided to the Commission, namely by conducting quantitative stock assessments for selected species by 2016, and to better assess the impact on shark stocks of the current IOTC Conservation and Management Measures.*”

## 5.2 Commission requests for action to be taken by the Scientific Committee in 2015

29. The Commission **RECALLED** that at its 18<sup>th</sup> Session in 2014, it had made several specific requests to the SC, as outlined below. The summary which follows highlights 1) the initial request, 2) the response from the SC, and 3) any subsequent clarification or request by the Commission during the current (19<sup>th</sup>) Session.

### 5.2.1 Outlook on time-area closures

30. The Commission **NOTED**, following its request to the Scientific Committee in 2014 (S18, para 23), that there was no need to undertake an analysis or discussion of the request detailed in the S18 Report, para. 23 in respect of the IOTC closure (previously contained in Resolution 12/13). In consideration of the impact of a closure in the Indian Ocean, it would be necessary to consider the impact of a closure on both the fish stocks, and their effect on the dynamics of the fishing fleets (SC17, para 169).

### 5.2.2 Requests to the Scientific Committee contained in IOTC Conservation and Management Measures: Responses in 2014

31. The Commission **RECALLED** that Resolution 13/08 *Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADS) management plan, including more detailed specifications of catch reporting from fad sets, and the development of improved fad designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species*, included a request for advice from the Scientific Committee on FAD markings, as follows:

Resolution 13/08, para. 8: *From January 2015, CPCs shall require all artificial FADs deployed or modified by their flagged fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence to be marked in accordance with a detailed marking scheme, e.g. including FAD marking or beacon ID. The marking scheme shall be developed and considered for adoption by the Commission at its regular annual session in 2014, based on recommendations from the IOTC Scientific Committee as requested by the Commission. The marking scheme should take into account, as a minimum, the following:*

- a) *All artificial FADs shall be marked with a unique identification number, based on a specific numbering system and format to be adopted by the Commission;*
- b) *The marking should be easy to read before the vessel operator engages in any artificial FAD related activity (e.g. setting on the artificial FAD, retrieving the artificial FAD, servicing the artificial FAD, fishing on the artificial FAD), but if not visible for any reason, (time of day, weather, etc.), the vessel operator shall ensure to obtain the unique artificial FAD identifier as soon as feasible;*
- c) *The marking should be easy to apply to the artificial FAD, but should be applied in such a manner that it will not become unreadable or disassociated with the artificial FAD.*

32. The Commission **NOTED** the advice from the Scientific Committee that as there was no scientific data requirements for the physical marking of FADs, as requested by the Commission in Para. 8 of Resolution 13/08, the Commission should adopt a marking scheme for compliance purposes and not for scientific purposes. Other information relevant to the science process is collected in logbooks.

### 5.2.3 Non-target species – Evaluating the benefits of retention

33. The Commission at its 18<sup>th</sup> Session requested the following (S18, para. 143):

*“NOTING the comment from the authors of the proposal that the lack of data shall not prevent adoption of precautionary management measures, and that the measure is in line with UN Millennium Development Goals and provisions in the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) and may contribute to food security in some of the coastal countries of the IOTC, the Commission REQUESTED that the Scientific Committee review proposal IOTC-2014-S18-PropL Rev\_1, and to make recommendations on the benefits of retaining non-targeted species catches, other than those prohibited via IOTC Resolutions, for consideration at the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission.”*

34. **NOTING** that the Scientific Committee, via its recommendation SC17.10, had indicated that due to a lack of expertise and resources within the WPEB and the short timeframe to fulfill this task, that a consultant be hired to conduct this work and present the results at the next WPEB meeting.

### 5.3 General comments and consideration of other recommendations made by the Scientific Committee in 2014

#### 5.3.1 *Status of development and implementation of National Plans of Action for seabirds and sharks, and implementation of the FAO guidelines to reduce marine turtle mortality in fishing operations*

35. The Commission **NOTED** the updated status of development and implementation of National Plans of Action for seabirds and sharks, and the implementation of the FAO guidelines to reduce marine turtle mortality in fishing operations, by each CPC, as provided in the Scientific Committee report.
36. The Commission **NOTED** the request from the Scientific Committee that all CPCs without an NPOA-Sharks and/or NPOA-Seabirds expedite the development and implementation of a NPOA, and to report progress to the WPEB and SC in 2015, recalling that NPOA-Sharks are a framework that should facilitate estimation of shark catches, and development and implementation of appropriate management measures, which should also enhance the collection of bycatch data and compliance with IOTC Resolutions.

#### 5.3.2 *Meeting Participation Fund*

37. The Commission **NOTED** that the MPF was used to fund the participation of a reduced number of national scientists to the Working Parties in 2014 (49 in 2014; 58 in 2013; 42 in 2012), all of which were required to submit and present a working paper at the meeting.
38. The Commission **NOTED** that at its 2014 meeting, the Scientific Committee had recommended that the Meeting Participation fund be maintained into the future and increased back to its original allocation of \$200,000 per year (see recommendations SC17.34, para. 119). As per the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014), the SC had reminded the IOTC Secretariat that the MPF budget should be spent at the ratio of 75:25 (science : non-science meetings) which would equate to US\$150,000 science : US\$50,000 non-science meeting.
39. The Commission **AGREED** that the MPF budget remains important and therefore provisions according to the estimated needs will be integrated into the budget.

#### 5.3.3 *Consultants*

40. **NOTING** the Scientific Committee's attempts to prioritise the various projects and consultancies which it had requested funding for in 2016, in particular, that the High priority projects were those which it felt must be undertaken in 2016, the Commission **REQUESTED** that only those High priority projects listed in the Scientific Committee budget be funded by the Commission's regular budget, with exceptions detailed in other areas of the S19 report.

#### 5.3.4 *Electronic monitoring*

41. **NOTING** the recommendation from the Scientific Committee (SC17.43) that the Commission considers assigning the IOTC Secretariat, in consultation with interested IOTC scientists, to develop a project on electronic monitoring in the IOTC area of competence, the Commission **NOTED** that a concept note/proposal should be developed to allow an evaluation of the efficacy of electronic monitoring in the collection of information on catch, discards and fishing effort as a means to supplement scientific observer coverage for large-scale gillnet vessels. The concept note should include a detailed budget and be communicated to a range of potential funding organisations.

#### 5.3.5 *Chairs and Vice-Chairs*

42. The Commission **NOTED** and welcomed the re-elected and new Chairs and Vice-Chairs for each of the IOTC Working Parties and the SC, as listed in [Appendix VIII](#).

## 6. REPORT OF THE 12<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

43. The Commission **NOTED** the report of the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the Compliance Committee (CoC) (IOTC–2015–CoC12–R) which was presented by the Chair of the CoC, Mr Herminio Tembe (Mozambique). A total of 91 delegates attended the Session, composed of 74 delegates from 23 Contracting Parties (Members) of the Commission, 1 delegate from 1 of the 3 Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties and 16 delegates from 9 Observers (including 6 invited experts).
44. The Commission **RECALLED** the statement made by the Republic of Mauritius and the corresponding statement made by the United Kingdom, as provided in [Appendix Va](#), as well as the additional statements.

45. **NOTING** that continued non-compliance by some CPCs poses a serious threat to the work of the Commission, the Commission also **NOTED** that CPCs could consider market related measures on other CPCs not complying.
46. The Commission **CONSIDERED** the list of recommendations made by the CoC12 ([Appendix IX](#)) from its 2015 report (IOTC–2015–CoC12–R) that related specifically to the Commission and **ENDORSED** the list of recommendations as its own, while taking into account the range of issues outlined in this Report (S19) and incorporated within Conservation and Management Measures adopted during the Session and as adopted for implementation as detailed in the approved annual budget and Program of Work.
47. The Commission **RECALLED** that the procedures of the Compliance Committee are governed *mutatis mutandis* by the Rules of Procedure of the Commission. Thus, all papers being submitted for the consideration of the CoC are due no later than 30 days before the start of the Compliance Committee in which the matters are to be discussed, unless otherwise decided by the Commission (e.g. Compliance Questionnaire: see IOTC Rules of Procedure 2014). The IOTC Secretariat is also required to comply with the 30 day deadline for all papers which it produces for each Session of the CoC.
48. The Commission **NOTED** that following consultations between I.R. Iran and the IOTC Secretariat, as requested during the adoption of CoC12 Report, the revised tables on the implementation of limitation of capacity and fleet development plans are presented in [Appendix X](#).
49. The Commission **NOTED** the conclusions of IOTC–2015–CoC12–08b that had been deferred to its Session, keeping in mind the statements made by Mauritius and the United Kingdom (OT) during the CoC12.

### 6.1 Summary report on the level of compliance

50. The Commission **NOTED** that although there has been a continued improvement in the levels of compliance by some CPCs in 2014, there are still many CPCs not meeting their obligations to provide information under the various CMMs covered in the paper. Some of the required information is not only important to ensure the completeness of datasets, but also to allow the CoC to fully assess the level of compliance of CPCs with the CMMs to monitor the catch and capacity of fleets actively fishing for tuna and tuna-like species under the mandate of IOTC.
51. The Commission **REMINDED** all CPCs and the IOTC Secretariat of the need to respect the deadlines of the processes established in the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014), in particular, Rule XI, Appendix V, para. 4.

### 6.2 Reports of implementation

52. The Commission **NOTED** that in 2015, a total of 24 national ‘Reports of Implementation’ were provided by CPCs (24 Contracting Parties and 0 Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties), down from 25 in 2014, 27 in 2013 and 28 in 2012. The importance of the timely submission of national ‘Reports of Implementation’ by all CPCs was highlighted.
53. The Commission **URGED** those CPCs (Eritrea, Guinea, India, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Yemen, Djibouti and South Africa) who have not submitted their national ‘Reports of Implementation’ for 2015, do so within 30 days after the end of the Commission meeting. The Chair of the CoC, with the assistance of the IOTC Secretariat shall follow-up with each such CPC to ensure a national ‘Reports of Implementation’ is submitted for publication on the IOTC website and to inform CPCs during the Commission meeting and then also via an IOTC Circular once each report is received.
54. The Commission **REMINDED** CPCs of their obligations under Article X.2 of the IOTC Agreement to transmit to the Commission a national ‘Reports of Implementation’ on the actions it has taken to make effective the provisions of the IOTC Agreement and to implement CMMs adopted by the Commission. Such ‘Reports of Implementation’ shall be sent to the Executive Secretary of the Commission not later than 60 days before the date of the following regular session of the Commission.
55. **NOTING** that some countries are joining and/or cooperating with this organisation to enable them to continue to trade in IOTC species, on the international market, but opting to neglect their obligations to this organisation once the status of Contracting Party or Cooperating Non-Contracting Party has been granted to them, the Commission **NOTED** that CPCs could consider market related measures on other CPCs who are not complying to their obligations of to this Commission.



### 6.3 Review of individual CPC Compliance Status against IOTC Conservation and Management Measures

56. The Commission **NOTED** that progress had been made by each CPC on compliance with IOTC CMMs in 2014/2015 during the intersessional period. The development of the compliance report, based on the Compliance Questionnaire, in addition to the discussion on the identification of areas of non-compliance, was aimed at improving the understanding and implementation of IOTC CMMs by all CPCs.
57. **NOTING** that eleven CPCs (Contracting Parties: Belize, Eritrea, Guinea, India, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Vanuatu and Yemen; CNCPs: Djibouti and South Africa) were not present at CoC12 the Commission **AGREED** that attendance by all CPCs at each CoC meeting is essential to the effective operation of the Commission.
58. The Commission **REQUESTED** that the Chairperson provide questions in writing to each of the CPCs who were not in attendance at the CoC and S19 meetings. The 'letter of feedback on compliance issues' would be sent by the IOTC Chairperson following the Commission meeting and would include an expression of concern given the CPCs absence from the IOTC meetings. The letters should be sent not only to the Commissioner, but also other relevant authorities via appropriate diplomatic channels. The letter shall highlight areas of non-compliance to relevant CPCs, together with the difficulties and challenges being faced.
59. The Commission **NOTED** the presence of a delegate from South Africa at the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission, and the late submission of their Report of Implementation. South Africa responded to the compliance issues of concerns identified in the Compliance Report of South Africa.
60. The Commission **NOTED** Indonesia's concerns to accommodate wooden carrier vessels to receive transshipments at sea in the IOTC area of competence for the species covered by the IOTC Agreement.

### 6.4 Deliberations in relation to Resolution 11/03 *On establishing a list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the IOTC area.*

#### 6.4.1 IOTC IUU Vessels List - 2014 review

61. The Commission **AGREED** that the following vessels shall remain on the IOTC IUU Vessels List as no further information was provided to the CoC12 during its deliberations:
- FU HSIANG FA NO. 01 (Flag unknown)
  - FU HSIANG FA NO. 02 (Flag unknown)
  - FU HSIANG FA NO. 06 (Flag unknown)
  - FU HSIANG FA NO. 08 (Flag unknown)
  - FU HSIANG FA NO. 09 (Flag unknown)
  - FU HSIANG FA NO. 11 (Flag unknown)
  - FU HSIANG FA NO. 13 (Flag unknown)
  - FU HSIANG FA NO. 17 (Flag unknown)
  - FU HSIANG FA NO. 20 (Flag unknown)
  - FU HSIANG FA NO. 21 (Flag unknown)
  - FU HSIANG FA NO. 21 (Flag unknown)
  - FU HSIANG FA NO. 23 (Flag unknown)
  - FU HSIANG FA NO. 26 (Flag unknown)
  - FU HSIANG FA NO. 30 (Flag unknown)
  - FULL RICH (Flag unknown)
  - GUNUAR MELYAN 21 (Flag unknown)
  - HOOM XIANG 101 (Flag unknown)
  - HOOM XIANG 103 (Flag unknown)
  - HOOM XIANG 105 (Flag unknown)
  - HOOM XIANG II (Flag unknown)
  - OCEAN LION (Flag unknown)
  - SHUEN SIANG (Flag unknown)
  - SRI FU FA 168 (Flag unknown)
  - SRI FU FA 18 (Flag unknown)
  - SRI FU FA 188 (Flag unknown)
  - SRI FU FA 189 (Flag unknown)
  - SRI FU FA 286 (Flag unknown)

- SRI FU FA 67 (Flag unknown)
- SRI FU FA 888 (Flag unknown)
- YU MAAN WON (Flag unknown)

#### 6.4.2 *Provisional IUU Vessels List*

62. The Commission **AGREED** that the following vessels shall be kept on the IOTC Provisional IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 14

- SULARA 2 (Flag Sri Lanka)
- IMASHA 2 (Flag Sri Lanka)
- NIRODA PUTHA (Flag Sri Lanka)
- THIWANKA 5 (Flag Sri Lanka)
- OTTO 2 (Flag Sri Lanka)
- KAVIDYA DUWA (Flag Sri Lanka)

63. The Commission **AGREED** that the following vessels shall be kept on the IOTC Provisional IUU Vessels List for a further 150 days following the close of the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission. Following the 150 days, CPCs shall decide if these vessels should be included in the IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 14:

- GREESHMA 1 (Flag India)
- BOSIN (Flag India)
- BENALIAH (Flag India)
- CARMAL MATHA (Flag India)
- DIGNAMOL I (Flag India)
- DIGNAMOL II (Flag India)
- KING JESUS (Flag India)
- ST MARYS I (Flag India)
- ST MARYS II (Flag India)

64. The Commission **AGREED** that the cases of the following vessels shall be deferred to the next Compliance Committee.

- DULARI (Flag Sri Lanka)
- FV JANE (Flag Sri Lanka)
- STEF ANIA DUWA (Flag Sri Lanka)

#### 6.4.3 *IUU Vessels List - Consideration of other vessels*

65. The Commission **AGREED** that the following vessels shall be added to the IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 13.

- KUNLUN (Flag Equatorial Guinea)
- SONGHUA (Flag Equatorial Guinea)
- YOUNGDIN (Flag Equatorial Guinea)
- FU HSIANG FA No. 18 (Flag unknown)
- ANEKA 228 (Flag unknown)
- KM ANEKA 228 (Flag unknown)
- SAMUDERA PERKASA 11 (Flag unknown)
- SAMUDERA PERKASA 12 (Flag unknown)
- YI HONG 16 (Flag unknown)
- KIM SENG DENG (Flag unknown)
- YI HONG 106 (Flag unknown)
- YI HONG 116 (Flag unknown)
- YI HONG 6 (Flag unknown)
- KUANG HGING 127 (Flag unknown)
- KUANG HGING 196 (Flag unknown)
- MAAN YIH HSING (Flag unknown)
- SIN SHUN FA 6 (Flag unknown)
- SIN SHUN FA 67 (Flag unknown)
- SIN SHUN FA 8 (Flag unknown)
- SIN SHUN FA 9 (Flag unknown)



- TIAN LUNG NO.12 (Flag unknown)
- YI HONG 3 (Flag unknown)
- CHI TONG (Flag unknown)
- SHUEN SIANG (Flag unknown)
- YU FONG No. 168 (Flag unknown)

#### 6.4.4 General discussion

66. The Commission **ADOPTED** the IOTC IUU Vessels List as provided in [Appendix XIa](#) and the Provisional IOTC IUU Vessels list as provided in [Appendix XIb](#). All CPCs shall be required to take the necessary measures regarding the IUU Vessels List in accordance with para. 16 of Resolution 11/03.
67. The Commission **NOTED** the information paper (IOTC–2015–S19–INF01) presented by Somalia on presumed IUU fishing activities in its EEZ. Somalia asked the Members of the Commission for their support in fighting IUU activities in its waters, in particular through the control of their fleets and the compliance with IOTC Resolutions, as well as through counter-piracy operations such as the EU NAVFOR deployed in the Somali EEZ.
68. The Commission **NOTED** that several CPCs, including Kenya, reiterated their commitment in fighting IUU and assured Somalia of their cooperation through collaborative work and of their assistance to investigate those cases, and take appropriate sanctions if need be.

### 6.5 Applications for Cooperating Non-Contracting Party status

69. The Commission **RECALLED** that Rule IX.2 of the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014), which is linked to Appendix III, paragraph 1, states that:  
*“Any non-Contracting Party requesting the status of a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party shall apply to the Executive Secretary. Requests must be received by the Executive Secretary no later than ninety (90) days in advance of an Annual Session of the Commission, to be considered at that meeting.”* [26 January 2015]

#### 6.5.1 Senegal

70. The Commission **NOTED** Senegal’s application for the renewal of its status as a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party of the IOTC (paper IOTC–2015–CoC12–CNCP01), which was received before the deadline of 90 days prior the commencement of the session (received on 21 January 2015).
71. The Commission **GRANTED** the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party until the close of the 20<sup>th</sup> Session in 2016 to Senegal, based on the understanding that Senegal will attend the CoC and Commission meetings in 2016.

#### 6.5.2 Bangladesh

72. The Commission **NOTED** the application for Cooperating Non-Contracting Party status by Bangladesh (IOTC–2015–CoC12–CNCP02), which was received after the deadline of 90 days prior the commencement of the session (received on 8 February 2015).
73. The Commission **GRANTED**, for the first time, the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party until the close of the 20<sup>th</sup> Session in 2016 to Bangladesh, based on the understanding that Bangladesh will attend the CoC and Commission meetings in 2016.

#### 6.5.3 Djibouti

74. The Commission **NOTED** the application for Cooperating Non-Contracting Party status by Djibouti (IOTC–2015–CoC12–CNCP03), which was received after the deadline of 90 days prior the commencement of the session (received on 20 February 2015). Djibouti was not present at the CoC12 nor at the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission to present its application for Cooperating Non-Contracting Party status.
75. The Commission **GRANTED** the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party until the close of the 20<sup>th</sup> Session in 2016 to Djibouti, based on the understanding that Djibouti will attend the CoC and Commission meetings in 2016.
76. The Commission **REQUESTED** that the IOTC Chairperson convey the disappointment of the Commission of the absence of Djibouti at the CoC12 and 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission (S19), contrary to the condition on which it was admitted as a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party at the 18<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission, and that the Commission will not consider Djibouti’s application for CNCP in the future if it again fails to be present at both Sessions.

#### 6.5.4 Liberia

77. The Commission **NOTED** the application for Cooperating Non-Contracting Party status by Liberia (IOTC–2015–CoC12–CNCP04), which was received before the deadline of 90 days prior the commencement of the session (received on 24 January 2015). Liberia, via its submission to the CoC, informed the Commission that it intended on complying fully to the terms of the IOTC Agreement and all IOTC CMMs adopted by it, and further confirmed that Liberia will not engage in any harvesting activities in the IOTC area of competence.
78. The Commission **GRANTED**, for the first time, the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party until the close of the 20<sup>th</sup> Session in 2016 to Liberia based on the understanding that Liberia will attend the CoC and Commission meetings in 2016.

#### 6.5.5 South Africa, Republic of

79. The Commission **NOTED** the very late application of South Africa for the renewal of its status as a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party of the IOTC, which was received after the deadline of 90 days prior the commencement of the session (received on 27 April 2015). South Africa informed the Commission that unfortunately, it had not been able to complete its process of accession to the IOTC, but that it expected to do so before the next meeting of the CoC. South Africa renewed its commitment to the organisation, noting that it will fully comply with all IOTC CMMs.
80. The Commission **GRANTED** the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party until the close of the 20<sup>th</sup> Session in 2016 to South Africa, based on the understanding that South Africa will attend the CoC and Commission meetings in 2016.

#### 6.5.6 General comments on CNCP applications

81. The Commission **NOTED** that in the past, it had been lenient on applications for the status of CNCP within the IOTC and had often acted in contravention of the former IOTC Resolution 03/02 *On criteria for attaining the status of Co-operating Non-Contracting Party*, which is now contained within the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014).
82. The Commission **AGREED** that applications for CNCP status shall no longer be considered unless the applications are submitted on time and in accordance with Rule IX.2 Appendix III, of the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014), and that the concerned parties are present at the Compliance Committee and Commission meetings to present their application and respond to questions from CPCs. One of the key requirements is for applications to be received by the Executive Secretary no later than ninety (90) days in advance of an Annual Session of the Commission, to be considered at that meeting.

### 7. REPORT OF THE 12<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

83. The Commission **NOTED** the report of the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF) (IOTC–2015–SCAF12–R) which was presented by the Chairperson, Mr. Benjamin Tabios (Philippines). A total of 56 individuals attended the Session, comprised of 49 delegates from 22 Contracting Parties, 1 delegate from 1 Cooperating Non-Contracting Party, and 6 observers, including 4 invited experts.
84. The Commission **CONSIDERED** the list of recommendations made by the SCAF12 ([Appendix XII](#)) in its 2015 report (IOTC–2015–SCAF12–R) that related specifically to the Commission and **ENDORSED** the list of recommendations as its own, while taking into account the range of issues outlined in this Report (S19) and incorporated within Conservation and Management Measures adopted during the Session and as adopted for implementation as detailed in the approved annual budget and Program of Work.

#### 7.1 Member contributions

85. The Commission **NOTED** that the cumulative total of outstanding contribution payments has increased from US\$1,407,696 as of 31 December 2013, to US\$1,962,795 as of 31 December 2014, an increase of US\$555,099 (40%). In 2013 the increase was 33% with 12 Contracting Parties (Members) having payments in arrears for any year.
86. The Commission **NOTED** that eight Contracting Parties (Members) have contributions that are in arrears by two years or more: Eritrea; Guinea, I.R. Iran; Pakistan; Sierra Leone; Sudan; Vanuatu; and Yemen and that the I.R. Iran has encountered difficulties to submit funds through regular banking channels to the accounts provided

by FAO. There is an urgent need to find a sustainable solution to address the outstanding contributions, which are the main cause of the major financial problems of the IOTC.

87. The Commission **REQUESTED** that all Contracting Parties with overdue IOTC contributions finalise payment of those contributions as soon as possible so as not to hinder the operation of the IOTC. To facilitate this process, the IOTC Secretariat, in consultation with the Chair of the Commission, shall conduct bilateral discussion with the I.R. Iran, and other Contracting Parties with outstanding contributions with a view to find a mutually satisfactory method to recover the outstanding contributions and to detail a plan of action for payment to Membership as soon as the situation allows for this financial transaction.
88. The Commission **AGREED** that Contracting Parties that do not reply to the communications sent by the Chair of the Commission, regarding the payment of outstanding contributions shall not benefit from any IOTC related activities in regard to the MPF, workshops, training and related support. CPCs in arrears for more than five (5) years and have not made an interim payment, should not benefit from any IOTC related activities, with the exception of I.R. Iran on the basis of the difficulties highlighted in this report.

#### **7.1.1 Membership of Sierra Leone and Guinea in the IOTC**

89. The Commission **NOTED** the recommendation from the SCAF12 following its discussion of the membership of Sierra Leone and Guinea in the IOTC (contained within paper IOTC–2015–SCAF12–08). The Chair of the Commission, with assistance of the IOTC Secretariat has repeatedly attempted to contact Guinea and Sierra Leone to assess their confirmation of continued involvement in the IOTC and to seek payment for overdue contributions. No response has been received to several communication attempts by the IOTC Secretariat.
90. **NOTING** that neither Sierra Leone nor Guinea have been active in fisheries related activities in the IOTC area of competence, nor participated in IOTC processes for the last two years, the Commission, acting under Article IV, paragraph 4 of the IOTC Agreement, **AGREED** that Sierra Leone and Guinea should be deemed to have withdrawn their membership. Recovery of past dues from both Governments shall be pursued. The process for the implementation of this decision, including any further consultation with the concerned countries, shall be carried out in association with the FAO Legal Office and communicated to all CPCs by the Depositary or IOTC Circular as appropriate, prior to final confirmation.
91. The Commission **NOTED** the negative financial implications of the continuing membership of Sierra Leone and Guinea.
92. The Commission **NOTED** that both Sierra Leone and Guinea have been omitted from the 2016 scale of contributions to reduce the financial risk to the Commission and if either renews its Membership to the Commission, will be re-inserted in the scale of contributions accordingly.

#### **7.1.2 Deficit Contingency Budget**

93. The Commission **NOTED** the proposal for a Deficit Contingency budget to be inserted within the proposed budget for 2016 (US\$375,051) and indicative budget for 2017.
94. The Commission **AGREED** that a Deficit Contingency budget should be inserted within the proposed budget for 2016 (US\$375,051) only. Any consideration of such an inclusion for 2017 would need to be debated at the SCAF13 and S20 in 2016. The inclusion of the Deficit Contingency budget in the 2017 provisional budget is indicative only.

#### **7.1.3 FAO representative discussion**

##### **Outstanding Contributions**

95. The Commission **NOTED** that FAO may apply more pressure on Contracting Parties (Members) with outstanding contributions to address their obligations and use activities that currently exist in those countries to facilitate the payment, as it has done in the past.
96. The Commission **NOTED** that FAO described outstanding contributions as a general problem that international organisations, such as the IOTC, face and that moral support and persuasion can be effective, along with technical methods to assist Contracting Parties (Members) to pay their dues.
97. The Commission **NOTED** that FAO will inform the Commission if I.R. Iran has made FAO Regular Programme contributions in the recent past and inform regarding the mode of payment used by I.R. Iran, if contributions have been received.
98. The Commission **NOTED** the concern regarding the lack of information regarding the management of Member Contributions directly managed by FAO and employer funds and entitlements and servicing costs.

### Staff costs

99. The Commission **NOTED** that FAO indicated that IOTC staff costs are based on published information pertaining to the United Nations global salary scales and available within the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) (see <http://icsc.un.org>).

### Improved Cost Recovery Uplift (ICRU)

100. The Commission **NOTED** that FAO has lowered the percentage of ICRU paid by IOTC but the request to eliminate ICRU altogether has still not been accepted. A new methodology of Project Servicing Costs (PSC) and the collection of direct costs has been approved in the 151<sup>st</sup> Session of the Council, which, by 1 January 2016, will eliminate ICRU and potentially increase the rate of PSC paid by IOTC to 7%, with possible flexibility to retain the current PSC rate of 4.5%.
101. The Commission **NOTED** that FAO historically considers IOTC a project based on the founding agreement between FAO and the IOTC and that finances were established through a Trust Fund, which at the time was considered the most appropriate method of formulation at the time of establishment of the IOTC.
102. The Commission **NOTED** concern on the fact that FAO collected ICRU related funds against the views expressed by the Commission and did not respond to the Chairperson's letter to clarify this situation.

### Other Business (IOTC contract extensions)

103. The Commission **NOTED** that FAO will facilitate IOTC's request for contract extensions based on the strategic financial actions taken within the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission, which include the approval of the deficit contingency budget and the indication that a contributions-based expenditure will be implemented within the IOTC Secretariat. FAO also indicated its desire to maintain the operations of the Commission during this period of financial difficulty.

## 7.2 Program of work and budget estimates

104. The Commission **NOTED** that the Program of Work for the IOTC Secretariat is based on the assumption that the nature and extent of the activities undertaken by the IOTC Secretariat will remain within the current scope. Any new activities agreed to during the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission (S19) that are likely to have budgetary consequences, will require an amendment of the figures presented to, and endorsed by the Commission.
105. The Commission **ENDORSED** the IOTC Secretariat's Program of Work for the financial period 01 January 2016 to 31 December 2016, as outlined in paper IOTC–2015–SCAF12–05.
106. The Commission **ADOPTED** the budget for, and the scheme of contributions for 2016 and indicative for 2017 as outlined in [Appendix XIII](#) and [Appendix XIV](#) respectively, taking into consideration the following comments noted during the 19<sup>th</sup> Session, and those outlined throughout Section 7 of this Report:
- The printing budgets in the regular budget for both 2016 and indicative 2017, are to be used for printing the IOTC species identification cards.
  - IOTC does not accept the payment of ICRU in the past and in the future and requires a response from FAO regarding the follow-up of this issue.
  - The status of IOTC as a FAO project since 1997 is a major concern of the Commission, which does not view IOTC as a project but as a Regional Fisheries Management Organization.
  - Thailand will make an installment payment against the 2016 budget, once the 2016 call for funds are issued, and pay the remaining 2016 balance against the call for funds in 2017.
  - Sri Lanka and Malaysia expressed concern with the individual increases in contributions for both countries.
  - The budget decrease could entail some cuts that could create difficulties to the Commission to fulfil its objectives, notably concerning science and compliance.
  - The European Union is willing to approve the 2016 IOTC budget, but awaits the European Union internal budget approval process for 2016, before committing to pay the 2016 IOTC budget contribution.

## 8. PERFORMANCE REVIEW OF THE IOTC

### 8.1 Progress on the implementation of the recommendations of the 1<sup>st</sup> Performance Review Panel (Resolution 09/01 on the performance review follow-up)

107. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC–2015–S19–05 which outlined the current status of implementation for each of the recommendations arising from the report of the Performance Review Panel provided at [Appendix XV](#).

### 8.2 Update on progress: 2<sup>nd</sup> Performance Review of the IOTC

108. **NOTING** the update on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Performance Review provided, the Commission **REQUESTED** that supporting documentation for the review should be published on the IOTC website for transparency purposes. However, the IOTC Secretariat should ensure that no ‘sensitive’ or ‘confidential’ information is placed in the public domain. The Commission would stand guided by the Panel on which documents would be placed in the public domain.

## 9. CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

109. The Commission **NOTED** with appreciation that all proposals for new or revised Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) were provided to the IOTC Secretariat prior to the 30 day pre-meeting deadline. The submission of proposals at least 30 days prior to the Session gives all CPCs an opportunity to thoroughly review the proposals. In doing so, CPCs are able to carry out internal consultations with institutions that would be responsible for implementing the proposed measures. Submission 30 days before the Session also allows CPCs time to discuss contentious issues before the commencement of the Session, thereby improving efficiency during Plenary.

110. The Commission **NOTED** its previous decision that the 30 day rule shall continue to be strictly applied for all future Sessions unless otherwise agreed. Specifically, no proposals for new or revised Conservation or Management Measures shall be accepted by the IOTC Secretariat for the Commission’s consideration, if received after the 30 day deadline. All proposals from Members should include, as part of their Explanatory Statements, any budgetary consequences, as well as consideration of the feasibility of implementation by CPCs.

111. The Commission **NOTED** the statement made by the United Kingdom and the corresponding statement made by Republic of Mauritius as provided in [Appendix Va](#) on territorial sovereignty.

112. The Commission **NOTED** the statement made by the Chairperson of the Commission, as provided in [Appendix Vb](#).

### 9.1 Current Conservation and Management Measures that require action by the Commission in 2015

113. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC–2015–S19–06 which outlined previous decisions of the Commission contained in IOTC Conservation and Management Measures, on which the Commission agreed to action at the 19<sup>th</sup> Session in 2015.

#### 9.1.1 Resolution 12/11 On the implementation of a limitation of fishing capacity of Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties

114. The Commission **NOTED** that CMM Proposal IOTC–2015–S19–PropF *On the implementation of a limitation of fishing capacity of Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties* (European Union – Revision of Resolution 12/11) will be discussed under agenda item 9.3.

#### 9.1.2 Resolution 12/12 To prohibit the use of large-scale driftnets on the high seas in the IOTC area

115. The Commission **NOTED** the requirement in the resolution to undertake a periodic evaluation of the effectiveness of the current measure and agree if other steps are required to strengthen it. At this time it was considered that no revisions were required and an evaluation should take place once sufficient information is received by the IOTC Secretariat from CPCs on its implementation.

#### 9.1.3 Resolution 13/08 Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan, including more detailed specification of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species

116. The Commission **RECALLED** the advice from the Scientific Committee that as there was no scientific data requirements for the physical marking of FADs, as requested by the Commission in Para. 8 of Resolution 13/08,



the Commission should adopt a marking scheme for compliance purposes and not for scientific purposes. Other information relevant to the science process is collected in logbooks.

117. The Commission **AGREED** with the advice from the Scientific Committee, outlined in the paragraph above, and suggested that the proposed ad hoc Working Group on FADs to further address a FAD marking framework.

## 9.2 Review of objections received under Article IX.5 of the IOTC Agreement

118. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC-2015-S19-07 which aimed to provide the Commission with an opportunity to review the '*Objections*' received at previous Sessions of the Commission that remain in effect, and consider how such a review process should be carried out.

### 9.2.1 Current '*Objections*' in accordance with paragraph 7 of Article IX of the IOTC Agreement

119. The Commission **NOTED** that at present there is one CPC (India) with an Objection in place/active, for the following two Resolutions:

- Resolution 13/06 *On a scientific and management framework on the Conservation of sharks species caught in association with IOTC managed fisheries*
- Resolution 13/07 *Concerning a record of licensed foreign vessels fishing for IOTC species in the IOTC area of competence and access agreement information*

120. The Commission **RECALLED** that:

- on 9 July 2014, the IOTC Secretariat communicated via letter IOTC Ref: 5416 that the Objection received by India came into effect on 14 November 2013.
- on 2 October 2014, the IOTC Secretariat communicated via letter IOTC Ref: 5551 the FAO legal advice which indicated that IOTC Resolutions adopted by the Commission are considered as self-standing instruments, which enter into force according to the relevant provision of the IOTC Agreement (Article IX, para. 1). At the coming into force of the Resolutions 14/05 and 14/04, India's objection may become redundant, as India has not objected to the revisions of Resolutions 13/07 and 13/02, but to the revisions of Resolutions 07/02 and 12/07.

121. The Commission **NOTED** that no justification was provided by India for the objections placed against the Resolutions.

### 9.2.2 Review process for existing '*Objections*' to CMMs

122. The Commission **NOTED** that although paragraph 7 of Article IX of the IOTC Agreement indicates that each Member may withdraw its Objection, via notification to the IOTC Secretariat, there is no clear review process for the Commission to review/discuss previous objections received. As such, there is a need for the Commission to review existing objections to Conservation and Management Measures, and develop a formal annual review and potential withdrawal process for Members to follow.

123. **NOTING** that there is no current need for CPCs to provide a justification for an objection, the Commission **REQUESTED** that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Performance Review Panel consider how a justification requirement could be included as part of the objection lodgement process when the IOTC Agreement is revised.

## 9.3 Proposals for Conservation and Management Measures adopted by the Commission

124. The Commission **CONSIDERED** and **ADOPTED** 11 proposals (11 Resolutions and 0 Recommendation) as Conservation and Management Measures as detailed below:

### 9.3.1 On the recording of catch and effort data by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence

125. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 15/01 *On the recording of catch and effort data by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence* ([Appendix XVI](#)). This Resolution introduces amendments to Resolution 13/03 *on the recording of catch and effort by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence* by including the mandatory recording of silky shark (*Carcharhinus falciformis*) in Annex II (Record once per set/shot/operation) paragraph 2.3 (SPECIES) for longline and purse seine gears. It also proposes minor technical adjustments as recommended by the IOTC scientific community. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 13/03.

### 9.3.2 *On mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs)*

126. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 15/02 *On mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs)* ([Appendix XVII](#)). This Resolution introduces amendments to Resolution 10/02 *On mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs)* in order to clarify existing statistical information requirements under the scope of the Resolution. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 10/02.

### 9.3.3 *On the vessel monitoring system (VMS) programme*

127. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 15/03 *On the vessel monitoring system (VMS) programme* ([Appendix XVIII](#)). This Resolution introduces amendments to Resolution 06/03 *On establishing a Vessel Monitoring System Programme*, by making it consistent with other IOTC CMMs whereby this Resolution now applies to all vessels registered on the IOTC Record of Vessels 24 metres in length overall or above, or in case of vessels less than 24 meters, those operating in waters outside the Economic Exclusive Zone of the Flag State fishing for species covered by the IOTC Agreement. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 06/03.

### 9.3.4 *Concerning the IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC area of competence*

128. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 15/04 *Concerning the IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC area of competence* ([Appendix XIX](#)). This Resolution introduces amendments to Resolution 14/04 *Concerning the establishment of an IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC area of competence*, by excluding vessels not on the IOTC Record, including auxiliary, supply and support vessels, to participate in fishing operations, as well as the setting of drifting fish aggregation devices (DFADs). This Resolution supersedes Resolution 14/04.

### 9.3.5 *On conservation measures for striped marlin, black marlin and blue marlin*

129. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 15/05 *On conservation measures for striped marlin, black marlin and blue marlin* ([Appendix XX](#)). This Resolution encourages Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs) to reduce the level of catch having as reference the average in the period between 2009 and 2014, for striped marlin (*Tetrapturus audax*), black marlin (*Makaira indica*) and blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*). In addition, CPCs are encouraged to request their operators/fishing vessels to release any fish of the above mentioned species brought alive onboard or alongside for taking on-board the vessel. IOTC scientific bodies are requested to continue their work of assessing and monitoring the status of the above mentioned species.

### 9.3.6 *On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna, and a recommendation for non-targeted species caught by purse seine vessels in the IOTC area of competence*

130. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 15/06 *On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna, and a recommendation for non-targeted species caught by purse seine vessels in the IOTC area of competence* ([Appendix XXI](#)). The Resolution bans the discard of three tropical tuna species, with the exception of fish unfit for human consumption or if no space available to accommodate all fish. It also encourages all purse seine vessels to retain on board and then land all non-targeted species as far as the vessel can ensure appropriate fishing operation (including but not limited to other tunas, rainbow runner, dolphinfish, triggerfish, billfish, wahoo, and barracuda) except fish considered unfit for human consumption. This latest revision replaces the words “well space” by “storage capacity”. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 13/11.

### 9.3.7 *On the use of artificial lights to attract fish to dFADs and vessels supporting purse-seining operations*

131. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 15/07 *On the use of artificial lights to attract fish to dFADs and vessels supporting purse-seining operations* ([Appendix XXII](#)). This Resolution prohibits fishing vessels, including support and supply vessels flying the flag of an IOTC Contracting Party or Cooperating Non-Contracting Party from installing or operating surface or submerged artificial lights for the purpose of aggregating tuna and tuna-like species or non-target, associated or dependent species (NTADs) on drifting Fish Aggregating Devices (DFADs). It also prohibits CPCs vessels from intentionally setting a purse seine net around a DFAD equipped with artificial light/s for the purpose of attracting fish under the mandate of IOTC and in the IOTC area of competence.

**9.3.8 Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan, including a limitation on the number of FADs, more detailed specifications of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species**

132. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 15/08 *Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan, including a limitation on the number of FADs, more detailed specifications of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species* ([Appendix XXIII](#)). This Resolution introduces amendments to 13/08 *Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan, including more detailed specification of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species*, by including a limitation on the number of FADs deployed by each purse seine vessel, provisions for monitoring of the FADs, and more detailed specifications for reporting from FAD sets. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 13/08.

**9.3.9 On a FADs Management Working Group**

133. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 15/09 *On a FADs Management Working Group* ([Appendix XXIV](#)). This Resolution details terms of reference for an ad hoc working group on fish aggregating devices (FADs). The ad hoc working group will assess the consequences of the increasing number and technological developments of FADs in tuna fisheries and their ecosystems, in order to inform and advise on future FAD-related management options. This ad hoc working group will be of multi-sectorial nature, involving various stakeholders such as scientists, fishery managers, fishing industry representatives, administrators and fishers.

**9.3.10 On target and limit reference points and a decision framework**

134. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 15/10 *On target and limit reference points and a decision framework* ([Appendix XXV](#)). This Resolution introduces amendments to Resolution 13/10 by including a possibility for the IOTC Scientific Committee to use possible alternatives to MSY-based reference points when they are considered as insufficiently robust. In line with material made available in the last IOTC Scientific Committee report (SC17), the proposal refers to  $B_0$ -based reference points.  $B_0$  is generally considered either as the historical biomass before the beginning of the fishing activities or as the biomass under the assumption of a termination of any fishing activities. In addition, considering these reference points, the Resolution introduces management objectives and a work program which would allow the IOTC Scientific Committee to discuss projections and outlooks associated to possible management options, more particularly when implementing Management Strategy Evaluations. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 13/10.

**9.3.11 On the implementation of a limitation of fishing capacity of Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties**

135. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 15/11 *On the implementation of a limitation of fishing capacity of Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties* ([Appendix XXVI](#)). This Resolution introduced amendments to Resolution 12/11 *On the implementation of a limitation of fishing capacity of Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties* to extend its application until the end of 2016. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 12/11.

**9.4 Proposals for Conservation and Management Measures not endorsed by the Commission**

136. The Commission considered the following proposals as Conservation and Management Measures, but consensus could not be reached and the proposals were either withdrawn or deferred until the next Session.

**9.4.1 On the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by the IOTC**

137. The Commission **CONSIDERED** two proposals on the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by the IOTC (IOTC–2015–S19–PropC and PropD), but agreement could not be reached and the proposals were deferred until the next meeting of the Commission. The proposals were to introduce amendments to Resolution 05/05 *On the conservation of sharks*, to address the impact on shark mortality as a result of finning. The proposals aimed to promote full utilisation of sharks and facilitate the collection of critical data required to undertake rigorous assessments of the impact of fishing on these populations. The proposal requires that sharks be landed with their fins attached to their respective carcass when caught in association with fisheries targeting tuna and tuna-like species throughout the IOTC area of competence. Some CPCs indicated that the fin cutting issue has no relationship with stock management of sharks and that fishermen use their carcasses in totality.



#### 9.4.2 *On harvest controls rules for skipjack tuna in the IOTC area of competence*

138. The Commission **CONSIDERED** a proposal on harvest controls rules for skipjack tuna in the IOTC area of competence (IOTC–2015–S19–PropI), but agreement could not be reached and the proposal was deferred until the next meeting of the Commission. The proposal intended to set a biomass limit reference point at 20% of the unfished level ( $B_{LIM} = 0.2B_0$ ) and a target biomass reference point at 40% of the unfished level ( $B_{TARG} = 0.4B_0$ ). A key feature of the proposal was the explicit harvest control rule, or HCR to achieve the objectives of maintaining the stock at, or above, the TRP and above the LRP with a high probability. The scope of the discussions indicated CPCs have a desire to move towards a harvest control rules. Some CPCs suggested that inaction on the part of other CPCs following a catch limit being reached may reduce the effectiveness of the HCR. Other CPCs indicated the frequency of reporting should be increased to monthly intervals if the catch limits were to be effectively implemented.
139. The Commission **AGREED** that the proposal was premature given that MSE work on skipjack tuna is progressing and assessment of management procedures is not fully complete.
140. The Commission **NOTED** that a road map has been proposed under the MPD02 meeting which may be an effective means to advance the development of harvest control rules to be further discussed by the Commission. Results of such sub-groups will nevertheless be shared among all CPCs and will be compiled and consolidated, as appropriate, in recommendations to the Commission on management objectives and on management procedures.

## 10. OTHER BUSINESS

### 10.1 Cooperation with other organisations and institutions

#### 10.1.1 *Renewal of the MoU between the IOTC and ACAP*

141. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC–2015–S19–08 which provided the Commission with an opportunity to consider the revised Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the IOTC and the Secretariat for the Agreement of the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP).
142. The Commission **AGREED** that the Chairperson of the Commission shall sign the MoU on behalf of the Commission, as detailed in Appendix I of paper IOTC–2015–S19–08, and for the MoU to be communicated to ACAP accordingly for signature.

#### 10.1.2 *Renewal of the MoU between the IOTC and CCSBT*

143. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC–2015–S19–09 which provided the Commission with an opportunity to consider the revised Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the IOTC and the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT).
144. The Commission **AGREED** that the Chairperson of the Commission shall sign the MoU on behalf of the Commission, as detailed in Appendix I of paper IOTC–2015–S19–09, and for the MoU to be communicated to CCSBT accordingly for signature.

#### 10.1.3 *Draft MoU between the IOTC and CMS*

145. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC–2015–S19–10 which provided the Commission with an opportunity to consider a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the IOTC and the Convention on the Conservation of Highly Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS).
146. The Commission **AGREED** that the scope and intention of the draft MoU was in the interests of the IOTC, and as such, it should be further circulated following the S19 meeting, for comments and revision among Contracting Parties of IOTC and parties to CMS. At the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission (S20) a draft MoU will be considered.

### 10.2 Election of a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson/s of the Commission for the next biennium

#### 10.2.1 *Chairperson of the Commission*

147. The Commission **NOTED** that the 2<sup>nd</sup> term of the current Chairperson, Mr Daroomalingum Mauree (Mauritius) is due to expire at the closing of the current Session, and as per the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014) participants are required to elect a new Chairperson for the next biennium.
148. The Commission **THANKED** Mr Mauree for his Chairmanship over the past four years and looked forward to his continued engagement in the activities of the Commission in the future.

149. **NOTING** the Rules of Procedure (2014), the Commission **CALLED** for nominations for the newly vacated position of Chairperson of the IOTC for the next biennium. Dr Ahmed Mohammed Al-Mazroui (Oman) was nominated, seconded and elected as Chairperson of the IOTC for the next biennium.

#### ***10.2.2 Vice-Chairpersons of the Commission***

150. The Commission **NOTED** that the 1<sup>st</sup> term of the current Vice-Chairperson, Mr Jeongseok Park (Rep. of Korea) is due to expire at the closing of the current Session, and as per the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014), participants are required to elect or re-elected Vice-Chairpersons for the next biennium.

151. **NOTING** the Rules of Procedure (2014), the Commission **CALLED** for nominations for the newly vacated positions of Vice-Chairperson of the IOTC for the next biennium. Mr Jeongseok Park (Rep. of Korea) and Mr Saut Tampubolon (Indonesia) were nominated, seconded and elected as Vice-Chairpersons of the IOTC for the next biennium.

### **10.3 Date and Place of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Sessions of the Commission and of its subsidiary bodies for 2015 and 2016**

152. The Commission was unanimous in its thanks to the Rep. of Korea for hosting the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission and commended the Rep. of Korea on the warm welcome, the excellent facilities and assistance provided to the IOTC Secretariat in the organisation and running of the Session.

#### ***10.3.1 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission and its subsidiary bodies: Hosting***

153. The Commission **THANKED** the European Union for its generous offer to host the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission (S20), the 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the Compliance Committee (CoC13) and the 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF13), in La Reunion, France in May 2016. The exact dates and meeting venue will be confirmed and communicated by the IOTC Secretariat at a later date.

#### ***10.3.2 21<sup>st</sup> Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission and its subsidiary bodies: Hosting***

154. The Commission **THANKED** Indonesia for its generous offer to host the 21<sup>st</sup> Session of the Commission (S21), the 14<sup>th</sup> Session of the Compliance Committee (CoC14) and the 14<sup>th</sup> Session of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF14), in Bali in April 2017. The exact dates and meeting venue will be confirmed and communicated by the IOTC Secretariat at a later date.

#### ***10.3.3 IOTC meetings calendar***

155. The Commission **ADOPTED** the schedule of meetings for its subsidiary bodies for 2015 and 2016 as detailed in [Appendix XXVII](#), and for the IOTC website to be updated accordingly.

### **10.4 Plans for the next Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria (TCAC03)**

156. The Commission **NOTED** that any discussion or announcements regarding the TCAC would be done via inter-sessional correspondence (i.e. IOTC Circulars).

### **10.5 Outcomes of the Management Procedures Dialogue (MPD02)**

157. The Commission **NOTED** that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Management Procedures Dialogue (MPD02) was held in Busan, Rep. of Korea on 26 and 28 April 2015. The MPD is mandated under Resolution 14/03 *on enhancing the dialogue between fisheries scientists and managers*. Concepts of what the IOTC is developing to ensure the long term sustainability of the resource and the fishery were discussed, and put in the context of the Precautionary Approach to fisheries. The content of the workshop are available on the IOTC website: <http://iotc.org/meetings/management-procedures-dialogue-mpd02>

158. The Commission **NOTED** that the discussions were aimed at providing clarification of the various elements of a Management Procedure, and how the process of Management Strategy Evaluation is utilised to assess the performance of candidate Management Procedures in fulfilling the management objectives identified in consultation with CPC's. The roles of the managers and scientists in this process were also discussed.

159. The Commission **NOTED** the overviews of the current status of the Management Strategy Evaluation process for albacore and skipjack tuna, supported by an exercise to illustrate how a Management Procedure can be tuned on the basis of performance measures that evaluate the degree that the different objectives are met.

160. The Commission **NOTED** that the MPD02 workshop summary report would be available in the coming weeks, and that it would include options for the Scientific Committee, and its relevant subsidiary bodies, to use a range of statistics as a first approximation to measure status, yield, safety, and stability in the evaluation of an initial set

of candidate management procedures. The summary report would also include next steps in the process which would need to be undertaken over the coming years.

161. The Commission **NOTED** the summary of the workshop outcomes presented during the Session, as provided in [Appendix XXVIII](#). The Report of the MPD02 will be circulated to participants in the coming weeks.

#### **10.6 Sustainable Management of Tuna Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ)**

162. The Commission **NOTED** an impromptu presentation on the progress of the project *Sustainable Management of Tuna Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ)*. With FAO as an implementing agency and financial support from the Global Environmental Facility, the Project reunites 19 executing partners including all tuna RFMOs, as well as governments, NGOs and private sector organisations. The Project is one of four projects under the Common Oceans Programme, that aims at address issues related to sustainability of fisheries and conservation of biodiversity in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction.
163. The Commission **NOTED** that the 23 Project activities are structured around three main components: 1) strengthening of management, including support to management strategy evaluations; 2) actions towards reducing IUU fishing; and 3) reduction of ecosystem impacts of fishing activities. Many of the activities of the Project support directly current initiatives of the Commission.
164. The Commission **NOTED** the contributions of the Project to its activities and welcomed the continuing collaboration in areas of common interest. The Commission also encouraged all Project partners to liaise effectively with the IOTC Secretariat and the relevant subsidiary bodies to ensure that the activities of the Project benefit directly the Members.
165. **NOTING** the importance of the work being carried out on gillnets by WWF, the Commission **REQUESTED** closer collaboration with the IOTC Secretariat in its implementation.

#### **10.7 Extension of the appointment of the IOTC Executive Secretary**

166. In accordance with Rule V.3 of the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014), the Commission **AGREED** that the tenure of the current IOTC Executive Secretary, Mr Rondolph Payet, be renewed for a further three years (commencing 1 April 2016). The Chairperson was asked to inform the Director-General of FAO of this conclusion.
167. The Commission **AGREED** that performance criteria should be developed for the post of the IOTC Executive Secretary. These criteria will assist the Commission in evaluating the performance of the Executive Secretary as well as provide a basis for renewal of term of office.

### **11. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 19<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE COMMISSION**

168. The report of the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission was **ADOPTED** on the 1 May 2015.

## APPENDIX I

### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

#### CHAIRPERSON

Mr Daroomalingum **Mauree**  
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## APPENDIX II

### OPENING ADDRESSES

#### **Opening Address by the Honorable Mr. Yoo Ki-June, Minister of the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, Republic of Korea.**

Mr. Daroomalingum Mauree, Chairman of the IOTC Commission,

Mr. Rondolph Payet, Executive Secretary of IOTC

Mr. Arni Mathiesen, Assistant Director-General of the Department of Fisheries, FAO

Distinguished delegates and Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to warmly welcome all of you to the 19th Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission here in Busan, Republic of Korea.

It is a great honor and pleasure for me to deliver this welcome speech on behalf of the Korean Government. As some of you may know, this is the second time that Korea is hosting the Commission Meeting after the 14th Commission Session held in 2010 here in Busan. Back in December 2013, Busan was also the host city of the 16th Session of the Scientific Committee. Distinguished delegates and ladies and gentlemen, Korea is one of the founding Members of IOTC, joining in 1997. Additionally, IOTC has a special meaning to Korea as the Indian Ocean was the birthplace of Korea's distant water fisheries. Back in 1957, Korea, for the first time, succeeded in exploratory tuna fisheries using a long-liner. Since then, the Indian Ocean had served as an important pillar of Korea's economic development in the 1960's.

In the meantime, Korea amended its Distant Water Fisheries Development Act several times over the past one year to take a leap forward as a responsible member of the international community. Such actions include ongoing efforts to ratify FAO Port State Measures Agreement in the first half of this year. Mandatory installment of a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) on all Korean-flagged distant water fishing boats, and Establishment of Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) to monitor the movement of fishing boats in real time. As a result, the Republic of Korea was removed from the European Union's preliminary list of IUU countries last week and Korea also received a positive certification from the US in its biennial report to Congress on IUU in February this year.

Korea highly appreciates the IOTC for its long-standing commitment to the conservation and sustainable use of tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean. The Republic of Korea has been and will be committed to working with 32 Members and stakeholders to eradicate IUU fishing and to take precautionary approaches to fisheries management for present and future generations.

In this regard, I sincerely hope that such efforts will reap fruitful results in this session held in Busan, Korea. I understand that there is a heavy workload for the Commission to address over the next five days. However, I am sure that all of us will obviously achieve our common goal, conservation and sustainable use of tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean through in-depth discussions and collaboration.

On behalf of the Korean Government and personally, I am extremely delighted to welcome you once again in my hometown city of Busan and wish the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission a great success. I do hope that you will also take some time to enjoy the beautiful scenery and rich culture of Busan.

Thank you.

**Mr Daroomalingum Mauree, Chairperson of the Commission**

Hon. Minister for Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development

Ambassadors

Executive Secretary of IOTC

Distinguished Guests

Distinguished Representatives of Members

Non Contracting Cooperating Members

Invited Observers

Ladies and gentlemen

All Protocols observed

Let me wish you a very good morning and welcome to Westin Chosun Hotel Conference Centre in Busan for the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Indian Tuna Ocean Commission. Allow me first of all, to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to the Government of the Republic of South Korea for the warm welcome extended to all delegates to this meeting since arrival. We truly appreciate the generous hospitality that the Government of South Korea is providing us. I also want to thank you all for your support and the role you played, individually and jointly, in delivering the excellent work within the IOTC framework.

Of the 19 years since the Agreement establishing the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission entered into force, I have had the honour of presiding over 4 years as Chairperson of the Commission. In that time, I have seen our family make many substantial advancements as we work towards the common goal of sustainably managing IOTC fisheries and the species and ecosystems which are being impacted by them, while also having due regard to the need to ensure the equitable participation of Members of the Commission. In particular, the special interests and needs of Members in regions that are developing coastal countries.

The IOTC is key to the sustainable management of fisheries resources and ecosystems. The better IOTC performs, the more healthy fish we will have for ourselves and for future generations. We cannot forget that development has to be preserved as the central pillar of our efforts with tangible results engaging all members at all stages within an inclusive and transparent process.

**Food security**

The IOTC is unique among tuna RFMOs not only for its culturally diverse membership, but also because the region's artisanal fishing fleets continue to land almost 50% of their total catch of tuna and tuna-like species, including neritic tunas which are especially important for coastal State Members. The resources managed by the IOTC are therefore, critical for national and regional food security, for the livelihoods of our coastal communities and as a source of economic income for many of our coastal State Members.

**Distant water fishing nation contributions**

Of course the tuna resources of the Indian Ocean have importance beyond the coastal States of the region. The IOTC Membership includes distant water fishing nations who play a critical role in the work of the Commission. These Members have a longstanding presence in the Indian Ocean, not only through fishing activity but through various sub-regional, regional and bilateral partnerships. Many of these Members have also provided substantial assistance to coastal State Members in strengthening fisheries management and compliance in the region, and this assistance must be positively acknowledged.

**Transfer of economic benefits to coastal States**

That said, it must also be emphasized that the economic gains from the tuna and tuna-like resources of the Indian Ocean are still heavily biased towards the distant water fishing nations, and this is something which all Members should continue to work collaboratively and intensively on, so that the economic benefits are incrementally transferred to coastal countries at a faster rate than is currently the case. Although this transition has started, I believe not enough is being done to build capacity among our coastal State Members so that economic benefits are realised, including value addition to fish products, market access and national fleet development.

**Revision of the IOTC Agreement**

There is also a clear and urgent need to revise the IOTC Agreement. One of the core focal points of the revision should be to ensure that all fleets operating in the Indian Ocean are fully functioning parties to the Agreement. Of course, I refer to our Invited Expert friends, whose vessels are extremely important in the Indian Ocean and have taken

the greatest proportion of the total catch for 5 out of the 16 species directly under the IOTC mandate in recent years. Those being:

- Albacore – 36%
- Bigeye tuna – 25%
- Swordfish – 18%
- Striped marlin – 32%
- Blue marlin – 35%

### **Allocation of resources and transfer**

The Agreement to move towards an allocation system to better manage IOTC stocks was also a positive step initiated by the Commission in 2010, via Resolution 10/01 and most recently by Resolution 14/02. The objective of this Resolution was to discuss and recommend an allocation quota system for the management of tuna and tuna-like resources in the Indian Ocean. Unfortunately, this important process appears to have stalled. Members must reinvigorate discussions around an allocation system, as it has been proven over and over again throughout the world's fisheries that effective management of shared stocks can only be achieved if resources are allocated in such a way that fishing entities may be held accountable for over catch or other breaches of responsibilities. Distant water fishing nations have a key role in working with coastal States to strengthen the capacity of all Members to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.

### **Financial obligations & Contributions**

However, it must also be highlighted the key role that the IOTC Secretariat has in supporting and facilitating the process of decision making by the Commission. Over the last few years, I have noticed a level of stagnation or inactivity by the Secretariat which Members should carefully consider. Although there are likely to be several reasons for this, one key issue is the lack of financial contributions being made by some of the IOTC Membership to the Commission's budget. We will hear later during this Session, the Report of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance, which will include statements on the longstanding and/or late payments from our Membership. Without adequate cash flow, the Secretariat and subsequently the Commission will be paralysed and thus, unable to do the necessary work to meet the core objective of the IOTC. Staffing of the science, data and compliance sections must also be increased, not decreased, if the decisions of the Commission are to be met. Thus, I cannot miss this unique opportunity to strongly urge all of you to make your annual contributions on time and in full. The survival of the IOTC therefore rests in your hands.

I would fail in my duty if I cannot advocate that it is not an easy job to ensure the sustainable management of shared stocks and stocks of common interest, especially the small pelagic species and tuna. Let us be honest to each other, we know many of the answers to reach sustainable fisheries and food security. In the present scenario where the threat and pressure is increasing like climate change, ocean acidification, overfishing, IUU fishing, destruction of habitats and pollution amongst other, the challenges are even more daunting. Of course with your assistance during my mandate I guided the IOTC in playing a key role in addressing some of these the challenges, acting in concert with member States for sustainable growth. But fish has no boundaries. Cooperation is therefore becoming even more important nowadays.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

If we are to achieve effective long-term sustainable management of our regional fisheries, we have to go through a common avenue. Testimony to this avenue is the continued unflinching cooperation amongst all the member states. I firmly believe that the IOTC is the effective platform of cooperation to enable Member States to agree on conservation and management measures. Some issues will probably in principle be very difficult for you to resolve; like excess capacity of fishing fleets, quota allocation on an equitable and sustainable basis and the precautionary approach, but as I say no task is impossible to us. The IOTC cannot lose sight of the fundamental principles of sustainable management of fisheries resources. There is plenty of room for convergence and improvement. I've not identified the road ahead, but I hope I've given food for thought.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, it is clear that while the IOTC membership is diverse, all Members share a common goal: that is, being the sustainable management of tuna and tuna-like resources as well as sharks and bycatch species in the Indian Ocean for the benefit of all. It is this goal that must be the key focus when discussing the challenges facing the Commission during this, and future Sessions of the Commission. To this end, I look forward to passing on my experiences, both positive and negative to the incoming Chairperson to be duly elected at the conclusion of this Session. I thank you and look forward to constructive decisions during the days ahead.

Thank you.

**Mr. Rondolph Payet, Executive Secretary, IOTC**

Hon. Minister of the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF), YOO Ki-June.  
 Vice Mayor for Economic Affairs, Busan Metropolitan City, KIM Kyu-ok  
 Chairman of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission  
 Deputy Ministry of Fisheries, Federal Republic of Somalia  
 Assistant Director General for Fisheries of the FAO  
 Distinguished Delegates  
 Ladies and gentlemen

It is good to be back in Busan for the Commission Plenary after 5 years. I remember very well and for a fact, I cannot over emphasize the generosity of your host. I will leave that for you to experience yourself on what Busan has to offer. We obviously cannot be in a better location for us take decisions that are required for the sustainability of the organisation but even more so the sustainability of the tuna resources and its ecosystem that are so dear to us and our communities.

This Commission is always hopeful that it can do better and expecting progress every year amongst its members in how those resources are managed. Compliance to the IOTC Conservation and Management Measures is improving and members are more aware of what needs to be done to improve the effectiveness of this organisation. We are responding well to the reporting requirements but it also been noted that we need to improve the quality of the information, and that should be a next step, in parallel to what we are already doing.

Honorable Minister, if you allow me, I would like to say a few words on the progress of Korea in IOTC in terms of Compliance. We have witnessed significant progress in the Korea's commitment to the management tuna resources in the Indian Ocean, and reached a compliance level of 96% but overall compliance of the IOTC overall is only at 59 percent and we are still struggling with statistics, by catch and observer programme. We look forward to the consideration of Korea in supporting our capacity building activities. This call also goes to our other partners to see how they can further assist Members through the Secretariat or directly with the concerned Members.

We definitely have a few challenges ahead of us and these can be described as follows: losing ability to finance our activities, reporting of minimum fishery statistics, implementation of observer programme, bycatch reporting, implementation port state control measures and eliminating Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing. All of these are fundamental to the management of the Indian Ocean tuna fisheries and they touch each and every Member of this organisation.

From the point of view of the Secretariat, this has been yet another year of progress, in its customary role of facilitator of the work of the IOTC Members. More so than ever, we are reaching out and working with you on the ground where we feel the most benefit can be achieved. The work of the Secretariat as you may know has extended beyond the traditional scientific support, which is still very important, as we continue to work with Member states and other regional initiatives to promote better compliance and the understanding of our science so as to better inform management. The diversity of our Members presents us with other challenges and this no easy task due to our limited financial resources and growing demand for us to deliver more with less.

In closing, I would like first to express my gratitude to the Minister for being here with us, and the Government of the Republic of Korea for providing these excellent facilities for our work. Second, my gratitude goes to my staff (those here and back in the Secretariat), and the local organizing committee who has worked long hours to ensure the success of this meeting. This has been already a long week, and their efforts are appreciated. I look forward to sharing with you another week of constructive work but you should also take some time to enjoy Busan's hospitality.

Thank you very much.  
 Ko•map•sūm•ni•da

Mr Chairman, Excellency's, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, dear friends and colleagues, the international community has increasingly recognized that Regional Fishery Bodies and Arrangements (RFBs/As) play a vital role in the sustainable management and governance of fisheries, as well as the conservation of living marine resources and their habitats worldwide.

The 20th anniversary of the opening for signature of the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA) was recently commemorated at the UN headquarters in New York, during which the work of the RFB/As in bolstering the implementation of the principles of fisheries conservation, management and sustainable use was commended. The key role of RFB/As is inscribed in several voluntary international instruments related to fisheries, such as the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, as well as binding instruments, like the FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

In my address to the audience attending the UNFSA commemoration event, I used the example of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) to demonstrate how bodies like this with clear management strategies for their fish stocks, provide a valuable forum in which countries can participate in conservation and management decisions on the basis of the best scientific information while, at the same time, strengthening the implementation of key provisions of UNFSA.

While noting with satisfaction the progress made by the Commission in line with several recommendations which emanated from the last Performance Review, FAO also welcomes IOTC's initiative to undertake a second performance review to further address the effectiveness of the Commission and, in this regard, we are looking forward to learning of its outcome upon its completion.

Over the years, FAO has cooperated with RFB/As, and has facilitated the establishment of new bodies and provided technical assistance to several of them, including to their Members individually, with a view to strengthening their performance. In this regard, I wish to highlight the recent work undertaken by FAO's Fisheries and Aquaculture Department and Legal Office within the area of the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture of Africa (CIFAA). The last CIFAA's extraordinary session held in December 2014, commended the continuous support provided by FAO and, recognizing the importance of having such a body covering issues relating to inland fisheries and aquaculture, recommended a review of CIFAA's statutes and rules of procedure so as to enable the Committee address specific technical and scientific matters. Moreover, FAO has been providing support in the development of revised rules of procedure of the Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC) which will be discussed at the next session of this body to be held in July. Lastly, I wish to refer to the current efforts being made by the coastal States of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden with FAO assistance to establish a Regional Fisheries Management Organization/Arrangement (RFMO/A) in their region. In this regard, I would like to note the cooperation established between the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) and the FAO's Fisheries and Aquaculture Department to assist the coastal States concerned to ensure sustainable fisheries and aquaculture in a body of water such as the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.

And, as you know, FAO also provides the services of a Secretariat to the Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network, a community of more than 50 RFB/As whose work is instrumental to the viability and sustainability of the world's fisheries.

I would like to reaffirm that FAO is, in particular, at the disposal of developing States to assist them in developing their fisheries in a sustainable manner and to be better placed when engaging in regional decision-making processes. In this regard, I should make reference to the Assistance Fund established under Part VII of UNFSA which provides an avenue for support to developing States Parties to UNFSA in the implementation of the Agreement, as well as supporting an array of activities which may also be of interest to RFB/As' contracting Parties and their respective work.

The current focus on Oceans and Seas in the international agenda, including in the Sustainable Development Goals discussions, has brought about the creation of multiple initiatives in which FAO is currently involved together with other partners.

Such initiatives range from the "GEF/FAO Global Sustainable Fisheries Management and Biodiversity Conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction Program" (Common Oceans Program) to the most recent "Coastal Fishery Initiative" in which FAO is playing a leading role. It is in cases like this that FAO promotes the participation of RFB/As. The Sustainable Management of Tuna Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation in ABNJ Project, one of the components of the Common Oceans program, is a good example where a large and diverse group of stakeholders, that

play important roles in tuna fisheries, including RFMOs, the fishing industry, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, national organizations and consumers, are brought together.

Furthermore, FAO and UNEP in collaboration with representatives of the RFBs in West Africa and the Abidjan Convention, are working towards the development of a project that aims at strengthening cooperation between regional fisheries and environmental bodies, and within governments, for sustainable management of relevant ocean related activities on thematic issues of common interest and within mandates of respective institutions. This initiative is drawing on expertise and experience gained from the collaboration between the environmental and fisheries bodies operating in the Northeast Atlantic Ocean (namely the Northeast Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) and the Oslo – Paris Conventions (OSPAR)) with the support of Norway.

Mr Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, later this year, we will be celebrating twenty years of the adoption of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. The Code was a breakthrough instrument which sets out principles and international standards of best practices for the development or enhancement of the fisheries and aquaculture sectors, giving due consideration to the long-term sustainable use of fisheries resources, habitat conservation, the enhancement of food security, the alleviation of poverty in fishing communities, as well as the economic, social and cultural interests of all stakeholders. We will be celebrating what has been achieved so far within the framework of the Code and the related international plans of action, guidelines and strategies formulated within the framework of the Code, and outlining our main challenges and aspirations for the next twenty years. Clearly, the UN fish stocks agreement and the role of regional fisheries management organizations will play an important role in this discussion, and I hope we can work together to capitalize on the momentum when oceans are high on the international agenda in order to communicate focused messages to key stakeholders about the importance of the Fish Stocks Agreement and the Code of Conduct for the future of world fisheries and aquaculture.

In conclusion, I wish to reiterate FAO continuous and dedicated support to the work of this important Commission.

Thank you.

**APPENDIX III****AGENDA FOR THE 19<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE INDIAN OCEAN TUNA COMMISSION****Date:** 27 April – 1 May 2015**Location:** Busan, Republic of Korea**Venue:** Westin Chosun Hotel, Haeundae Beach**Time:** 09:00 – 17:00 daily**Chairperson:** Mr. Mauree Daroomalingum (Mauritius); **Vice-Chairpersons:** Dr Ahmed Mohammed Al-Mazroui (Oman) and Mr Jeongseok Park (Rep. of Korea)

- 1. OPENING OF THE SESSION** (Host & Chairperson)
- 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION** (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
- 3. ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS** (Chairperson)
- 4. UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM THE 18<sup>th</sup> SESSION** (Chairperson)
- 5. REPORT OF THE 17<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE** (SC Chairperson)
- 6. REPORT OF THE 12<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE** (CoC Chairperson)
- 7. REPORT OF THE 12<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE** (SCAF Chairperson)
- 8. PERFORMANCE REVIEW OF IOTC**
  - 8.1 Progress on the implementation of the recommendations of the 1<sup>st</sup> Performance Review Panel (Resolution 09/01 on the performance review follow-up) (Chairperson & IOTC Secretariat)
  - 8.2 Update on progress: 2<sup>nd</sup> Performance Review of the IOTC (Chairperson & IOTC Secretariat)
- 9. CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES** (Chair & Members)
 

Noting that in 2014, *The Commission RECALLED its previous decision that the 30 day rule shall continue to be strictly applied for all future Sessions unless otherwise agreed. Specifically, no proposals for new or revised Conservation or Management Measures shall be accepted by the Secretariat for the Commission's consideration, if received after the 30 day deadline. (para 111, S18 report).*

  - 9.1 Current Conservation and Management Measures that require action by the Commission in 2015 and 2016 (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
  - 9.2 Review of objections received under Article IX.5 of the IOTC Agreement (Chairperson)
  - 9.3 Proposals for Conservation and Management Measures (Members)
- 10. OTHER BUSINESS** (Chair)
  - 10.1 Cooperation with other organisations and institutions (Chairperson)
  - 10.2 Election of a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson/s of the Commission for the next *biennium* (Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons)
  - 10.3 Date and place of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Sessions of the Commission and of its subsidiary bodies for 2015 and 2016 (Chairperson)
- 11. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 19<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE COMMISSION** (Chairperson)

# **APPENDIX IV** **LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

| Document No.  | Title   | Availability  |
|---|---|---|
| IOTC-2015-S19-01a                                       | Provisional agenda for the 19 <sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission   | ✓ 21 January 2015<br>✓ 29 April 2015                  |
| IOTC-2015-S19-01b                                       | Provisional annotated agenda and schedule for the 19 <sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission  | ✓ 30 March 2015<br>✓ 29 April 2015                    |
| IOTC-2015-S19-02  | Draft list of documents for the 19 <sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission  | ✓ 27 March 2015<br>✓ 29 April 2015                    |
| IOTC-2015-S19-03  | Draft list of participants for the 19 <sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission   | ✓ 27 March 2015<br>✓ 29 April 2015                    |
| IOTC-2015-S19-04  | Actions arising from the previous Session of the Commission (S18) (IOTC Secretariat)  | ✓ 20 March 2015                                       |
| IOTC-2015-S19-05<br>Rev_2                               | Update on progress regarding Resolution 09/01 – <i>on the performance review follow-up</i> (Chair and IOTC Secretariat)   | ✓ 16 March 2015<br>✓ 26 April 2015<br>✓ 27 April 2015 |
| IOTC-2015-S19-06  | Conservation and management measures requiring action by the Commission in 2015 (IOTC Secretariat)  | ✓ 18 March 2015                                       |
| IOTC-2015-S19-07  | Review of objections received under Article IX.5 of the IOTC Agreement (IOTC Secretariat)   | ✓ 19 March 2015                                       |
| IOTC-2015-S19-08  | Renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the IOTC and the Secretariat for the Agreement of the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP)                       | ✓ 27 March 2015                                       |
| IOTC-2015-S19-09  | Renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the IOTC and the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT)  | ✓ 27 March 2015                                       |
| IOTC-2015-S19-10<br>Rev_1                               | Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the IOTC and the Convention on the Conservation of Highly Migratory Species of Wild Animal (CMS)  | ✓ 22 April 2015<br>✓ 26 April 2015                    |
| <b>Committee Reports</b>                                |   |   |
| IOTC-2014-SC17-R  | Report of the 17 <sup>th</sup> Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee   | ✓ 19 December 2014                                    |
| IOTC-2015-CoC12-R                                       | Report of the 12 <sup>th</sup> Session of the IOTC Compliance Committee   | ✓ 26 April 2015                                       |
| IOTC-2015-SCAF12-R                                      | Report of the 12 <sup>th</sup> Session of the IOTC Standing Committee on Administration and Finance   | ✓ 26 April 2015                                       |
| <b>Conservation and Management Measures – Proposals</b> |   |   |
| IOTC-2015-S19-PropA                                     | On the recording of catch and effort data by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence ( <b>European Union</b> – Revision of Resolution 13/03)                                 | ✓ 26 March 2015                                       |
| IOTC-2015-S19-PropB                                     | On mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs) ( <b>European Union</b> – Revision of Resolution 10/02) | ✓ 26 March 2015                                       |
| IOTC-2015-S19-PropC                                     | On the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by the IOTC ( <b>European Union</b> – Revision of Resolution 05/05)                                      | ✓ 26 March 2015                                       |
| IOTC-2015-S19-PropD                                     | On the conservation of sharks ( <b>Australia</b> – Revision of Resolution 05/05)  | ✓ 27 March 2015                                       |
| IOTC-2015-S19-PropE                                     | On endangered species ( <b>European Union</b> )   | ✓ 26 March 2015                                       |
| IOTC-2015-S19-PropF                                     | On the implementation of a limitation of fishing capacity of Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties ( <b>European Union</b> – Revision of Resolution 12/11)    | ✓ 26 March 2015                                       |



| Document No.              | Title  | Availability    |
|---------------------------|--|-----------------|
| IOTC–2015–S19–PropG       | IOTC target and limit reference points and a decision framework ( <b>Maldives</b> – Revision of Resolution 13/10)  | ✓ 27 March 2015 |
| IOTC–2015–S19–PropH       | On interim target and limit reference points and a decision framework ( <b>European Union</b> – Revision of Resolution 13/10)  | ✓ 26 March 2015 |
| IOTC–2015–S19–PropI       | On harvest controls rules for skipjack tuna in the IOTC area of competence ( <b>Maldives</b> – New Proposal)   | ✓ 27 March 2015 |
| IOTC–2015–S19–PropJ       | On the management of fishing aggregating devices (FADs) ( <b>European Union</b> )  | ✓ 26 March 2015 |
| IOTC–2015–S19–PropK       | On the vessel monitoring system (VMS) programme ( <b>United Kingdom(OT) and Seychelles</b> – Revision of Res. 06/03)   | ✓ 27 March 2015 |
| IOTC–2015–S19–PropL       | Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan, including more detailed specifications of catch reporting from fad sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species ( <b>Mauritius</b> – Revision of Res. 13/08) | ✓ 27 March 2015 |
| IOTC–2015–S19–PropM       | On the use of lights to attract fish to dFADs and vessels supporting purse-seining operations ( <b>Mauritius</b> – New Proposal)   | ✓ 27 March 2015 |
| IOTC–2015–S19–PropN       | Concerning the IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC area of competence ( <b>Mauritius</b> – Revision of Res. 14/04)  | ✓ 27 March 2015 |
| IOTC–2015–S19–PropO       | On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna , and a recommendation for non-targeted species caught by purse seine vessels in the IOTC area of competence ( <b>Mauritius</b> – Revision of Res. 13/11)   | ✓ 27 March 2015 |
| <b>Information papers</b> |  |                 |
| IOTC–2015–S19–INF01       | Report on presumed IUU fishing activities in the EEZ of Somalia (Somalia)  | ✓ 27 April 2015 |
| <b>NGO Statements</b>     |  |                 |
| IOTC–2015–S19–NGO01       | ISSF Position Statement 2015   | ✓ 31 March 2015 |
| IOTC–2015–S19–NGO02       | IPNLF Position Statement 2015  | ✓ 4 April 2015  |
| IOTC–2015–S19–NGO03       | IGFA Position Statement 2015   | ✓ 17 April 2015 |
| IOTC–2015–S19–NGO04       | Greenpeace Position Statement 2015   | ✓ 26 April 2015 |
| IOTC–2015–S19–NGO05       | WWF Position Statement 2015  | ✓ 26 April 2015 |
| IOTC–2015–S19–NGO06       | PEW Position Statement 2015  | ✓ 27 April 2015 |

## APPENDIX VA

### STATEMENTS OF MAURITIUS AND THE UNITED KINGDOM (OT)

#### *Mauritius (First statement)*

*'The Government of the Republic of Mauritius reaffirms that it does not recognize the so-called "British Indian Ocean Territory" ("BIOT") which the United Kingdom purported to create by illegally excising the Chagos Archipelago from the territory of Mauritius prior to its accession to independence. This excision was carried out in violation of international law and of United Nations General Assembly Resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 2066 (XX) of 16 December 1965, 2232 (XXI) of 20 December 1966 and 2357 (XXII) of 19 December 1967.*

*The Government of the Republic of Mauritius has, at previous meetings of the Commission, drawn the attention of the Commission to the fact that it initiated proceedings in December 2010 against the United Kingdom under Article 287 of, and Annex VII to, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) to challenge the legality of the 'marine protected area' ('MPA') that the United Kingdom purported to establish on 1 April 2010 around the Chagos Archipelago which forms an integral part of the territory of the Republic of Mauritius.*

*The Arbitral Tribunal constituted under Annex VII to UNCLOS to hear the dispute delivered its Award on 18 March 2015. The Tribunal ruled that in establishing the 'MPA' around the Chagos Archipelago, the United Kingdom breached its obligations under Articles 2(3), 56(2) and 194(4) of UNCLOS.*

*Since the 'MPA' purportedly established by the United Kingdom around the Chagos Archipelago has been held to be in breach of international law, it is legally invalid. As a consequence, any action taken by the IOTC, including its Scientific Committee and Working Parties, in respect of the purported 'MPA' is, and should be regarded, as ipso facto null and void.*

*The Government of the Republic of Mauritius strongly objects to any reference made to the purported 'MPA' in documents submitted for the consideration of the Commission. In this regard, the Government of the Republic of Mauritius wrote on 20 April 2015 to the Executive Secretary of the IOTC to request that the purported 'MPA' should not be the subject of any discussions at the level of the IOTC, including this meeting.*

*This request was reiterated by the Government of the Republic of Mauritius in the letter which it addressed to the Executive Secretary of the IOTC on 24 April 2015.*

*Two of the arbitrators sitting on the Arbitral Tribunal in the case brought by Mauritius, namely Judges Kateka and Wolfrum, adjudged that the Republic of Mauritius has rights in relation to the Chagos Archipelago as a coastal State under UNCLOS. The other three arbitrators ruled that they did not have jurisdiction over this issue but they did not contradict Judges Wolfrum and Kateka.*

*The balance of arguments supports the long held view of the Republic of Mauritius that the United Kingdom is not entitled to be a member of the IOTC because it is not a "coastal State situated wholly or partly within the Area [of competence of the Commission]" in relation to the Chagos Archipelago. The Chagos Archipelago is – and has always been – an integral part of the territory of the Republic Mauritius and this must now be recognized by the IOTC. The Mauritius delegation replies to any alleged legality of the 'MPA' by underlining that the Tribunal held that in establishing the 'MPA', the UK violated international law; para. 547B and 533 of the Award are recalled.*

*The Government of the Republic of Mauritius reiterates that the Chagos Archipelago, including Diego Garcia, forms an integral part of the territory of the Republic of Mauritius under both Mauritian law and international law. The Republic of Mauritius is, however, being prevented from exercising its rights over the Chagos Archipelago because of the de facto and unlawful control of the United Kingdom over the Archipelago.*

*The Government of the Republic of Mauritius trusts that in keeping with the principles of international law, the IOTC and its distinguished members including the United Kingdom, will ensure that they fully respect the Award of the Arbitral Tribunal, which is binding pursuant to Article 11 of Annex VII to UNCLOS, and the rights of the Republic of Mauritius under international law and UNCLOS.*

*The recent exchanges between the Republic of Mauritius and the United Kingdom make it clear that a dispute exists regarding the interpretation and application of the IOTC Agreement, within the meaning of its Article XXIII.*

*In the event that any consideration is given by the Commission at this meeting to any documents purportedly submitted by the UK, including in respect of the so-called "BIOT", the Government of the Republic of Mauritius reserves the right to request the Commission to settle the dispute and its other rights under Article XXIII.*

*In the light of the foregoing, the delegation of the Republic of Mauritius has no objection to the adoption of the draft agenda, provided:*

- a. *there are no discussions at this meeting on the ‘MPA’ purportedly established by the United Kingdom around the Chagos Archipelago which has been held to be illegal under international law; and*
- b. *this meeting does not consider any documents purportedly submitted by the UK, including in respect of the so-called “BIOT” which is not recognized by the Government of the Republic of Mauritius and any other documents submitted by the Secretariat or any other party in respect of the so-called “BIOT”.*

*The Mauritius delegation states that consideration of any document in relation thereto, as well as any action or decision that may be taken on the basis of such document, cannot and should not be construed as implying that the UK has sovereignty or analogous rights over the Chagos Archipelago and is entitled to be a member of the IOTC, and reserves the right of Mauritius to request the Commission to settle the dispute and its other rights during this meeting or subsequently under Article XXIII of the IOTC Agreement.*

#### **United Kingdom (OT) (First statement)**

*‘Firstly we believe that the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission is not the place to discuss issues of territorial sovereignty. We have no doubt about UK sovereignty over the British Indian Ocean Territory which was ceded to Britain in 1814. Pleased to see that position is not changed by the recent award of the ITLOS Arbitral Tribunal.*

*On the reference by Mauritius to the dissenting opinion of the judges in the Arbitral tribunal, the individual judges are entitled to their views but this was not a tribunal finding and has no legal effect. The tribunal agreed with us that they had no jurisdiction to consider sovereignty and that there is therefore no doubt about UK Sovereignty over the territory.*

*Successive Governments have reaffirmed our commitment to cede the Territory to Mauritius when no longer needed for the purposes for which it was created – defence.*

*It is for us to determine when those conditions are met. BIOT continues to be a vital strategic defence asset to the UK and its allies, including the US, and we should be honest about the fact that this is unlikely to change in the medium term. There are therefore no plans to cede Diego Garcia before the next 20 years of the Exchange of Notes is considered.*

*With regards to the assertion by Mauritius that BIOT’s MPA has been found legally invalid, the UK does not accept that. In particular, we refer you to the Final Observation set out by the Arbitral Tribunal in its Award, which is as follows:*

*“In concluding that the declaration of the MPA was not in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, the Tribunal has taken no view on the substantive quality or nature of the MPA or on the importance of environmental protection. The Tribunal’s concern has been with the manner in which the MPA was established, rather than its substance. It is now open to the Parties to enter into the negotiations that the Tribunal would have expected prior to the proclamation of the MPA, with a view to achieving a mutually satisfactory arrangement for protecting the marine environment, to the extent necessary under a “sovereignty umbrella”.*

*It is clear that the Award does not have the effect of rendering the MPA void. Rather, the finding was that we should have consulted Mauritius more about the establishment of the MPA. The UK believes that establishing a Marine Protected Area continues to be the best way to protect the marine life around BIOT from the serious overfishing that takes place elsewhere in the Indian Ocean. As the Tribunal suggests, we do wish to work with Mauritius to achieve a mutually satisfactory arrangement for protecting the marine environment, and to that end, as recently as two weeks ago, the UK repeated the offer, made at Ministerial level during and in the run up to that litigation, to discuss conservation matters of mutual interest under a “sovereignty umbrella”.*

*The UK is committed to working with others to ensure proper conservation management of the BIOT Marine Protected Area.*

*Finally may we reflect on the purpose of this Commission and its Committees. What is at issue here is whether the IOTC resolutions are being applied, and the vital fight against IUU fishing, not the nature of the MPA. BIOT is an active and upstanding member of this important regional body, and as befits our status within it, have made submissions in respect of those same IOTC resolutions. We urge the Committee to now proceed with discussion about these matters without further delay. I would also refer members to the contents of the letter from BIOT Commissioner, Peter Hayes, IOTC Circular 2015–045.’*

**Mauritius (Second statement)**

*The Mauritius delegation reiterates the statement made earlier and refers the distinguished members of the Commission to the letters dated 20 & 24 April 2015 from an officer of the Government of Mauritius which are meant for circulation by the Executive Secretary of the IOTC.*

*The Republic of Mauritius states that it is firmly committed against IUU fishing as IUU is a serious concern for the Republic. It is therefore a party to several conventions:*

- a. United Nations Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks Convention of 19 December 1982;*
- b. the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing vessels on the High Seas;*
- c. Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources which advocates a holistic large marine ecosystem-based approach to management.*

*It is a member of the IOTC & South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission.*

*At national level, it has:*

- a. set up a Fisheries Monitoring Centre;*
- b. a special Unit for monitoring and inspection called the Port State Control Unit ;*
- c. prepared a National Action Plan to combat IUU fishing since 2010 and is in line with the FAO International Plan of Action – IUU; and*
- d. participates with the Indian Ocean Commission with the Regional Plan for Fisheries Surveillance in the South West Indian Ocean since 2007.*

*In the light of the foregoing, consideration of any documents which the United Kingdom has purported to submit to the Commission, as well as any action or decision that may be taken on the basis of such documents, cannot and should not be construed as implying that the United Kingdom has sovereignty or analogous rights in relation thereto. Nor should it be construed as any recognition by Mauritius of the purported “BIOT” or ‘MPA’.*

*The British delegation appears to have referred to renewal of the lease agreement with respect to the Chagos Archipelago, which forms an integral part of the territory of the Republic of Mauritius, for 20 years as a done deal.*

*The Mauritius delegation strongly objects to such a unilateral and sweeping statement, if this is indeed the case.*

*The Award of the Arbitral Tribunal is binding on the UK pursuant to Article 11 of Annex VII to UNCLOS. The Arbitral Tribunal ruled unanimously at para. 298 of its Award that Mauritius has "an interest in significant decisions that bear upon the possible future uses of the Archipelago. Mauritius' interest is not simply in the eventual return of the Archipelago, but also in the condition in which the Archipelago will be returned."*

*The United Kingdom cannot therefore proceed with the renewal of the lease agreement without entering into negotiations with Mauritius, and prior to their satisfactory conclusion. In the event the UK proceeds with the renewal of the lease in the absence of negotiations with Mauritius, Mauritius reserves all rights under international law and UNCLOS, including further recourse to the settlement of disputes under Part XV and, as appropriate, other means".’*

**United Kingdom (OT) (Second statement)**

*“The UK affirms that its position remains as set out in its previous statement.”*

**United Kingdom (OT) (Third statement, issued in response to the statement from the Chairperson of the Committee, as provided at Appendix Vb)**

*“Whilst we are grateful that the Chairman has moved to clarify his position in this matter, the UK expresses its grave concern that the Chairman continues to encourage members to avoid any reference to the British Indian Ocean Territory. Although it is not clear with what powers the Chairman now seeks to do so, we understand that he made his former direction in reliance on Rule VIII.1 of the Rules of Procedure. That rule provides that the Chairman shall direct the discussions at Sessions of the Committee and ensure observance with the Rules of Procedure, accord the*

right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions, rule on points of order and, subject to the Rules of Procedure, have control over the proceedings of the meeting. Rule VIII 1 cannot, however, be relied upon to make a direction of this nature, which relates to a substantive issue rather than a point of order.

The UK must draw the Commission's attention to the fact that the IOTC Secretariat has accepted, without objection by it or any member, the credentials of the representatives of the British Indian Ocean Territory. There is, accordingly, no basis in the Rules of Procedure for the Chair to prejudice against free discussion by and with reference to the British Indian Ocean Territory. To do so would be to amend the IOTC Agreement by changing the basis on which States can be, and participate as, members of the IOTC, contrary to the amendment provisions in Article 20 of the Agreement.

The UK takes a view that this direction, which would appear to favour one Party on an issue of substance, amounts to a direction outwith the Rules of Procedure. The UK therefore calls on members, with the leave of the Chairman, to refer as they please to the British Indian Ocean Territory, and the Marine Protected Area established there, recognising that this Commission is no place to discuss issues of territorial sovereignty."

***Mauritius (Preliminary statement in response to the third statement of United Kingdom (OT) described above as "Third statement, issued in response to the statement from the Chairperson of the Commission, as provided at Appendix Vb"***

"The Mauritius delegation reserves its right to reply later during this meeting to the statement made by the UK and to any other statement the UK may make afterwards. It therefore requests the Commission to defer the discussions on any so-called "BIOT"- "MPA" issue until after the statement of Mauritius is made in reply, if such discussions are to be proceeded with. Having had no prior official notice from the UK delegation of the nature of the statement which it has made just now, the Mauritius delegation understandably requires some time to consider the nature and tenor of the statement made by the UK. However in the meantime, the Mauritius delegation fully reserves its right to request that all its statements should remain on record and be effective.

The Mauritius delegation wishes to be enlightened about specific matters:

1. the distinguished representative of the UK delegation referred to "appears to favour" one party - what grounds, if any, are relied upon by the UK to question the credibility of the Chair and his ruling, decision and direction which we firmly believe was a fair one aimed at ensuring the smooth functioning of the deliberations of the Commission. The Mauritius delegation wishes to point out that initially, it intended to intervene under each relevant agenda item but in the light of the decision of the Chair, the Mauritius delegation complied with same;
2. which document specifically does it relate to and which discussion is it related to; and
3. communication of a copy of letter sent by the UK to the FAO. "

***Mauritius (Third statement)***

"The Mauritius delegation had reserved its right to reply to the statement made by the United Kingdom yesterday. The Mauritius delegation thanks the distinguished members of the Commission for allowing it to make its reply.

The Mauritius delegation reiterates the contents of the letters addressed by the Government of the Republic of Mauritius to the Executive Secretary of the IOTC on 20 and 24 April 2015. It is not privy thus far with the contents of the letter sent by the UK to the FAO, which we consider to be unfortunate.

The Mauritius delegation reaffirms that the Government of the Republic of Mauritius does not recognize the so-called "British Indian Ocean Territory" and that the Chagos Archipelago, including Diego Garcia, forms an integral part of the territory of the Republic of Mauritius.

The Mauritius delegation wishes to highlight that no reason or ground has been given by the United Kingdom for supporting its allegation that the Chairman's direction "would appear to favour one Party". The Mauritius delegation strongly believes that this allegation is not supported by any evidence and expresses the hope that the United Kingdom will not seek to exacerbate the difficulties by invoking it in the future."

***a. Procedural issue:***

"The UK delegation has stated that this is purely and merely a procedural matter.

The Mauritius delegation firmly believes that this is not a mere procedural matter, but an issue of whether, in keeping with the principles of international law, the IOTC and its members fully respect an Award which is final and binding

*pursuant to Article 11 of Annex VII to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and the rights of the Republic of Mauritius under international law and UNCLOS.*

*The Arbitral Tribunal established under Annex VII to UNCLOS in the case brought by the Republic of Mauritius against the UK to challenge the legality of the ‘marine protected area’ (‘MPA’) purportedly established by the UK around the Chagos Archipelago has held that in establishing the purported ‘MPA’, the United Kingdom breached its obligations under Articles 2(3), 56(2) and 194(4) of UNCLOS. Allowing discussions on, or reference to, the purported ‘MPA’ would contradict the Award and international law.”*

**b. Credentials:**

*“The UK contended yesterday that the IOTC Secretariat has accepted, without objection by it or any member, the credentials of the representatives of the so-called “BIOT”.*

*As stated in the letter addressed by the Government of the Republic of Mauritius to the Executive Secretary of the IOTC on 24 April 2015, the so-called “BIOT” cannot, on the basis of Article IV of the IOTC Agreement, claim to be a member of the IOTC. Nor is the UK entitled to be a member of the IOTC as it is not a “coastal State situated wholly or partly within the Area” (within the meaning of the IOTC Agreement) in relation to the Chagos Archipelago. The Chagos Archipelago is – and has always been – an integral part of the territory of the Republic of Mauritius. The credentials of the representatives of the so-called “BIOT” should have never been accepted by the IOTC Secretariat, nor those of the United Kingdom.*

*The Mauritius delegation recalls that the last sentence of Rule III of the Rules of Procedure of the IOTC, which relates to credentials, provides that:*

*“The Executive Secretary shall report to the Commission the Letter of Credentials received and recommendations for any action if required.”*

*However, the Executive Secretary has not reported to the Commission the Letters of Credentials received. If he had done so, the Mauritius delegation would have objected to the credentials of the representatives of the United Kingdom and of the so-called “British Indian Ocean Territory”.*

*The Mauritius delegation stresses that it would not have brought this issue of credentials here, if the matter had not been raised by the UK delegation. However, the IOTC may, in its discretion, as a result of this, consider the desirability of implementing such process of checks in the future. The Mauritius delegation further reserves its right to state the position of Mauritius on this issue at the start of the next Commission meeting.”*

**c. UK’s averment that the IOTC is not the place to discuss issues of territorial sovereignty:**

*“In respect of the UK’s averment that the IOTC is no place to discuss issues of territorial sovereignty, the Mauritius delegation recalls that Article IV of the Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission provides that Members and Associate Members of FAO, or States that are not Members of FAO but members of the United Nations or any of its Specialized Agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, can become members of the IOTC only if they are, inter alia, “coastal States situated wholly or partly within the Area [of competence of the Commission]”.*

*Article XXIII of the IOTC Agreement provides for the settlement of any dispute regarding the interpretation or application of the Agreement by the Commission. Any dispute regarding the interpretation or application of Article IV of the IOTC Agreement has not been excluded from the purview of Article XXIII. Accordingly, the Commission is entitled to discuss issues of territorial sovereignty if there is a dispute on whether the criteria for membership of the IOTC have been met.*

*In requesting the Chairman to allow discussions on, or reference to, the so-called “BIOT”, the UK is in fact asking the Chairman to rule on an issue of territorial sovereignty while it contends that the Commission is no place to discuss such issues.*

*The recent exchanges between the Republic of Mauritius and the United Kingdom make it clear that a dispute exists regarding the interpretation and application of the IOTC Agreement, within the meaning of its Article XXIII. The Republic of Mauritius reserves the right to request the Commission to settle the dispute and its other rights under Article XXIII.”*

**United Kingdom (OT) (Statement in response to the third statement of Mauritius)**

*“I thank my distinguished colleagues from the delegation of Mauritius for their thorough comments. As regards the substance of the UK’s position, I refer interested members to our previous statements on the matter. In the event that further matters of substance arise out of Mauritius’ statement, I would ask for the Chairman’s leave to revert to the*

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*Commission in due course. In all other respects, I look forward to discussing this directly with my Mauritian colleagues.”*

## **APPENDIX VB**

### **STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMISSION**

*“Yesterday, a point of order was raised by the UK delegation regarding the conformity with the Rules of Procedure of my request to avoid discussions of certain subjects that might be directly relevant to the work of the Commission. I would like to clarify my ruling at the time, so that we can continue to advance the matters that are directly relevant to the Commission.*

*While there are important matters, such as incidents of IUU fishing, that require the consideration of the Members, I would appreciate that such matters are discussed without making reference to designations that can be controversial, instead using the geographical name.*

*In any case, I would like to note, as we do in our reports, that the designations employed and the presentation of material do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), the FAO, or any of its members concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries and the same applies here for our discussion.*

*I appreciate the cooperation of the Members involved, so that we can complete the discussion of the relevant matters in the short time available to us.”*



## APPENDIX VI

### RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 17<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (8–12 DECEMBER 2014) TO THE COMMISSION

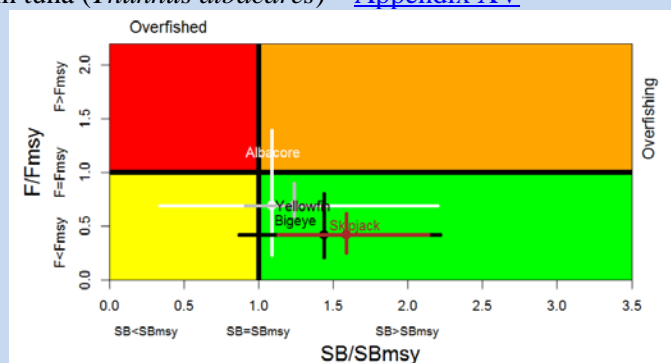
*Note: paragraphs allusions refer to paragraphs in the Report of the 17th Session of the Scientific Committee (IOTC–2014–SC17–R)*

#### STATUS OF TUNA AND TUNA-LIKE RESOURCES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN

##### *Tuna – Highly migratory species*

SC17.01 (para. 145) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the management advice developed for each tropical and temperate tuna species as provided in the Executive Summary for each species, and the combined Kobe plot for the three species assigned a stock status in 2014 (Fig. 4):

- Albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) – [Appendix XII](#)
- Bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) – [Appendix XIII](#)
- Skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) – [Appendix XIV](#)
- Yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) – [Appendix XV](#)

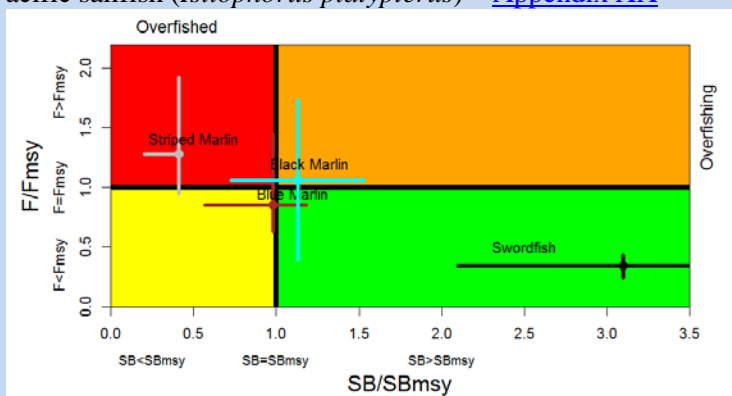


**Fig. 4.** Combined Kobe plot for bigeye tuna (black: 2013), skipjack tuna (brown: 2014), yellowfin tuna (grey: 2012) and albacore (white: 2014) showing the estimates of current stock size (SB) and current fishing mortality (F) in relation to the interim target spawning stock size and interim target fishing mortality. Cross bars illustrate the range of uncertainty from the model runs. Note that for skipjack mortality, the estimates are highly uncertain as FMSY is poorly estimated, and as suggested for stock status advice it is better to use  $B_0$  as a biomass reference point and  $C(t)$  relative to CMSY as a fishing mortality reference point.

##### *Billfish*

SC17.02 (para. 147) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the management advice developed for each billfish species under the IOTC mandate, as provided in the Executive Summary for each species, and the combined Kobe plot for the three species assigned a stock status in 2014 (Fig. 5):

- Swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) – [Appendix XVI](#)
- Black marlin (*Makaira indica*) – [Appendix XVII](#)
- Blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*) – [Appendix XVIII](#)
- Striped marlin (*Tetrapturus audax*) – [Appendix XIX](#)
- Indo-Pacific sailfin (*Istiophorus platypterus*) – [Appendix XX](#)



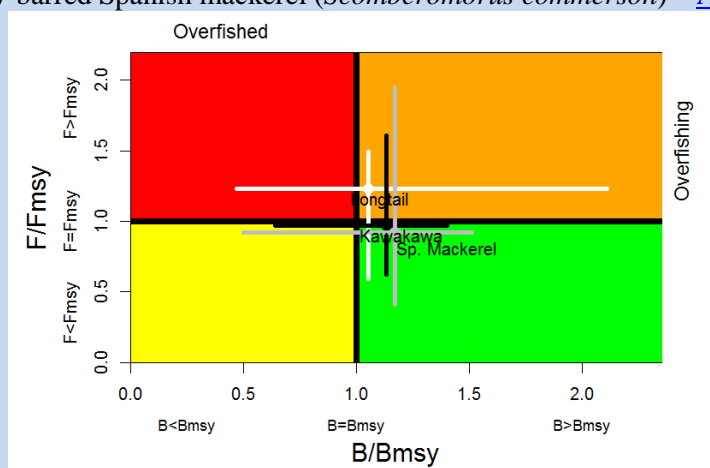
**Fig. 5.** Combined Kobe plot for swordfish (black: 2014), black marlin (light blue: 2014), blue marlin (brown: 2013) and striped marlin (grey: 2013) showing the estimates of current stock size

(SB or B, species assessment dependent) and current fishing mortality (F) in relation to the interim target spawning stock size and interim target fishing mortality. Cross bars illustrate the range of uncertainty from the model runs.

### **Tuna and seerfish – Neritic species**

SC17.03 (para. 148) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the management advice developed for each neritic tuna (and mackerel) species under the IOTC mandate, as provided in the Executive Summary for each species, and the combined Kobe plot for the three species assigned a stock status in 2014 (Fig. 6):

- Bullet tuna (*Auxis rochei*) – [Appendix XXI](#)
- Frigate tuna (*Auxis thazard*) – [Appendix XXII](#)
- Kawakawa (*Euthynnus affinis*) – [Appendix XXIII](#)
- Longtail tuna (*Thunnus tonggol*) – [Appendix XXIV](#)
- Indo-Pacific king mackerel (*Scomberomorus guttatus*) – [Appendix XXV](#)
- Narrow-barred Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus commerson*) – [Appendix XXVI](#)



**Fig. 6.** Combined Kobe plot for kawakawa (black: 2014), longtail tuna (white: 2014) and narrow-barred Spanish mackerel (grey: 2014), showing the estimates of current stock size (B) and current fishing mortality (F) in relation to interim target spawning stock size and interim target fishing mortality. Cross bars illustrate the range of uncertainty from the model runs.

### **Status of Marine Turtles, Seabirds and Sharks in the Indian Ocean**

#### **Sharks**

SC17.04 (para. 149) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the management advice developed for a subset of shark species commonly caught in IOTC fisheries for tuna and tuna-like species:

- Blue shark (*Prionace glauca*) – [Appendix XXVII](#)
- Oceanic whitetip shark (*Carcharhinus longimanus*) – [Appendix XXVIII](#)
- Scalloped hammerhead shark (*Sphyrna lewini*) – [Appendix XXIX](#)
- Shortfin mako shark (*Isurus oxyrinchus*) – [Appendix XXX](#)
- Silky shark (*Carcharhinus falciformis*) – [Appendix XXXI](#)
- Bigeye thresher shark (*Alopias superciliosus*) – [Appendix XXXII](#)
- Pelagic thresher shark (*Alopias pelagicus*) – [Appendix XXXIII](#)

#### **Marine turtles**

SC17.05 (para. 150) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the management advice developed for marine turtles, as provided in the Executive Summary encompassing all six species found in the Indian Ocean:

- Marine turtles – [Appendix XXXIV](#)

#### **Seabirds**

SC17.06 (para. 151) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the management advice developed for seabirds, as provided in the Executive Summary encompassing all species commonly interacting with IOTC fisheries for tuna and tuna-like species:

- Seabirds – [Appendix XXXV](#)

## GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMISSION

### *National Reports from CPCs*

- SC17.07 (para. 24) **NOTING** that the Commission, at its 15<sup>th</sup> Session, expressed concern regarding the limited submission of National Reports to the SC, and stressed the importance of providing the reports by all CPCs, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note that in 2014, 26 reports were provided by CPCs, down from 28 in 2013 (26 in 2012, 25 in 2011, 15 in 2010 and 14 in 2009) (Table 2).
- SC17.08 (para. 26) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the lack of compliance by several CPCs in 2014, that did not submit a National Report in 2014, noting that the Commission agreed that the submission of the reports to the SC is mandatory (Table 2).

### *Report of the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the Working Party on Billfish (WPB12)*

#### *Shortbill spearfish*

- SC17.09 (para. 36) **NOTING** that one of the Indian Ocean billfish species (shortbill spearfish, *Tetrapturus angustirostris*) is currently not listed among the species managed by IOTC, and considering the ocean-wide distribution of this species, its highly-migratory nature, and that it is a common bycatch in IOTC managed fisheries, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission include it in the list of species to be managed by the IOTC.

### *Report of the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB10)*

#### *Evaluating benefits of retaining non-target species*

- SC17.10 (para. 41) **NOTING** the lack of expertise and resources within the WPEB and the short timeframe to fulfill this task, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that a consultant be hired to conduct this work and present the results at the next WPEB meeting. The following tasks, necessary to address this issue, should be considered for the terms of reference, taking into account all species that are usually discarded on all major gears (i.e., purse seines, longlines and gillnets), and fisheries that take place on the high seas and in coastal countries EEZs:
- i) Estimate species-specific quantities of discards to assess the importance and potential of this new product supply, integrating data available at the IOTC Secretariat from the regional observer schemes;
  - ii) Assess the species-specific percentage of discards that is captured dead versus alive, as well as the post-release mortality of species that are discarded alive, in order to estimate what will be the added fishing mortality to the populations, based on the best current information;
  - iii) Assess the feasibility of full retention, taking into account the specificities of the fleets that operate with different gears and their fishing practices (e.g., transshipment, onboard storage capacity);
  - iv) Assess the capacity of the landing port facilities to handle and process this catch;
  - v) Assess the socio-economic impacts of retaining non-target species, including the feasibility to market those species that are usually not retained by those gears;
  - vi) Assess the benefits in terms of improving the catch statistics through port-sampling programs;
  - vii) Evaluate the impacts of full retention on the conditions of work and data quality collected by onboard scientific observers, making sure that there is a strict distinction between scientific observer tasks and compliance issues.

#### *Sharks and rays: Review of data needs and way forward for the evaluation of shark stocks - catch data reconstruction*

- SC17.11 (para. 43) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that a short inter-sessional meeting is conducted with a small group of scientists to work mainly on blue shark catch data reconstruction to be used for stock assessment in 2015. Ideally, and to reduce costs, all participants should fund their own participation at a venue to be decided, or work electronically.

#### *Review of new information on the status of sharks and rays*

- SC17.12 (para. 44) **NOTING** that the information on retained catches and discards of sharks contained in the IOTC database remains very incomplete for most fleets despite their mandatory reporting status, and that catch-and-effort as well as size data are essential to assess the status of shark stocks, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that all CPCs collect and report catches of sharks (including historical data), catch-and-effort and length frequency data on sharks, as per IOTC Resolutions, so that more detailed analysis

can be undertaken for the next WPEB meeting.

***Shark Ecological Risk Assessment: review of current knowledge and potential management implications***

- SC17.13 (para. 45) The SC reiterated its **RECOMMENDATION** from 2013, that the Commission note the list of the 10 most vulnerable shark species to longline gear (Table 3) and purse seine gear (Table 4) in the Indian Ocean, as determined by a productivity susceptibility analysis, compared to the list of shark species/groups required to be recorded for each gear, contained in Resolution 13/03 *on the recording of catch and effort by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence*. At the next revision to Resolution 13/03, the Commission may wish to add the missing species/groups of sharks and rays.
- SC17.14 (para. 46) The SC reiterated its **RECOMMENDATION** from 2013, that, in line with Recommendation 12/15 on the best available science, the list of shark species (or groups of species) for longline gear under Resolution 13/03 (Table 3) should be supplemented with the silky shark (*Carcharhinus falciformis*), which was estimated to be at risk in longline fisheries by the ERA conducted in 2012 (ranked as the 4<sup>th</sup> most vulnerable species to longline gear). The SC **REQUESTED** the Commission to define the most appropriate means of collecting this additional information.

**TABLE 3.** List of the 10 most vulnerable shark species to longline gear compared to the list of shark species/groups required to be recorded in logbooks, as listed in Resolution 13/03 *on the recording of catch and effort by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence*.

| PSA vulnerability ranking | Most susceptible shark species to longline gear           | FAO Code | Shark species currently listed in IOTC Resolution 13/03 for longline gear: mandatory recording | FAO Code |
|---------------------------|---|----------|--|----------|
| 1                         | Shortfin mako ( <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i> )                | SMA      | Blue shark ( <i>Prionace glauca</i> )  | BSH      |
| 2                         | Bigeye thresher ( <i>Alopias superciliosus</i> )          | BTH      | Mako sharks ( <i>Isurus</i> spp.)  | MAK      |
| 3                         | Pelagic thresher ( <i>Alopias pelagicus</i> )             | PTH      | Porbeagle shark ( <i>Lamna nasus</i> )   | POR      |
| 4                         | Silky shark ( <i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i> )           | FAL      | Hammerhead sharks ( <i>Sphyrna</i> spp.)   | SPN      |
| 5                         | Oceanic whitetip shark ( <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> ) | OCS      | Other sharks   | SKH      |
| 6                         | Smooth hammerhead ( <i>Sphyrna zygaena</i> )              | SPZ      | Thresher sharks ( <i>Alopias</i> spp.)   | THR      |
| 7                         | Porbeagle ( <i>Lamna nasus</i> )                          | POR      | Oceanic whitetip shark ( <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> )                                      | OCS      |
| 8                         | Longfin mako ( <i>Isurus paucus</i> )                     | LMA      |  |          |
| 9                         | Great hammerhead ( <i>Sphyrna mokarran</i> )              | SPM      |  |          |
| 10                        | Blue shark ( <i>Prionace glauca</i> )                     | BSH      |  |          |

- SC17.15 (para. 47) The SC reiterated its **RECOMMENDATION** from 2013, that, in line with Recommendation 12/15 on the best available science, the list of shark species (or groups of species) for purse seine gear under Resolution 13/03 (Table 4) should be supplemented with the silky shark (*Carcharhinus falciformis*), mako sharks (*Isurus* spp.), hammerhead sharks (*Sphyrna* spp.), pelagic stingray (*Pteroplatytrygon violacea*), dusky shark (*Carcharhinus obscurus*), tiger shark (*Galeocerdo cuvier*), which were estimated to be at risk in purse seine fisheries by the ERA conducted in 2012. The SC **REQUESTED** the Commission to define the most appropriate means of collecting this additional information.

**TABLE 4.** List of the 10 most vulnerable shark species to purse seine gear compared to the list of shark species/groups required to be recorded in logbooks, as listed in Resolution 13/03 *on the recording of catch and effort by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence*.

| PSA vulnerability ranking | Most susceptible shark species to purse seine gear        | FAO Code | Shark species listed in IOTC Resolution 13/03 for purse seine gear: Mandatory recording | FAO Code |
|---------------------------|---|----------|---|----------|
| 1                         | Oceanic whitetip shark ( <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> ) | OCS      | Whale sharks ( <i>Rhincodon typus</i> )   | RHN      |
| 2                         | Silky shark ( <i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i> )           | FAL      | Thresher sharks ( <i>Alopias</i> spp.)  | THR      |
| 3                         | Shortfin mako ( <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i> )                | SMA      | Oceanic whitetip shark ( <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> )                               | OCS      |
| 4                         | Great hammerhead ( <i>Sphyrna mokarran</i> )              | SPM      |   |          |
| 5                         | Pelagic stingray ( <i>Pteroplatytrygon violacea</i> )     | PLS      |   |          |
| 6                         | Scalloped hammerhead ( <i>Sphyrna lewini</i> )            | SPL      |   |          |
| 7                         | Smooth hammerhead ( <i>Sphyrna zygaena</i> )              | SPZ      |   |          |
| 8                         | Longfin mako ( <i>Isurus paucus</i> )                     | LMA      |   |          |
| 9                         | Dusky shark ( <i>Carcharhinus obscurus</i> )              | DUS      |   |          |
| 10                        | Tiger shark ( <i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i> )                  | TIG      |   |          |

**Best practice guidelines for the safe release and handling of encircled whale sharks**

SC17.16 (para. 48) The SC reiterated its **RECOMMENDATION** from 2013, that the following *Guidelines for the safe release and handling of encircled whale sharks*, should be added as an additional page in the IOTC shark identification guides:

The methods listed below depend on the condition of the particular purse seine set, e.g. the size and orientation of the encircled animal, size of fish in the purse seine set and operation style.

- Cutting the net when the whale shark is at the surface and separated from the tuna and when the operation presents no danger for the crew;
- Standing the animal on the net and rolling it outside the bunt. A rope placed under the animal and attached to the float line could help rolling the whale shark out of the net;
- Brailing sharks (only for small individual less than 2–3 meters).

The crew should never:

- Pull up the shark by its tail;
- Tow the shark by its tail.

SC17.17 (para. 49) The SC reiterated its **RECOMMENDATION** from 2013, that the Commission allocates funds in its 2015 budget, to produce and print the IOTC best practice guidelines for the safe release and handling of encircled whale sharks, and for these to be incorporated into the existing IOTC “*Shark and ray identification in Indian Ocean pelagic fisheries*”, identification cards.

**Shark fin to body weight ratio and wire leaders/traces**

SC17.18 (para. 50) **NOTING** that the Commission, at its 18<sup>th</sup> Session considered a range of proposals on sharks which included matters relevant to the shark fin to body weight ratio and wire leaders/traces, the SC **RECALLED** its previous advice to the Commission as follows:

- The SC **ADVISED** the Commission to consider, that the best way to encourage full utilisation of sharks, to ensure accurate catch statistics, and to facilitate the collection of biological information, is to revise the IOTC Resolution 05/05 *concerning the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC* such that all sharks must be landed with fins attached (naturally or by other means) to their respective carcass. However, the SC **NOTED** that such an action would have practical implementation and safety issues for some fleets and may degrade the quality of the product in some cases. The SC **RECOMMENDED** all CPCs to obtain and maintain the best possible data for IOTC fisheries impacting upon sharks, including improved species identification.
- On the basis of information presented to the SC in previous years, the SC **RECOGNISED** that the use of wire leaders/traces in longline fisheries may imply targeting of sharks. The SC therefore **RECOMMENDED** to the Commission that if it wishes to reduce catch rates of sharks by longliners it should prohibit the use of wire leaders/traces.

**Marine Turtles: Review of Resolution 12/04 on the conservation of marine turtles**

SC17.19 (para. 52) The SC reiterated its **RECOMMENDATION** from 2013, that at the next revision of IOTC Resolution 12/04 *on the conservation of marine turtles*, the measure is strengthened to ensure that where possible, CPCs report annually on the total estimated level of incidental catches of marine turtles, by species, as provided at [Table 5](#).

**TABLE 5.** Marine turtle species reported as caught in fisheries within the IOTC area of competence.

| Common name         | Scientific name               |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Flatback turtle     | <i>Natator depressus</i>      |
| Green turtle        | <i>Chelonia mydas</i>         |
| Hawksbill turtle    | <i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i> |
| Leatherback turtle  | <i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>   |
| Loggerhead turtle   | <i>Caretta caretta</i>        |
| Olive ridley turtle | <i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>  |



*Marine mammals: Development of technical advice for marine mammals*

- SC17.20 ([para. 53](#)) The SC reiterated its **RECOMMENDATION** from 2013, that depredation events be incorporated into Resolution 13/03 at its next revision, so that interactions may be quantified at a range of spatial scales. Depredation events should also be quantified by the regional observer scheme.

*Best practice guidelines for the safe release and handling of encircled cetaceans*

- SC17.21 ([para. 54](#)) The SC reiterated its **RECOMMENDATION** from 2013, that the Commission allocates funds in its 2015 and 2016 budgets, to produce and print the IOTC best practice guidelines for the safe release and handling of encircled cetaceans. The guidelines could be incorporated into a set of IOTC cetacean identification cards: “*Cetacean identification for Indian Ocean fisheries*”.

*Status of development and implementation of National Plans of Action for seabirds and sharks, and implementation of the FAO guidelines to reduce marine turtle mortality in fishing operations*

- SC17.22 ([para. 58](#)) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the current status of development and implementation of National Plans of Action (NPOAs) for sharks and seabirds, and the implementation of the FAO guidelines to reduce marine turtle mortality in fishing operations, by each CPC as provided at [Appendix VI](#), recalling that the IPOA-Seabirds and IPOA-Sharks were adopted by the FAO in 1999 and 2000, respectively, and required the development of NPOAs. Despite the time that has elapsed since then, very few CPCs have developed NPOAs, or even carried out assessments to ascertain if the development of a Plan is warranted. Currently only 12 of the 35 IOTC CPCs have an NPOA-Sharks (8 more in development), while only 6 CPCs have an NPOA-Seabirds (2 more in development). A single CPC has determined that an NPOA-Sharks is not needed, and 5 have similarly determined that an NPOA-Seabirds is not needed. Currently only 6 of the 35 IOTC CPCs have implemented the FAO guidelines to reduce marine turtle mortality in fishing operations (2 more in progress), and one CPC (France (OT)) will implement a full NPOA in 2015.

*Report of the 16<sup>th</sup> Session of the Working Party on Tropical Tunas (WPTT16)**Fish aggregating devices*

- SC17.23 ([para. 71](#)) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that an ad hoc working group on FADs, drifting and anchored, be created to assess the consequences of the increasing number and technological developments of FADs in tuna fisheries and their ecosystems, in order to inform and advise on future FAD-related management options. This ad hoc working group would be of multi-sectorial nature, involving various stakeholders such as scientists, fishery managers, fishing industry representatives, administrators and fishers. The Terms of reference for this working group are provided at [Appendix VIII](#).

*Report of the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of the Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics (WPDCS10)**Resolution 10/02 Mandatory statistical requirements for IOTC Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties*

- SC17.24 ([para. 86](#)) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission makes the following amendments to IOTC Resolution 10/02:
- Adopting the following definitions in order to clarify the type of fisheries, area and species covered by Resolution 10/02:
    - **Longline fisheries:** Fisheries undertaken by vessels in the IOTC Record of Authorized Vessels that use longline gear.
    - **Surface fisheries:** All fisheries undertaken by vessels in the IOTC Record of Authorized Vessels other than longline fisheries; in particular purse seine, pole-and-line, and gillnet fisheries.
    - **Coastal fisheries:** Fisheries other than longline or surface, as defined above, also called artisanal fisheries.
    - **IOTC area of competence:** as described in Annex A of the IOTC Agreement.
    - **Species:** refers to all species under the IOTC mandate as described in Annex B of the IOTC Agreement, and the most commonly caught elasmobranch species, as defined by the Commission in IOTC Resolution 13/03 or any subsequent revisions of this Resolution.
    - **Support vessels:** Any types of vessels that operate in support of the fishing activities of purse seine vessels.
  - Specify the requirements for Nominal Catch data, including:

- Changing the term Nominal by Total;
- Change the time-period resolution of Total catch data from Year to Quarter, in order to be able to assess the seasonality of fisheries, in particular those that do not report catch-and-effort data;
- Request separate reports for retained catches (in live weight) and discards (in live weight or number), as per the above Resolution.
- Specify the requirements for Catch and effort data, including:
  - Surface fisheries: Extend the requirements to report catch and effort data by type of fishing mode, drifting or anchored FADs, to fisheries other than the purse seine fisheries that use FADs; and ensure that the effort units reported are consistent with those requested in Resolution 13/03 or any subsequent revisions to such Resolution;
  - Coastal fisheries: Specify the time-period to be used to report this information, preferably Month.
- Harmonise the type of data resolution that is requested for coastal fisheries, in particular for catch-and-effort and size data; for data to be reported by month and landing area.
- Specify that Size Frequency data shall be reported according to the procedures described in the IOTC Guidelines for the Reporting of Fisheries Statistics (instead of those set out by the IOTC Scientific Committee, as recorded in the present Resolution).
- Specify the requirements for data on supply vessels, including:
  - Change the term Supply to Support (Support Vessels);
  - Indicate that data on the activities of support vessels shall be reported by the flag country of the vessels that receive the assistance of the support vessel (and not by the flag country or other parties);
  - Request the name of the purse seiners that receive assistance from each support vessel.

#### *Review of Estimates of Input Fishing Capacity*

- SC17.25 ([para. 88](#)) **NOTING** that while there are currently forms available for the reporting of fishing capacity in the IOTC area of competence, the majority of CPCs do not report this information for its coastal fisheries, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider making reporting mandatory if an estimate of total fishing capacity is required.

#### *Resolution 11/04 On a regional observer scheme*

- SC17.26 ([para. 90](#)) **NOTING** that the objective of the Regional Observer Scheme contained in Resolution 11/04, and the rules contained in Resolution 12/02 *On data confidentiality policy and procedures* makes no reference to the data collected not being used for compliance purposes, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that at the next revision of Resolution 11/04, it be clearly stated that the data collected within the Regional Observer Scheme shall not be used for compliance purposes.

#### *Report of the 5<sup>th</sup> Session of the Working Party on Methods (WPM05)*

##### *Limit reference points*

- SC17.27 ([para. 103](#)) The SC **RECOMMENDED** the Commission consider an alternative approach to identify biomass limit reference points, such as those based on biomass depletion levels, when the MSY-based reference points are difficult to estimate. In cases where MSY-based reference points can be robustly estimated, limit reference points may be based around MSY.
- SC17.28 ([para. 104](#)) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that in cases where MSY-based reference points cannot be robustly estimated, biomass limit reference points be set at 20% of unfished levels ( $B_{LIM} = 0.2B_0$ ).

##### *Target reference points*

- SC17.29 ([para. 105](#)) **NOTING** that the interim target reference points contained in Resolution 13/10 are also MSY-based and subject to the same difficulties with robust estimation, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider that stock biomass depletion levels equivalent to  $B_{MSY}$  are expected to lie in the range of 30% to 40% of unfished levels ( $0.3B_0$  to  $0.4B_0$ ), when MSY-based levels cannot be accurately estimated. The Commission may wish to consider a value of  $0.4B_0$  or higher, if a precautionary buffer against reaching a biomass limit is desirable.
- SC17.30 ([para. 106](#)) **NOTING** that the approach described in [para. 105](#) is similar to what is currently taking



place in other RFMOs such as WCPFC, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the use of this type of reference point is adopted by the Commission. In considering target reference points, guidance will be required from the Commission on tolerable risks of exceeding limit reference points.

#### *Fishing Mortality Equivalents*

- SC17.31 (para. 107) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that with respect to fishing mortality (F) reference points, for consistency between the definitions of overfished and overfishing, the Commission should consider using those F values that correspond to the biomass reference points. For example, given a biomass limit of  $0.2B_0$ , a consistent F limit reference point would be  $F_{B20\%}$ , the fishing mortality rate that reduces the biomass to 20% of unfished levels.

#### *Skipjack tuna MSE update*

- SC17.32 (para. 110) The SC **NOTED** that the consultancy that has been used to develop the simulation tools and initial evaluations of some candidate Management Procedures has run to completion. Additional work is required to support the Commission's desire to implement management approaches that can achieve its objectives. In this regard, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission fully fund the work needed to support its requirement to achieve its objectives in particular facilitating the implementation of Resolution 12/01.

#### *Summary discussion of matters common to Working Parties (capacity building activities – stock assessment course; connecting science and management, etc.)*

##### *Meeting participation fund*

- SC17.33 (para. 118) **NOTING** that the MPF was used to fund the participation of a reduced number of national scientists to the Working Parties in 2014, 49 national scientists to the Working Party meetings and the SC in 2014 (58 in 2013; 42 in 2012), all of which were required to submit and present a working paper at the meeting, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider the following:

- The IOTC Meeting Participation Fund (MPF), adopted by the Commission in 2010 (Resolution 10/05 *On the establishment of a Meeting Participation Fund for developing IOTC Members and non-Contracting Cooperating Parties*), and now incorporated into the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014), was established for the purposes of supporting scientists and representatives from IOTC Contracting Parties who are developing States to attend and contribute to the work of the Commission, the Scientific Committee and its Working Parties.
- The Commission has made the following directives to the IOTC Secretariat:
  - a) The Commission had directed the IOTC Secretariat (via Resolution 10/05 and now via the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014)) to ensure that: (para. 88 of the S18 Report)
    - i. the MPF be utilised, as a first priority, to support the participation of scientists from developing Contracting Parties in scientific meetings of the IOTC, including Working Parties, rather than non-science meetings.
    - ii. the MPF will be allocated in such a way that no more than 25% of the expenditures of the Fund in one year is used to fund attendance to non-scientific meetings.
    - iii. thus, 75% of the annual MPF shall be allocated to facilitating the attendance of developing Contracting Party scientists to the Scientific Committee and its Working Parties.
  - b) The Commission had directed the IOTC Secretariat that any cost savings made on the annual IOTC budget, shall also be used to further supplement the \$60,000 currently budgeted for the MPF.
- In accordance with para. 89 of the S18 Report, the IOTC Secretariat is actively seeking extra budgetary funding sources to supplement the MPF budget from individual Contracting Parties as well as other interested groups. However, the SC was informed by the IOTC Secretariat that other sources should actively be sought by interested candidates, including the UNFSA meeting fund, as well as through their own domestic budgetary processes.

- SC17.34 (para. 119) The SC strongly **RECOMMENDED** that this fund be maintained into the future and increased back to its original allocation of \$200,000 per year.

- SC17.35 (para. 123) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the MPF rules of procedure be modified, so that a Draft working document, rather than an abstract, be submitted to the relevant Working Party MPF Selection Panel 45 days before the meeting, so that the Panel may review the full paper rather than just the abstract, and provide guidance on areas for improvement and the suitability of the application to receive

funding using the MPF. The justification of this request is based upon the reduced funds available and the need to maximise benefits. The SC **AGREED** that until such time as the Commission revises the IOTC Rules of Procedure the MPF selection panels may choose to follow this proposal.

#### *Capacity building activities*

SC17.36 ([para. 126](#)) The SC **AGREED** that, while external funding is helping the work of the Commission, funds allocated by the Commission to capacity building are still too low, considering the range of issues identified by the SC and its Working Parties, and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider allocating more funds to these activities in the future.

SC17.37 ([para. 127](#)) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission further increase the IOTC Capacity Building budget line so that capacity building workshops/training can be carried out in 2015, 2016 and future years on the collection, reporting and analyses of catch and effort data for IOTC species, with a special focus on neritic tuna and tuna-like species. Where appropriate these training sessions shall include information that explains the entire IOTC process from data collection to analysis and how the information collected is used by the Commission to develop Conservation and Management Measures.

#### *IOTC species identification cards*

SC17.38 ([para. 129](#)) **NOTING** the recent online survey distributed by the IOTC Secretariat, the SC strongly **RECOMMENDED** that the IOTC Secretariat ensure that hard copies of the identification cards continue to be printed as many CPCs scientific observers, both on board and port, still do not have smart phone technology/hardware access and need to have hard copies on board. At this point in time, electronic formats, including ‘applications or apps’ are only suitable for larger scale vessels, and even in the case of EU purse seine vessels, the use of hard copies is relied upon due to on board fish processing and handling conditions, as well as weather conditions.

#### *Identification cards: Tuna and tuna-like species*

SC17.39 ([para. 130](#)) **NOTING** the excellent work undertaken by the IOTC Secretariat and other experts to develop and finalise the cards for the *Identification of tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean fisheries*, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the cards be translated, in priority order to the following languages, according to the proportion of total catches of neritic tuna species reported by country, and that the IOTC Secretariat utilise funds from both the IOTC budget, as well as external funding sources to translate and print in hard copy, the identification cards. Funds were approved by the Commission in the 2014 budget for this purpose, however the IOTC Secretariat indicated the funds are yet to be received from Members. Number in brackets represents the recent proportion of the total neritic tuna catch in the IOTC area of competence:

- 1) Bahasa-Indonesian (Indonesia 29%) and Malaysian (Malaysia 4%)
- 2) Persian (Farsi-I.R. Iran 20%) and Arabic (Oman 3%)
- 3) Hindi (India 18%) and Sinhala (Sri Lanka 5%)
- 4) Urdu (Pakistan 7%)

#### *Identification cards: Marine turtles, seabirds and sharks*

SC17.40 ([para. 132](#)) **NOTING** that funds were approved by the Commission in the 2014 budget to translate and print hard copies of the marine turtle, seabird and shark identification cards, but this was only partially done as the IOTC Secretariat indicated the funds are yet to be received from Members, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the translation and printing occur as soon as the necessary contributions are received.

#### *Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the SC and its subsidiary bodies*

SC17.41 ([para. 136](#)) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note and endorse the Chairs and Vice-Chairs for the SC and its subsidiary bodies for the coming years, as provided in [Appendix XI](#).

#### *Proposed revisions to Resolution 11/04 on a regional observer scheme*

SC17.42 ([para. 159](#)) **RECALLING** the objectives of Resolution 11/04 *on a regional observer scheme* as follows: “Para 1: The objective of the IOTC Observer Scheme shall be to collect verified catch data and other scientific data related to the fisheries for tuna and tuna-like species in the IOTC area of competence” and **NOTING** that the objective of the ROS contained in Resolution 11/04, and the rules contained in Resolution 12/02 *On data confidentiality policy and procedures* makes no reference to the data collected not being used for compliance purposes, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that at the next revision of Resolution 11/04, it be clearly stated that the data collected shall not be used for compliance purposes.

**Electronic Monitoring**

SC17.43 ([para. 166](#)) **NOTING** that electronic monitoring (including video) has been trialled and successfully implemented in many fisheries worldwide (e.g. Australia, European Union, USA, New Zealand), with the aim of supplementing scientific observers on board vessels; and given the current difficulties cited as reasons for not deploying scientific observers under the IOTC Regional Observer Scheme (ROS) on board large-scale gillnet vessels operating in the Indian Ocean; the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission considers assigning the IOTC Secretariat, in consultation with interested IOTC scientists, to develop a project on electronic monitoring in the IOTC area of competence. This would allow an evaluation of the efficacy of electronic monitoring in the collection of information on catch, discards and fishing effort as a means to supplement scientific observer coverage for large-scale gillnet vessels. The trial will include an evaluation of the main challenges of using electronic monitoring data such as the accurate identification of IOTC and bycatch species, weight and size of catches and the time taken to process the footage and extract the required data. The concept note/proposal shall also include a clear indication that the IOTC data confidentiality policy (Resolution 12/02) will need to be modified to ensure any data/information collected is for the sole purpose of scientific analysis and not for compliance purposes. The concept note should include a detailed budget and be communicated to a range of potential funding organisations.

**Evaluation of closed areas as management options**

- SC17.44 ([para. 170](#)) The SC reiterated its previous **RECOMMENDATION** with respect to bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna and yellowfin tuna stocks, that the Commission note that the previous IOTC closure is likely to be ineffective, as fishing effort will be redirected to other fishing grounds in the Indian Ocean and it considered that this recommendation also related to the wider network of closures including UK(OT) MPA. Papers IOTC–2013–SC16–INF11 and IOTC–2011–SC14–40, which examined the effect of IOTC closure and the effect of the UK(OT) MPA as well as a partial Maldives closure on the status of yellowfin tuna, concluded that if displacement of effort occurred to areas outside the closures then there would be no effect. An effect was only observed if it was assumed that all effort that would have occurred in those areas was entirely removed from the fishery. Thus any positive impacts of closed areas would likely be offset by effort reallocation.
- SC17.45 ([para. 172](#)) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission specify the level of reduction or the long term management objectives to be achieved with any time area closure/s and/or alternative measures which it adopts in the future, as these will, in turn, guide and facilitate the analysis by the SC and its subsidiary bodies.

**Progress on the Implementation of the Recommendations of the Performance Review Panel**

- SC17.46 ([para. 174](#)) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the updates on progress regarding Resolution 09/01 *on the performance review follow-up*, as provided at [Appendix XXXVII](#).

**Invited Experts**

- SC17.47 ([para. 181](#)) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that at least one ‘Invited Expert’ be brought to each of the science Working Parties in 2015 and in each subsequent year, so as to further increase the capacity of the Working Parties to undertake the work detailed in the Program of Work ([Appendix XL](#)). The IOTC regular budget shall include travel funds (flights, DSA) for this purpose. The Invited Expert for each meeting will continue to be selected based on the process adopted by the Scientific Committee and provided at [Appendix XL](#).

**Consultants**

- SC17.48 ([para. 183](#)) **NOTING** the highly beneficial and relevant work done by IOTC stock assessment consultants in 2014 and in previous years, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that engagement by consultants be continued for each coming year based on the Program of Work ([Appendix XXXVIII](#)), to supplement the skill set available within the IOTC Secretariat and CPCs. An indicative budget is provided at [Table 6](#).

**TABLE 6.** Estimated budget required to hire a consultant to carry out stock assessments on tuna and tuna-like species under the IOTC mandate, sharks frequently caught by IOTC fisheries, and capacity building, in 2015 and 2016.

| Description  | Unit price | Units required | 2015 Total (US\$) | 2016 Total (US\$) | Priority |
|--|------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------|
| <b>WPNT</b>  |            |                |                   |                   |          |
| Neritic tuna data poor stock assessment and capacity building (fees)   | 450        | 15             | 6,750             | 6,750             | Low      |
| Neritic tuna data poor stock assessment and capacity building (travel) | 5,000      | 1              | 5,000             | 5,000             | Low      |
| <b>WPB</b>   |            |                |                   |                   |          |
| Billfish data poor stock assessment (fees)                             | 450        | 15             | 6,750             | 6,750             | Med      |
| Billfish data poor stock assessment (travel)                           | 5,000      | 1              | 5,000             | 5,000             | Med      |
| <b>WPEB</b>  |            |                |                   |                   |          |
| Shark stock assessment (fees)  | 450        | 20             | 9,000             | 9,000             | High     |
| Shark stock assessment (travel)  | 5,000      | 1              | 5,000             | 5,000             | High     |
| Evaluation of the discards ban proposal                                | 450        | 35             | Nil               | 15,750            | Med      |
| <b>WPTT</b>  |            |                |                   |                   |          |
| Tropical tuna stock assessment (fees)                                  | 450        | 35             | 15,750            | 15,750            | High     |
| Tropical tuna stock assessment (travel)                                | 5,000      | 1              | 5,000             | 5,000             | High     |
| <b>WPTmT</b>   |            |                |                   |                   |          |
| Temperate tuna stock assessment (fees)                                 | 450        | 35             | Nil               | 15,750            | High     |
| Temperate tuna stock assessment (travel)                               | 5,000      | 1              | Nil               | 5,000             | High     |
| <b>WPM</b>   |            |                |                   |                   |          |
| External peer review of the albacore MSE                               | 450        | 10             | 4,500             | Nil               | Med      |
| External peer review of the skipjack tuna MSE                          | 450        | 10             | 4,500             | Nil               | Med      |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   |            |                | <b>67,250</b>     | <b>94,754</b>     |          |

***Schedule of meetings for 2015 and 2016***

SC17.49 ([para. 185](#)) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission endorse the schedule of Working Party and Scientific Committee meetings for 2015 and 2016 provided at [Appendix XLI](#).

***Discussion of the Science to Management dialogue***

SC17.50 ([para. 190](#)) The SC **NOTED** the substantial progress being made by the Working Party on Methods to develop management strategy evaluation frameworks, and that for this work to progress there is a need for clear guidance to the SC on fishery management objectives and on tolerable risks associated with breaching the limits. In this regard, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that these issues be given a high priority for broad discussion by the CPCs during the Science and Management Dialogue Workshops under Resolution 14/03 and that the Chair of the Commission consider inclusion of their discussion in the Commission meeting.

***Review of the Draft, and Adoption of the Report of the 17th Session of the Scientific Committee***

SC17.51 ([para. 194](#)) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider the additional science budget for 2015–16, ([Appendix XLII](#)) and the consolidated set of recommendations arising from SC17, provided at [Appendix XLIII](#).

## APPENDIX VII

### STOCK STATUS SUMMARY FOR THE IOTC SPECIES: 2014

**Table 1.** Status summary for species of tuna and tuna-like species under the IOTC mandate, as well as other species impacted by IOTC fisheries.

| Stock   | Indicators  | Prev <sup>1</sup> | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Advice to the Commission   |
|---|---|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|--|
| <b>Temperate and tropical tuna stocks:</b> These are the main stocks being targeted by industrial, and to a lesser extent, artisanal fisheries throughout the Indian Ocean, both on the high seas and in the EEZ of coastal states. |   |                   |      |      |      |      |      |  |
| Albacore<br><i>Thunnus alalunga</i>   | Catch 2013: 38,297 t<br>Average catch 2008–2013: 37,525 t<br>MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): 47.6 (26.7–78.8)<br>F <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): 0.31 (0.21–0.42)<br>SB <sub>MSY</sub> (1,000 t) (80% CI): 39.2 (25.4–50.7)<br>F <sub>2012</sub> /F <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): 0.69 (0.23–1.39)<br>SB <sub>2012</sub> /SB <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): 1.09 (0.34–2.20)<br>SB <sub>2012</sub> /SB <sub>1950</sub> (80% CI): 0.21 (0.11–0.33) | 2007              |      |      |      |      |      | Catches have increased substantially since 2007, attributed to the Indonesian and Taiwan, China longline fisheries although there is substantial uncertainty remaining on the catch estimates. It is considered that recent catches are approaching MSY levels. Fishing mortality represented as F <sub>2012</sub> /F <sub>MSY</sub> is 0.69. Biomass is considered to be at or very near to the SB <sub>MSY</sub> level (SB <sub>2012</sub> /SB <sub>MSY</sub> = 1.09). Considerable uncertainty remains in the assessments, indicating that a precautionary approach to the management of albacore should be applied by reducing fishing mortality or capping total catch levels to those taken in 2012 (34,000 t). Click here for full stock status summary: <a href="#">Appendix XII</a>   |
| Bigeye tuna<br><i>Thunnus obesus</i>  | Catch in 2013: 109,343 t<br>Average catch 2009–2013: 105,924 t<br>MSY (1,000 t) (range): 132 (98–207)<br>F <sub>MSY</sub> (range): n.a. (n.a.–n.a.)<br>SB <sub>MSY</sub> (1,000 t) (range): 474 (295–677)<br>F <sub>2012</sub> /F <sub>MSY</sub> (range): 0.42 (0.21–0.80)<br>SB <sub>2012</sub> /SB <sub>MSY</sub> (range): 1.44 (0.87–2.22)<br>SB <sub>2012</sub> /SB <sub>0</sub> (range): 0.40 (0.27–0.54)            | 2008              |      |      |      |      |      | No new stock assessment was carried out in 2014, thus, stock status is determined on the basis of the 2013 assessment and other indicators presented in 2014. All the runs (except 2 extremes) carried out in 2013 indicate the stock is above a biomass level that would produce MSY in the long term (i.e. SB <sub>2012</sub> /SB <sub>MSY</sub> > 1) and in all runs that current fishing mortality is below the MSY-based reference level (i.e. F <sub>2012</sub> /F <sub>MSY</sub> < 1). Current spawning stock biomass was estimated to be 40% of the unfished levels. Catches in 2013 (≈109,000 t) remain lower than the estimated MSY values from the 2013 stock assessments. The average catch over the previous five years (2009–13; ≈106,000 t) also remains below the estimated MSY. Click here for full stock status summary: <a href="#">Appendix XIII</a> |
| Skipjack tuna<br><i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>  | Catch 2013: 424,580 t<br>Average catch 2009–2013: 401,132 t<br>MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): 684 (550–849)<br>F <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): 0.65 (0.51–0.79)<br>SB <sub>MSY</sub> (1,000 t) (80% CI): 875 (708–1,075)<br>C <sub>2013</sub> /C <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): 0.62 (0.49–0.75)<br>SB <sub>2013</sub> /SB <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): 1.59 (1.13–2.14)<br>SB <sub>2013</sub> /SB <sub>0</sub> (80% CI): 0.58 (0.53–0.62)      |                   |      |      |      |      |      | The 2014 stock assessment model results did not differ substantively from the previous assessments. All the runs indicate the stock is above a biomass level that would produce MSY in the long term (i.e. SB <sub>2013</sub> /SB <sub>MSY</sub> > 1) and that the current proxy for fishing mortality is below the MSY-based reference level (i.e. C <sub>current</sub> /C <sub>MSY</sub> < 1). Current spawning stock biomass was estimated to be 57% of the unfished levels. Catches in 2014 (≈424,000 t) remain lower than the estimated MSY values from the 2014 stock assessments. The average catch over the previous five years (2009–13; ≈401,000 t) also remains below the estimated MSY. Click here for full stock status summary: <a href="#">Appendix XIV</a>   |



| Stock  | Indicators  | Prev <sup>1</sup> | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Advice to the Commission   |
|--|---|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|--|
| Yellowfin tuna<br><i>Thunnus albacares</i>   | Catch 2013: 402,084 t<br>Average catch 2009–2013: 339,359 t<br>MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): 344 (290–453)<br>$F_{MSY}$ (80% CI): n.a (n.a.–n.a.)<br>SB <sub>MSY</sub> (1,000 t) (80% CI): 881 (784–986)<br>$F_{curr}/F_{MSY}$ (80% CI): 0.69 (0.59–0.90)<br>SB <sub>curr</sub> /SB <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): 1.24 (0.91–1.40)<br>SB <sub>curr</sub> /SB <sub>0</sub> (80% CI): 0.38 (0.28–0.38)               | 2008              |      |      |      |      |      | No new stock assessment was carried out in 2014, thus, stock status is determined on the basis of the 2012 assessment and other indicators presented in 2014. Total catch has continued to increase with 400,292 t and 402,084 t landed in 2012 and 2013, respectively, well in excess of previous MSY estimates ( $\approx 17\%$ above the MSY level of 344,000 t), in comparison to 327,453 t landed in 2011 and 299,713 t landed in 2010. Therefore it is difficult to know whether the stock is moving towards a state of being subject to overfishing. Click here for full stock status summary: <a href="#">Appendix XV</a>  |
| <b>Billfish:</b> These are the billfish stocks being exploited by industrial and artisanal fisheries throughout the Indian Ocean, both on the high seas and in the EEZ of coastal states. The marlins and sailfish are not usually targeted by most fleets, but are caught and retained as byproduct by the main industrial fisheries. They are important for localised small-scale and artisanal fisheries or as targets in recreational fisheries. |   |                   |      |      |      |      |      |  |
| Swordfish (whole Indian Ocean)<br><i>Xiphias gladius</i>   | Catch 2013: 31,804 t<br>Average catch 2009–2013: 26,510 t<br>MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): 39.40 (33.20–45.60)<br>$F_{MSY}$ (80% CI): 0.138 (0.137–0.138)<br>SB <sub>MSY</sub> (1,000 t) (80% CI): 61.4 (51.5–71.4)<br>$F_{2013}/F_{MSY}$ (80% CI): 0.34 (0.28–0.40)<br>SB <sub>2013</sub> /SB <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): 3.10 (2.44–3.75)<br>SB <sub>2013</sub> /SB <sub>1950</sub> (80% CI): 0.74 (0.58–0.89) | 2007              |      |      |      |      |      | The SS3 model, used for stock status advice indicated that MSY-based reference points were not exceeded for the Indian Ocean population as a whole ( $F_{2013}/F_{MSY} < 1$ ; $SB_{2013}/SB_{MSY} > 1$ ). All other models applied to swordfish also indicated that the stock is above a biomass level that would produce MSY and current catches are below the MSY level. Spawning stock biomass in 2013 was estimated to be 58–89% of the unfished levels. Click here for full stock status summary: <a href="#">Appendix XVI</a>  |
| Swordfish (southwest Indian Ocean)<br><i>Xiphias gladius</i>   | Catch 2013: 7,349 t<br>Average catch 2009–2013: 7,265 t<br>MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): 9.86 (9.11–10.57)<br>$F_{MSY}$ (80% CI): 0.63 (0.59–0.70)<br>B <sub>MSY</sub> (1,000 t) (80% CI): 12.68 (12.52–12.78)<br>$F_{2013}/F_{MSY}$ (80% CI): 0.89 (0.61–1.14)<br>B <sub>2013</sub> /B <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): 0.94 (0.68–1.23)<br>B <sub>2013</sub> /B <sub>1950</sub> (80% CI): 0.16 (n.a.)               |                   |      |      |      |      |      | The assessments carried out in 2014 produced substantially conflicting results (ASIA, BBDM and ASPIC). The southwest Indian Ocean region has been subject to localised depletion over the past decade and biomass remains below the level that would produce MSY (B <sub>MSY</sub> ). In 2013, 7,349 t of swordfish catches were recorded from this region, which equals 110% of the recommended maximum catch of 6,678 t agreed to by the SC in 2011. If catches are maintained at 2013 levels, the probabilities of violating target reference points in 2016 are $\approx 81\%$ for F <sub>MSY</sub> and $\approx 40\%$ for B <sub>MSY</sub> . Click here for full stock status summary: <a href="#">Appendix XVI</a> |
| Black marlin<br><i>Makaira indica</i>  | Catch 2013: 14,400 t<br>Average catch 2009–2013: 11,962 t<br>MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): 10.2 (7.6–13.8)<br>$F_{MSY}$ (80% CI): 0.25 (0.08–0.45)<br>B <sub>MSY</sub> (1,000 t) (80% CI): 37.8 (14.6–62.3)<br>$F_{2013}/F_{MSY}$ (80% CI): 1.06 (0.39–1.73)<br>B <sub>2013</sub> /B <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): 1.13 (0.73–1.53)<br>B <sub>2013</sub> /B <sub>1950</sub> (80% CI): 0.57 (0.37–0.76)             |                   |      |      |      |      |      | This is the second time that the WPB has applied a Stock Reduction Analysis technique to black marlin and further testing of how sensitive this technique is to model assumptions and available time series of catches needs to be undertaken. However, the WPB considers that the assessment is the best information currently available and as such, should be used to determine stock status, with the intention that alternative techniques be applied in 2015 to validate the results. Click here for full stock status summary: <a href="#">Appendix XVII</a>  |
| Blue marlin<br><i>Makaira nigricans</i>  | Catch 2013: 13,834 t<br>Average catch 2009–2013: 11,531 t<br>MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): 11.70 (8.02–12.40)<br>$F_{MSY}$ (80% CI): 0.49 (n.a.)<br>B <sub>MSY</sub> (1,000 t) (80% CI): 23.70 (n.a.)<br>$F_{2011}/F_{MSY}$ (80% CI): 0.85 (0.63–1.45)<br>B <sub>2011</sub> /B <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): 0.98 (0.57–1.18)<br>B <sub>2011</sub> /B <sub>1950</sub> (80% CI): 0.48 (n.a.)                        |                   |      |      |      |      |      | No new assessment was undertaken in 2014. Thus, stock status is based on the previous assessment undertaken in 2013, as well as indicators available in 2014. In 2013, an ASPIC stock assessment confirmed the preliminary assessment results from 2012 that indicated the stock is currently being exploited near maximum levels and that the stock is at the optimal biomass level. Two other approaches examined in 2013 came to similar conclusions, namely a Bayesian State Space model, and a data poor stock assessment method: Stock Reduction Analysis using only catch data. Total reported landings increased substantially in  |

| Stock  | Indicators  | Prev <sup>1</sup> | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Advice to the Commission  |
|--|---|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|---|
|  |   |                   |      |      |      |      |      | 2012 to 17,252 t, well above the MSY estimate of 11,690 t. In 2013 reported catches declined slightly to 13,843 t, still above the MSY level. Given the sharp increase in reported catches over the last two years, that are well above the MSY level, the stock is likely to have moved to a state of being subject to overfishing. Click here for full stock status summary: <a href="#">Appendix XVIII</a>   |
| Striped marlin<br><i>Tetrapturus audax</i>   | Catch 2013: 4,429 t<br>Average catch 2009–2013: 3,667 t<br>MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): 4.41 t (3.54–4.58)<br>F <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): 0.36 (n.a.)<br>B <sub>MSY</sub> (1,000 t) (80% CI): 12.43 t (n.a.)<br>F <sub>2011</sub> /F <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): 1.28 (0.95–1.92)<br>B <sub>2011</sub> /B <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): 0.416 (0.2–0.42)<br>B <sub>2011</sub> /B <sub>0</sub> (80% CI): 0.18 (n.a.)                   |                   |      |      |      |      |      | No new assessment was undertaken in 2014. Thus, stock status is based on the previous assessment undertaken in 2013, as well as indicators available in 2014. In 2013 an ASPIC stock assessment confirmed the preliminary assessment results from 2012 that indicated the stock is currently subject to overfishing and that biomass is below the level which would produce MSY. Two other approaches examined in 2013 came to similar conclusions, namely a Bayesian State Space model, and a Stock Reduction Analysis using only catch data. The ASPIC model indicated that the stock has been subject to overfishing for some years, and that as a result, the stock biomass is well below the B <sub>MSY</sub> level and shows little signs of rebuilding despite the declining effort trend. In 2013 reported catches declined to 4,429 t, still above the MSY level. Click here for full stock status summary: <a href="#">Appendix XIX</a> |
| Indo-Pacific Sailfish<br><i>Istiophorus platypterus</i>  | Catch 2013: 29,750 t<br>Average catch 2009–2013: 28,087 t<br>MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): 27.84 (24.70–35.00)<br>F <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): 0.27 (0.16–0.39)<br>B <sub>MSY</sub> (1,000 t) (80% CI): 95.2 (62.89–127.73)<br>F <sub>2013</sub> /F <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): 1.19 (0.66–1.72)<br>B <sub>2013</sub> /B <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): 1.12 (0.88–1.37)<br>B <sub>2013</sub> /B <sub>0</sub> (80% CI): 0.56 (0.44–0.69) |                   |      |      |      |      |      | Data poor methods for stock assessment using Stock reduction analysis (SRA) techniques indicate that the stock is not overfished and close to or exceeding maximum sustainable yield levels. However, as this is the first time that the WPB used such a method on Indo-Pacific sailfish, further testing of how sensitive this technique is to model assumptions and available time series of catches needs to be undertaken before the WPB uses it to determine stock status. Click here for full stock status summary: <a href="#">Appendix XX</a>   |
| <b>Neritic tunas and mackerel:</b> These six species have become as important or more important as the three tropical tuna species (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna and yellowfin tuna) to most IOTC coastal states with a total estimated catch of <b>623,242 t</b> being landed in 2013. They are caught primarily by coastal fisheries, including small-scale industrial and artisanal fisheries. They are almost always caught within the EEZs of coastal states. Historically, catches were often reported as aggregates of various species, making it difficult to obtain appropriate data for stock assessment analyses. |   |                   |      |      |      |      |      |   |
| Bullet tuna<br><i>Auxis rochei</i>   | Catch 2013: 11,724 t<br>Average catch 2009–2013: 10,598 t<br>MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): unknown<br>F <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): unknown<br>B <sub>MSY</sub> (1,000 t) (80% CI): unknown<br>F <sub>2012</sub> /F <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): unknown<br>B <sub>2012</sub> /B <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): unknown<br>B <sub>2012</sub> /B <sub>0</sub> (80% CI): unknown   |                   |      |      |      |      |      | No quantitative stock assessment is currently available for bullet tuna in the Indian Ocean, and due to a lack of fishery data for several gears, only preliminary stock status indicators can be used. Aspects of the fisheries for bullet tuna combined with the lack of data on which to base a more formal assessment, are a cause for considerable concern. Stock status in relation to the Commission's B <sub>MSY</sub> and F <sub>MSY</sub> target reference points remains uncertain, indicating that a precautionary approach to the management of bullet tuna should be applied. Click here for full stock status summary: <a href="#">Appendix XXI</a>  |
| Frigate tuna<br><i>Auxis thazard</i>   | Catch 2013: 88,974 t<br>Average catch 2009–2013: 91,974 t<br>MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): unknown<br>F <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): unknown<br>B <sub>MSY</sub> (1,000 t) (80% CI): unknown<br>F <sub>2012</sub> /F <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): unknown<br>B <sub>2012</sub> /B <sub>MSY</sub> (80% CI): unknown<br>B <sub>2012</sub> /B <sub>0</sub> (80% CI): unknown   |                   |      |      |      |      |      | No quantitative stock assessment is currently available for frigate tuna in the Indian Ocean, and due to a lack of fishery data for several gears, only preliminary stock status indicators can be used. Aspects of the fisheries for frigate tuna combined with the lack of data on which to base a more formal assessment are a cause for considerable concern. Stock status in relation to the Commission's B <sub>MSY</sub> and F <sub>MSY</sub> target reference points remains uncertain, indicating that a precautionary approach to the management of frigate tuna should be applied. Click   |



| Stock  | Indicators   | Prev <sup>1</sup> | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Advice to the Commission  |
|--|--|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|---|
|  |  |                   |      |      |      |      |      | here for full stock status summary: <a href="#">Appendix XXII</a>   |
| Kawakawa<br><i>Euthynnus affinis</i>                             | Catch 2013: 168,954 t<br>Average catch 2009–2013: 150,387 t<br>MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): 144 (113–167)<br>$F_{MSY}$ (80% CI): 0.51 (n.a.)<br>$B_{MSY}$ (1,000 t) (80% CI): 217 (168–152)<br>$F_{2012}/F_{MSY}$ (80% CI): 0.97 (0.62–1.61)<br>$B_{2012}/B_{MSY}$ (80% CI): 1.13 (0.64–1.4)<br>$B_{2012}/B_0$ (80% CI): 0.57 (0.32–0.7)      |                   |      |      |      |      |      | Analysis using a Stock Reduction Analysis approach for a second year indicates that the stock is near optimal levels of $F_{MSY}$ , and stock biomass is near the level that would produce MSY ( $B_{MSY}$ ). Due to the quality of the data being used, the simplistic approach employed in 2014, combined with the rapid increase in kawakawa catch in recent years, measures need to be taken to slow the increase in catches in the IOTC area of competence. A separate analysis done on a sub-population (north-west Indian Ocean region) in 2014 indicated that that stock may be experiencing overfishing, although spawning biomass is likely to be above the level to produce MSY. Click for a full stock status summary: <a href="#">Appendix XXIII</a> |
| Longtail tuna<br><i>Thunnus tonggol</i>                          | Catch 2012: 160,532 t<br>Average catch 2009–2012: 139,971 t<br>MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): 120 (79–171)<br>$F_{MSY}$ (80% CI): 0.39 (0.27–0.51)<br>$B_{MSY}$ (1,000 t) (80% CI): 255 (173–377)<br>$F_{2012}/F_{MSY}$ (80% CI): 1.23 (0.47–2.11)<br>$B_{2012}/B_{MSY}$ (80% CI): 1.05 (0.59–1.49)<br>$B_{2012}/B_0$ (80% CI): 0.53(0.30–0.75) |                   |      |      |      |      |      | Stock Reduction Analysis techniques indicate that the stock is being exploited at a rate that exceed $F_{MSY}$ in recent years. Whether a four quadrant stock structure of catches in the Indian Ocean or a one stock assumption is used in the analysis, the conclusions remain the same. Another analysis conducted on the northwest Indian Ocean with a Surplus Production Model (ASPIC) also indicates that the stock is subject to overfishing. More traditional methods of stock assessment need to be conducted by developing indices of abundance using catch and effort series from I.R. Iran and Indonesia. Click for a full stock status summary: <a href="#">Appendix XXIV</a>  |
| Indo-Pacific king mackerel<br><i>Scomberomorus guttatus</i>      | Catch 2013: 44,363 t<br>Average catch 2009–2013: 45,447 t<br>MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): unknown<br>$F_{MSY}$ (80% CI): unknown<br>$B_{MSY}$ (1,000 t) (80% CI): unknown<br>$F_{2012}/F_{MSY}$ (80% CI): unknown<br>$B_{2012}/B_{MSY}$ (80% CI): unknown<br>$B_{2012}/B_0$ (80% CI): unknown   |                   |      |      |      |      |      | No quantitative stock assessment is currently available for Indo-Pacific king mackerel in the Indian Ocean, and due to a lack of fishery data for several gears, only preliminary stock indicators can be used. Aspects of the fisheries for Indo-Pacific king mackerel combined with the lack of data on which to base a more formal assessment are a cause for considerable concern. Stock status in relation to the Commission's $B_{MSY}$ and $F_{MSY}$ target reference points remains uncertain, indicating that a precautionary approach to the management of Indo-Pacific king mackerel should be applied. Click for a full stock status summary: <a href="#">Appendix XXV</a>  |
| Narrow-barred Spanish mackerel<br><i>Scomberomorus commerson</i> | Catch 2013: 148,695 t<br>Average catch 2009–2013: 144,462 t<br>MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): 137(93–164)<br>$F_{MSY}$ (80% CI): 0.47 (0.41–1.95)<br>$B_{MSY}$ (1,000 t) (80% CI): 229 (132–265)<br>$F_{2012}/F_{MSY}$ (80% CI): 0.92 (0.41–1.95)<br>$B_{2012}/B_{MSY}$ (80% CI): 1.17 (0.50–1.51)<br>$B_{2012}/B_0$ (80% CI): 0.59 (0.25–0.75) |                   |      |      |      |      |      | Stock Reduction Analysis techniques indicate that the stock is being exploited at a rate that is near $F_{MSY}$ in recent years, and the stock appears to be fully exploited. Northwest Indian Ocean (Gulf of Oman Sea countries) indicate that localised depletion may be occurring from an analysis done in 2013, and overfishing is occurring in this area, though the degree of connectivity with other areas remains unknown. Stock structure issues remain to be clarified. Click for a full stock status summary: <a href="#">Appendix XXVI</a>  |

**Sharks:** Although sharks are not part of the 16 species directly under the IOTC mandate, sharks are frequently caught in association with fisheries targeting IOTC species. Some fleets are known to actively target both sharks and IOTC species simultaneously. As such, IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties are required to report information at the same level of detail as for the 16 IOTC species. The following are the main species caught in IOTC fisheries, although the list is not exhaustive.

|  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Blue shark<br><i>Prionace glauca</i>                     | Reported catch 2013: 23,197 t<br>Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks <sup>2</sup> : 46,728 t<br>Average reported catch 2009–2013: 24,447 t<br>Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks <sup>2</sup> : 49,318 t<br>MSY (range): unknown |  |  |  |  |  |  | <p>There is a paucity of information available for these species and this situation is not expected to improve in the short to medium term. There is no quantitative stock assessment and limited basic fishery indicators currently available. Therefore the stock status is highly uncertain. The available evidence indicates considerable risk to the stock status at current effort levels. The primary source of data that drive the assessment (total catches) is highly uncertain and should be investigated further as a priority. Click below for a full stock status summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Blue sharks – <a href="#">Appendix XXVII</a></li> <li>○ Oceanic whitetip sharks – <a href="#">Appendix XXVIII</a></li> <li>○ Scalloped hammerhead sharks – <a href="#">Appendix XXIX</a></li> <li>○ Shortfin mako sharks – <a href="#">Appendix XXX</a></li> <li>○ Silky sharks – <a href="#">Appendix XXXI</a></li> <li>○ Bigeye thresher sharks – <a href="#">Appendix XXXII</a></li> <li>○ Pelagic thresher sharks – <a href="#">Appendix XXXIII</a></li> </ul> |
| Oceanic whitetip shark<br><i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> | Reported catch 2013: 230 t<br>Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks <sup>2</sup> : 46,728 t<br>Average reported catch 2009–2013: 317 t<br>Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks <sup>2</sup> : 49,318 t<br>MSY (range): unknown       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Scalloped hammerhead shark<br><i>Sphyrna lewini</i>      | Reported catch 2013: 128 t<br>Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks <sup>2</sup> : 46,728 t<br>Average reported catch 2009–2013: 91 t<br>Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks <sup>2</sup> : 49,318 t<br>MSY (range): unknown        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shortfin mako<br><i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>                | Reported catch 2013: 1,572 t<br>Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks <sup>2</sup> : 46,728 t<br>Average reported catch 2009–2013: 1,364 t<br>Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks <sup>2</sup> : 49,318 t<br>MSY (range): unknown   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Silky shark<br><i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>           | Reported catch 2013: 3,573 t<br>Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks <sup>2</sup> : 46,728 t<br>Average reported catch 2009–2013: 3,843 t<br>Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks <sup>2</sup> : 49,318 t<br>MSY (range): unknown   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bigeye thresher shark<br><i>Alopias superciliosus</i>    | Reported catch 2013: 0 t<br>Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks <sup>2</sup> : 46,728 t<br>Average reported catch 2009–2013: 75 t<br>Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks <sup>2</sup> : 49,318 t<br>MSY (range): unknown          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pelagic thresher shark<br><i>Alopias pelagicus</i>       | Reported catch 2013: 0 t<br>Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks <sup>2</sup> : 46,728 t<br>Average reported catch 2009–2013: 75 t<br>Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks <sup>2</sup> : 49,318 t<br>MSY (range): unknown          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

<sup>1</sup> This indicates the last year taken into account for assessments carried out before 2010; <sup>2</sup> The point estimate is the median of the plausible models investigated in the 2013 SS3 assessment; <sup>3</sup> most recent years data 2010; <sup>4</sup> most recent years data 2011.

| Colour key   | Stock overfished ( $SB_{\text{year}}/SB_{\text{MSY}} < 1$ ) | Stock not overfished ( $SB_{\text{year}}/SB_{\text{MSY}} \geq 1$ ) |
|--|---|--|
| Stock subject to overfishing ( $F_{\text{year}}/F_{\text{MSY}} > 1$ )        |   |  |
| Stock not subject to overfishing ( $F_{\text{year}}/F_{\text{MSY}} \leq 1$ ) |   |  |
| Not assessed/Uncertain   |   |  |

## APPENDIX VIII

## LIST OF CHAIRS, VICE-CHAIRS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE TERMS FOR THE COMMISSION AND SUBSIDIARY BODIES

| Group      | Chair/Vice-Chair | Chair                        | CPC/Affiliation   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Term<br>commencement<br>date | Term                 | Current term expiration date |
|------------|------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|--|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Commission | Chair            | Dr Ahmed Mohammed Al-Mazroui | Oman              | 1-May-2015                                   | 1 <sup>st</sup> term | End of Com. in 2017          |
|            | Vice-Chair       | Mr Jeongseok Park            | Rep. of Korea     | 10-May-13                                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> term | End of Com. in 2017          |
|            | Vice-Chair       | Mr Saut Tampubolon           | Indonesia         | 1-May-15                                     | 1 <sup>st</sup> term | End of Com. in 2017          |
| CoC        | Chair            | Mr. Herminio Tembe           | Mozambique        | 4-May-13                                     | 2 <sup>nd</sup> term | End of CoC in 2017           |
|            | Vice-Chair       | Mr. Hosea Gonza Mbilinyi     | Tanzania          | 4-May-13                                     | 2 <sup>nd</sup> term | End of CoC in 2017           |
| SCAF       | Chair            | Dr. Benjamin Tabios          | Philippines       | 31-May-14                                    | 1 <sup>st</sup> term | End of SCAF in 2016          |
|            | Vice-Chair       | Mr. Bojrazsingh Boyramboli   | Mauritius         | 31-May-14                                    | 1 <sup>st</sup> term | End of SCAF in 2016          |
| TCAC       | Chair            | Vacant                       | Vacant            | Vacant                                       | Vacant               | Vacant                       |
|            | Vice-Chair       | Vacant                       | Vacant            | Vacant                                       | Vacant               | Vacant                       |
| SC         | Chair            | Dr Tsutomu Nishida           | Japan             | 17-Dec-11                                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> term | End of SC in 2015            |
|            | Vice-Chair       | Mr Jan Robinson              | Seychelles        | 17-Dec-11                                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> term | End of SC in 2015            |
| WPB        | Chair            | Dr Jerome Bourjea            | EU,France         | 08-Jul-11                                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> term | End of WPB in 2015           |
|            | Vice-Chair       | Dr Miguel Santos             | EU,Portugal       | 08-Jul-11                                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> term | End of WPB in 2015           |
| WPTmT      | Chair            | Dr Zang Geun Kim             | Korea, Rep. of    | 22-Sep-11                                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> term | End of WPTmT in 2016         |
|            | Vice-Chair       | Dr Takayuki Matsumoto        | Japan             | 06-Sep-12                                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> term | End of WPTmT in 2016         |
| WPTT       | Chair            | Dr Shiham Adam               | Maldives, Rep. of | 19-Nov-14                                    | 1 <sup>st</sup> term | End of WPTT in 2016          |
|            | Vice-Chair       | Dr Gorka Merino              | EU,Spain          | 19-Nov-14                                    | 1 <sup>st</sup> term | End of WPTT in 2016          |
| WPEB       | Chair            | Dr Rui Coelho                | EU,Portugal       | 16-Sept-13                                   | 1 <sup>st</sup> term | End of WPEB in 2015          |
|            | Vice-Chair       | Dr Evgeny Romanov            | EU,France         | 27-Oct-11                                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> term | End of WPEB in 2015          |
| WPNT       | Chair            | Dr Prathibha Rohit           | India             | 27-Nov-11                                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> term | End of WPNT in 2015          |
|            | Vice-Chair       | Dr Farhad Kaymaram           | I.R. Iran         | 27-Nov-11                                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> term | End of WPNT in 2015          |
| WPDCS      | Chair            | Dr Emmanuel Chassot          | EU,France         | 30-Nov-13                                    | 1st term             | End of WPDCS in 2015         |
|            | Vice-Chair       | Mr Stephen Ndegwa            | Kenya             | 12-Dec-14                                    | 1 <sup>st</sup> term | End of WPDCS in 2016         |
| WPM        | Chair            | Dr Iago Mosqueira            | EU,Spain          | 18-Dec-11                                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> term | End of WPM in 2015           |
|            | Vice-Chair       | Dr Toshihide Kitakado        | Japan             | 18-Dec-11                                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> term | End of WPM in 2015           |

## APPENDIX IX

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 12<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (20-23 APRIL 2015) TO THE COMMISSION

*Note: Appendix reference refer to the Report of the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the Compliance Committee (IOTC-2015-CoC12-R)*

## Overview of the implementation of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures

- CoC12.01 ([Para21](#)) **NOTING** that there are 5 carrier vessels operating under the ROP that are flagged to non-CPCs of the IOTC (Singapore and Panama), the CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Resolution 14/06 be amended in the future to take into consideration the concerns of carrier vessels flagged to non-CPCs that are involved in at-sea transshipment operations in the IOTC area of competence
- CoC12.02 ([para. 28](#)) **NOTING** that the deadline for submitting Fleet Development Plans was at the end of 2009 for those CPCs who were part of the Commission at the time, the CoC **RECOMMENDED** that those CPCs that have expressed their desire to submit a Fleet Development Plan to do so as soon as possible.

## National Reports on the Progress of Implementation of Conservation and Management Measures

- CoC12.03 ([para. 36](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that those CPCs (Eritrea, Guinea, India, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Yemen, Djibouti and South Africa) who have not submitted their national 'Reports of Implementation' for 2015, do so within 30 days after the end of the Commission meeting. The Chair of the CoC, with the assistance of the IOTC Secretariat shall follow-up with each such CPC to ensure a national 'Reports of Implementation' is submitted for publication on the IOTC website and to inform CPCs during the Commission meeting and then also via an IOTC Circular once each report is received.
- CoC12.04 ([para. 46](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission agree to the development and distribution of letters of feedback by the IOTC Chair, highlighting areas of non-compliance to relevant CPCs, together with the difficulties and challenges being faced. The development of follow-up actions on the issues contained in the letters of feedback, including potential capacity building activities to address these matters, particularly for developing coastal States' needs to be developed and funded appropriately.
- CoC12.05 ([para. 47](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the IOTC Secretariat provide CPCs with the assessment criteria to understand the process of how the Compliance Reports are compiled, including information on the year being assessed for each requirement.
- CoC12.06 ([para. 48](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that when countries are requesting the renewal of their CNCP status they have to participate in the work of the CoC and the Commission.

## Review of additional information related to IUU fishing activities in the IOTC area of competence

- CoC12.07 ([para. 52](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider adding the KUNLUN, SONGHUA and YOUNGDIN on the IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 12.
- CoC12.08 ([para. 55](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider adding the *FU HSIANG FA No. 18* on the IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 12.
- CoC12.09 ([para. 58](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider adding the vessels *ANEKA 228*, *KM ANEKA 228*, *SAMUDERA PERKASA 11*, *SAMUDERA PERKASA 12* and *YI HONG 16* on the IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 12.
- CoC12.10 ([para. 62](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider adding the vessels *KIM SENG DENG*, *YI HONG 106*, *YI HONG 116* and *YI HONG 6* on the IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 12.
- CoC12.11 ([para. 65](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider adding the vessels *KUANG HGING 127*, *KUANG HGING 196*, *MAAN YIH HSING*, *SIN SHUN FA 67*, *SIN SHUN FA 8*, *SIN SHUN FA 9*, *TIAN LUNG NO.12* and *YI HONG 3* on the IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 12.

CoC12.12 ([para. 67](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Islamic Republic of Iran provides to the IOTC Secretariat within two months from the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission, for circulation to the Commission, a report on the actions and measures taken to control the two vessels, including registration on the IOTC records of Authorised vessels, authorisation to fish issued to the vessels, installation of VMS on-board the two vessels and evidence of fishing logbook on-board.

CoC12.13 ([para. 70](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider adding the vessels CHI TONG and SHUEN SIANG on the IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 12.

CoC12.14 ([para. 73](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider adding the vessel YU FONG No. 168 on the IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 12.

#### **Reporting of vessels in transit through waters of the UK(OT) for potential breach of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures**

CoC12.15 ([para. 76](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that paper IOTC–2015–CoC12–08b be deferred to the Commission (S19) due to the statement of Mauritius.

#### **Identification of repeated possible infringements under the Regional observer programme**

CoC12.16 ([para. 86](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that those CPCs identified in paper IOTC–2015–CoC12–08c and 8c Add1, a summary of possible infractions of IOTC regulations by large-scale fishing vessels (LSTLVs/carrier vessels), which have not submitted any response to the CoC, investigate and report back to the Commission via the IOTC Secretariat, the findings of their investigations, within three (3) months of the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission, by submitting reports on the follow-up on the irregularities identified. In order to assist with the comprehensive evaluation of any alleged infringement, copies of the logbooks, VMS plots, licenses and any other relevant documents should be provided by the flag States, as necessary. The IOTC Secretariat shall, at the end of the three (3) months, notify the Commission via a Circular, of those CPCs who have not provided a response.

CoC12.17 ([para. 87](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the IOTC Secretariat work with the Contractor to request that a draft of the inspection report be provided to the fishing master of the LSTLVs to give the opportunity of the fishing master to provide comments on the inspection report and when there are comments, they are provided back to the observer for consideration for the final observer report.

#### **Review of the provisional IUU vessels list and of the information submitted by CPCs relating to illegal fishing activities in the IOTC area of competence – Resolution 11/03**

CoC12.18 ([para. 90](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the vessels listed in [para 89](#) remain on the IOTC IUU Vessels List as no further information was provided to the CoC12 during its deliberations.

CoC12.19 ([para. 95](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission retain the vessel SULARA 2 on the IOTC Provisional IUU Vessels List, as provided under Resolution 11/03 para. 14, until the UK (OT) and the flag State court cases are satisfactorily concluded inter-sessionally, failing which they will be reviewed at the next CoC.

CoC12.20 ([para. 97](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission retain the vessel IMASHA 2 on the IOTC Provisional IUU Vessels List, as provided under Resolution 11/03 para. 14, until the UK (OT) and the flag State court cases are concluded and until further information is provided, and in the absence of these requirements the vessel should be moved onto the IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 12.

CoC12.21 ([para. 99](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission retain the vessel NIRODA PUTHA on the IOTC Provisional IUU Vessels List, as provided under Resolution 11/03 para. 14, until the UK (OT) and the flag State court cases are concluded and until further information is provided, and in the absence of these requirements the vessel should be moved onto the IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 14.

CoC12.22 ([para. 101](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission retain the vessel THIWANKA 5 on the IOTC Provisional IUU Vessels List, as provided under Resolution 11/03 para. 14, until the UK (OT) and the flag State court cases are concluded and until further information is provided, and in the absence of these requirements the vessel should be moved onto the IOTC IUU Vessels, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 14.



- CoC12.23 ([para. 103](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission defer the case of the vessel DULARI, flagged to Sri Lanka, to the next CoC.
- CoC12.24 ([para. 105](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission retain the vessel OTTO 2 on the IOTC Provisional IUU Vessels List, as provided under Resolution 11/03 para. 14, until the UK (OT) and the flag State court cases are concluded and until further information is provided, and in the absence of these requirements the vessel should be moved onto the IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 14.
- CoC12.25 ([para. 107](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission retain the vessel KAVIDYA DUWA on the IOTC Provisional IUU Vessels List, as provided under Resolution 11/03 para. 14, until the UK (OT) and the flag State court cases are concluded and until further information is provided, and in the absence of these requirements the vessel should be moved onto the IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 14.
- CoC12.26 ([para. 109](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission defer the case of the vessel FV JANE, flagged to Sri Lanka, to the next CoC.
- CoC12.27 ([para. 111](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission defer the case of the vessel STEF ANIA DUWA, flagged to Sri Lanka, to the next CoC.
- CoC12.28 ([para. 113](#)) **NOTING** that India was not present during the CoC12 to discuss the proposed IUU listing for the vessels, GREESHMA, BOSIN, BENIAIAH, CARMAL MARTA, DIGNAMOL I, DIGNAMOL II, KING JESUS, ST MARYS I, ST MARYS II, the CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission considers the proposed IUU listing for the vessels, GREESHMA, BOSIN, BENIAIAH, CARMAL MARTA, DIGNAMOL I, DIGNAMOL II, KING JESUS, ST MARYS I, ST MARYS II, at its 19<sup>th</sup> Session.
- CoC12.29 ([para. 114](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that Sri Lanka continues to provide monthly reports for vessels found guilty of IUU activities in UK (OT) waters over the past 3 years (i.e. since 2012).
- CoC12.30 ([para. 115](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that in November 2015, Sri Lanka provides to the IOTC Secretariat for circulation to the Commission, a further six monthly update on the implementation of their Roadmap of activities for combating IUU fishing.

#### Review of FAD management plans

- CoC12.31 ([para. 123](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the IOTC Secretariat provide a summary of compliance with the FADs management plans in a tabular format to the next CoC.

#### Update on progress regarding the performance review – compliance related issues

- CoC12.32 ([para. 126](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the current status of implementation for each of the recommendations arising from the Report of the IOTC Performance Review Panel, relevant to the CoC, as provided in [Appendix XI](#).
- CoC12.33 ([para. 127](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Working Group on High Seas Boarding Scheme continue its work during the intersessional period and report the result of its work to the CoC13.

#### Review of unresolved compliance issues raised by CPC's at the 18th annual Session, or new compliance issues (CPCs)

- CoC12.34 ([para. 129](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the issue pertaining to India related to the review of objections be addressed in the 19<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting.

#### Activities by the IOTC Secretariat in support of capacity building for developing CPCs

- CoC12.35 ([para. 133](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the IOTC Secretariat continues with those capacity building activities and to include similar activities that would allow CPCs to address the issue of mandatory statistics.

#### Review of requests for access to the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party

- CoC12.36 ([para. 142](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission considers renewing the status of Senegal as Cooperating Non-Contracting Party of the IOTC:
- CoC12.37 ([para. 143](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission considers granting Bangladesh the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party for the first time:

- CoC12.38 ([para. 144](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission considers the application by Liberia for Cooperating Non-Contracting Party status of the IOTC at its 19<sup>th</sup> Session, pending the submission of a written statement by Liberia that it will not engage in harvesting activities of tuna and tuna like species under the mandate of the IOTC.
- CoC12.39 ([para. 145](#)) **NOTING** that Djibouti was not present during the CoC12 to present their application for Cooperating Non-Contracting Party status, the CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission considers the application by Djibouti for the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party of the IOTC (IOTC–2015–CoC12–CNCP04) at its 19<sup>th</sup> Session.

#### **How to progress on compliance issues**

- CoC12.40 ([para. 147](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the concerned CPCs consider the development of a proposal on a Working Party on Compliance for S20

#### **Adoption of the report of the 12th Session of the Compliance Committee**

- CoC12.41 ([para. 154](#)) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider the consolidated set of recommendations arising from CoC12, provided at [Appendix XI](#).



## APPENDIX X

### REFERENCE FISHING CAPACITY AND FLEET DEVELOPMENT PLAN

**Table 1.** The reference limits on fishing capacity based on the tonnage of vessels declared as active in 2006 – for tropical tunas.

| CPCs                                 |            | A. Reference<br>2006 | B. Planned FDPs<br>2007-2014 | Reference<br>capacity at 2014<br>(A+B) | Active<br>capacity in<br>2014 | Capacity to be added under Fleet Development Plan |        |        |        |        |        |
|--------------------------------------|------------|----------------------|------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                                      |            |                      |                              |  |                               | 2015  | 2016   | 2017   | 2018   | 2019   | > 2020 |
| Australia                            | (GRT)      | 3,312                |                              | 3,312                                  | 856                           |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Belize                               | (GT)       |                      | 3,200                        | 3,200                                  | 125                           |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| China                                | (GT)       | 27,216               | 2,059                        | 29,275                                 | 16,922                        |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Comoros                              | (GT)       |                      | 110                          | 110                                    |                               |   |        |        | 6000   | 6000   | 4000   |
| Eritrea                              |            |                      |                              |  |                               |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| European Union                       | (GT)       | 101,233              | 10,824                       | 112,057                                | 81,122                        |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Guinea                               | (GRT)      | 1,439                |                              | 1,439                                  |                               |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| India                                | (GRT)      | 32,950               | 6,000                        | 38,950                                 | 12,379                        | 1,800   | 1,250  | 1,250  | 1,100  | 600    | 600    |
| Indonesia                            | (GT)       | 124,011              | 83,284                       | 207,295                                | 39,484                        | 6,270   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Iran                                 | (GT)       | 83,524               | 38,253                       | 121,777                                | 99,963                        | 4,100   | 6,650  | 10,200 | 10,200 | 7,850  | 4,400  |
| Japan                                | (GT)       | 91,076               |                              | 91,076                                 | 33,164                        |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Kenya                                | (GT)       |                      |                              |  |                               |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Korea, Republic of                   | (GT)       | 15,274               |                              | 15,274                                 | 8,062                         |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Madagascar                           | (GT)       | 263                  | 4307                         | 4,570                                  | 178                           | 1,181   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Malaysia                             | (GRT)      | 2,299                | 15,334                       | 17,633                                 | 4314                          |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Maldives                             | (GT)       |                      | 924                          | 924                                    | 16,715                        | 68  | 68     | 68     | 68     | 45     | 45     |
| Mauritius                            | (GRT)      | 1,931                | 29,654                       | 31,585                                 | 8,589                         | 5,331   | 5,331  | 5,331  |        |        |        |
| Mozambique                           | (GT)       |                      | 15,000                       | 15,000                                 | 520                           | 15,000  | 15,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 19,800 |
| Oman                                 | (GT)       | 3,126                | 9,464                        | 12,590                                 | 1,321                         | 1,146   |        |        |        |        | 5,730  |
| Pakistan                             | (GT)       |                      | 40,000                       | 40,000                                 | 1,130                         | 10,000  |        |        |        |        |        |
| Philippines                          | (GRT)      | 10,304               |                              | 10,304                                 | 2,164                         |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Seychelles                           | (GT)       | 41,735               | 169,684                      | 211,419                                | 40,639                        | 18,556  | 18,556 |        |        |        |        |
| Sierra Leone                         |            |                      |                              |  |                               |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Somalia                              |            |                      |                              |  |                               |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Sri Lanka                            | (GT)       | 18,436               | 83,671                       | 102,107                                | 40,062                        | 71,227  |        |        |        |        |        |
| Sudan                                |            |                      |                              |  |                               |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Tanzania                             | (GT)       |                      |                              |  | 1,535                         |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Thailand                             | (GT)       | 13,771               | 24,250                       | 38,021                                 | 2,448                         |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| U. K. (I.O. Territories)             | (GT)       |                      |                              |  |                               |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Vanuatu                              | (GT)       |                      | 25,875                       | 25,875                                 |                               |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Yemen                                |            |                      |                              |  |                               |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Djibouti                             |            |                      |                              |  |                               |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Senegal                              | (GRT)      | 1,250                |                              |  |                               |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| South Africa                         | (GT)       | 3,013                | 3,056                        | 6,069                                  | 782                           |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Total                                | (GRT + GT) | 576,163              | 564,949                      | 1,139,862                              | 412,474                       | 134,679   | 46,855 | 31,849 | 32,368 | 29,495 | 34,575 |
| Difference relative to 2006 Baseline |            |                      |                              | 198%                                   | 72%                           |   |        |        |        |        | 323%   |

N.B. Estimates of capacity, figures in brackets, for CPCs that have not reported their active vessels list for 2014 are based on their list of authorised vessels on 20 March 2015.

**Table 2.** The reference limits on fishing capacity based on the number of vessels declared as active in 2006 – for tropical tunas.

| CPCs                     | A. Reference<br>2006 | B. Planned FDPs<br>2007-2014 | Reference capacity at<br>2014 (A+B) | Active capacity<br>in 2014 | Capacity to be added under Fleet Development Plan |           |           |           |           |           |
|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                          |                      |                              |                                     |                            | 2015  | 2016      | 2017      | 2018      | 2019      | >2020     |
| Australia                | 10                   |                              | 10                                  |                            |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Belize                   |                      | 7                            | 7                                   | 1                          | 1   |           |           |           |           |           |
| China                    | 67                   |                              | 67                                  | 36                         |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Comoros                  |                      |                              |                                     |                            |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Eritrea                  |                      |                              |                                     |                            |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| European Union           | 51                   | 13                           | 64                                  | 39                         |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Guinea                   | 3                    |                              | 3                                   |                            |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| India                    | 70                   | 48                           | 118                                 | (45)                       | 12  | 7         | 7         | 6         | 5         | 5         |
| Indonesia                | 1,201                | 689                          | 1,890                               | 458                        | 57  |           |           |           |           |           |
| Iran                     | 992                  | 321                          | 1,313                               | 1,228                      | 5   | 9         | 14        | 14        | 10        | 4         |
| Japan                    | 227                  |                              | 227                                 | 53                         |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Kenya                    |                      |                              |                                     |                            |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Korea, Republic of       | 38                   |                              | 38                                  | 14                         |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Madagascar               | 2                    | 124                          | 126                                 | 7                          | 34  |           |           |           |           |           |
| Malaysia                 | 28                   | 107                          | 135                                 | 6                          |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Maldives                 |                      | 41                           | 41                                  | 342                        | 3   | 3         | 3         | 3         | 2         | 2         |
| Mauritius                | 8                    | 35                           | 23                                  | 7                          | 2   | 2         | 2         |           |           |           |
| Mozambique               |                      | 5                            | 5                                   | 2                          | 5   | 5         | 5         | 5         | 5         | 33        |
| Oman                     | 24                   | 58                           | 82                                  | 3                          | 7   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Pakistan                 |                      | 120                          | 120                                 | (10)                       | 30  |           |           |           |           |           |
| Philippines              | 18                   |                              | 18                                  | 4                          |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Seychelles               | 34                   | 104                          | 138                                 | 37                         | 11  | 11        |           |           |           |           |
| Sierra Leone             |                      |                              |                                     |                            |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Somalia                  |                      |                              |                                     |                            |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Sri Lanka                | 1,001                | 680                          | 1,681                               | 1,610                      | 315   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Sudan                    |                      |                              |                                     |                            |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Tanzania                 |                      |                              |                                     | 3                          |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Thailand                 | 9                    | 110                          | 119                                 | 2                          |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| U. K. (I.O. Territories) |                      |                              |                                     |                            |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Vanuatu                  |                      | 48                           | 48                                  |                            |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Yemen                    |                      |                              |                                     |                            |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Djibouti                 |                      |                              |                                     |                            |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Senegal                  | 3                    |                              | 3                                   |                            |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| South Africa             | 13                   | 10                           | 23                                  | 4                          |   |           |           |           |           |           |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>3,799</b>         | <b>2,520</b>                 | <b>6,299</b>                        | <b>3,911</b>               | <b>482</b>  | <b>37</b> | <b>31</b> | <b>28</b> | <b>22</b> | <b>44</b> |

N.B. Estimates of number of vessels, figures in brackets, for CPCs that have not reported their active vessels list for 2014 are based on their number of authorised vessels on 20 March 2015.

**Table 3.** The reference limits on fishing capacity based on the tonnage of vessels declared as active in 2007 – for swordfish and albacore.

| CPCs  |                 | A. Reference<br>2007 | B. Planned FDPs<br>2008-2014 | Reference capacity at<br>2014 (A+B) | Active capacity<br>in 2014 | Capacity to be added under Fleet Development Plans |              |              |              |              |               |
|---|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
|   |                 |                      |                              |                                     |                            | 2015   | 2016         | 2017         | 2018         | 2019         | >2020         |
| Australia                                   | (GRT)           |                      |                              |                                     | 856                        |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Belize                                      | (GT)            | 1,620                |                              | 1,620                               | 349                        |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| China                                       | (GT)            |                      | 3,389                        | 3,389                               | 3,390                      |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Comoros                                     | (GT)            |                      | 110                          | 110                                 |                            | 880  | 660          | 660          | 440          | 440          | 110           |
| Eritrea                                     |                 |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| European Union                              | (GT)            | 21,922               | 3,546                        | 25,468                              | 11,628                     | 1,286  |              |              |              |              | 2143          |
| Guinea                                      | (GRT)           |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| India                                       | (GRT)           |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Indonesia                                   | (GT)            |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Iran  | (GT)            |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Japan                                       | (GT)            |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Kenya                                       | (GT)            |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Korea, Republic of                          | (GT)            |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Madagascar                                  | (GT)            |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Malaysia                                    | (GRT)           |                      |                              |                                     | 582                        |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Maldives                                    | (GT)            |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Mauritius                                   | (GRT)           |                      | 2,400                        | 2,400                               |                            | 2,000  | 1,600        | 2,000        |              |              |               |
| Mozambique                                  | (GT)            |                      | 3,000                        | 3,000                               |                            | 3,000  | 3,000        | 3,000        | 3,000        | 3,000        | 16200         |
| Oman  | (GT)            |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Pakistan                                    | (GT)            |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Philippines                                 | (GRT)           |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Seychelles                                  | (GT)            | 536                  |                              | 536                                 |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Sierra Leone                                |                 |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Somalia                                     |                 |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Sri Lanka                                   | (GT)            |                      | 6,402                        | 6,402                               |                            | 4,263  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Sudan                                       |                 |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Tanzania                                    | (GT)            |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Thailand                                    | (GT)            |                      |                              |                                     | 2,577                      |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| U. K. (I.O. Territories)                    | (GT)            |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Vanuatu                                     | (GT)            |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Yemen                                       |                 |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Djibouti                                    |                 |                      |                              |                                     |                            |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| Senegal                                     | (GRT)           |                      |                              |                                     |                            | 1,251  | 2,085        |              |              |              |               |
| South Africa                                | (GT)            |                      | 4,274                        | 4,274                               | 164                        |  |              |              |              |              |               |
| <b>Total</b>                                | <b>(GRT+GT)</b> | <b>24,078</b>        | <b>23,121</b>                | <b>47,199</b>                       | <b>19,546</b>              | <b>12,680</b>                                      | <b>7,345</b> | <b>5,660</b> | <b>3,440</b> | <b>3,440</b> | <b>18,453</b> |
| <b>Difference relative to 2007 Baseline</b> |                 |                      |                              | <b>196%</b>                         | <b>81%</b>                 |  |              |              |              |              | <b>489%</b>   |

**Table 4.** The reference limits on fishing capacity based on the number of vessels declared as active in 2007 – for swordfish and albacore.

| CPCs               | A. Reference 2007 | B. Planned FDPs<br>2008-2014 | Reference capacity at<br>2014 (A+B) | Active capacity in 2014 | Capacity to be added under Fleet Development Plans |           |           |          |          |           |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
|                    |                   |                              |                                     |                         | 2015   | 2016      | 2017      | 2018     | 2019     | >2020     |
| Australia          |                   |                              |                                     | 4                       |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Belize             | 10                |                              | 10                                  | 3                       |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| China              |                   | 10                           | 10                                  | 11                      |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Comoros            |                   | 1                            | 1                                   |                         | 8  | 6         | 6         | 4        | 4        | 1         |
| Eritrea            |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| European Union     | 72                | 17                           | 89                                  | 45                      | 15   |           |           |          |          | 25        |
| Guinea             |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| India              |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Indonesia          |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Iran               |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Japan              |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Kenya              |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Korea, Republic of |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Madagascar         |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Malaysia           |                   |                              |                                     | 5                       |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Maldives           |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Mauritius          |                   | 6                            |                                     |                         | 5  | 4         | 5         |          |          |           |
| Mozambique         |                   | 5                            |                                     |                         | 5  | 5         | 5         | 5        | 5        | 27        |
| Oman               |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Pakistan           |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Philippines        |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Seychelles         | 1                 |                              | 1                                   |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Sierra Leone       |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Somalia            |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Sri Lanka          |                   | 44                           | 44                                  |                         | 17   |           |           |          |          |           |
| Sudan              |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Tanzania           |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Thailand           |                   |                              |                                     | 4                       |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| U. K. (OT)         |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Vanuatu            |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Yemen              |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Djibouti           |                   |                              |                                     |                         |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| Senegal            |                   |                              |                                     |                         | 3  | 5         |           |          |          |           |
| South Africa       |                   | 6                            | 6                                   | 1                       |  |           |           |          |          |           |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>83</b>         | <b>89</b>                    | <b>161</b>                          | <b>73</b>               | <b>53</b>  | <b>20</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>9</b> | <b>9</b> | <b>53</b> |

**APPENDIX XIa**  
**IOTC IUU VESSELS LIST (MAY 2015)**

| Current name of vessel<br>(previous names) | Current flag<br>(previous flags) | Date first included on<br>IOTC IUU Vessels List | Lloyds/<br>IMO<br>number | Photo  | Call sign<br>(previous call<br>signs) | Owner / beneficial<br>owners (previous owners) | Operator (previous<br>operators) | Summary of IUU activities                 |
|--|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>FU HSIANG FA NO.<br/>01</b>             | Unknown                          | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>FU HSIANG FA NO.<br/>02</b>             | Unknown                          | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>FU HSIANG FA NO.<br/>06</b>             | Unknown                          | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>FU HSIANG FA NO.<br/>08</b>             | Unknown                          | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>FU HSIANG FA NO.<br/>09</b>             | Unknown                          | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>FU HSIANG FA NO.<br/>11</b>             | Unknown                          | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>FU HSIANG FA NO.<br/>13</b>             | Unknown                          | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>FU HSIANG FA NO.<br/>17</b>             | Unknown                          | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>FU HSIANG FA NO.<br/>20</b>             | Unknown                          | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>FU HSIANG FA NO.<br/>21<sup>1</sup></b> | Unknown                          | May 2013  |                          | Yes. Refer to report<br>IOTC-2013-CoC10-<br>07 Rev1[E] | OTS 024 or<br>OTS 089                 | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 07/02 |

<sup>1</sup> No information on whether the two vessels **FU HSIANG FA NO. 21** are the same vessels.

IOTC-2015-S19-R[E]

| Current name of vessel<br>(previous names) | Current flag<br>(previous flags)  | Date first included on<br>IOTC IUU Vessels List | Lloyds/<br>IMO<br>number | Photo  | Call sign<br>(previous call<br>signs) | Owner / beneficial<br>owners (previous owners)        | Operator (previous<br>operators) | Summary of IUU activities                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>FU HSIANG FA NO.<br/>21<sup>1</sup></b> | Unknown                           | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown   | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03                   |
| <b>FU HSIANG FA NO.<br/>23</b>             | Unknown                           | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown   | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03                   |
| <b>FU HSIANG FA NO.<br/>26</b>             | Unknown                           | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown   | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03                   |
| <b>FU HSIANG FA NO.<br/>30</b>             | Unknown                           | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown   | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03                   |
| <b>FULL RICH</b>                           | Unknown<br>(Belize)               | May 2013  |                          | Yes. Refer to report<br>IOTC-2013-CoC10-<br>08a[E] | HMEK3                                 | Noel International LTD<br>(Noel International<br>LTD) | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 07/02                   |
| <b>GUNUAR MELYN<br/>21</b>                 | Unknown                           | June 2008                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown   | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 07/02                   |
| <b>HOOM XIANG 101</b>                      | Unknown<br>(Malaysia)             | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown   | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03                   |
| <b>HOOM XIANG 103</b>                      | Unknown<br>(Malaysia)             | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown   | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03                   |
| <b>HOOM XIANG 105</b>                      | Unknown<br>(Malaysia)             | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown   | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03                   |
| <b>HOOM XIANG II</b>                       | Unknown<br>(Malaysia)             | March 2010                                      |                          | Yes. Refer to report<br>IOTC-S14-CoC13-<br>add1[E] |                                       | Hoom Xiang Industries<br>Sdn. Bhd.                    | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 09/03                   |
| <b>OCEAN LION</b>                          | Unknown<br>(Equatorial<br>Guinea) | June 2005                                       | 7826233                  |  |                                       | Unknown   | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 02/04, 02/05,<br>03/05. |
| <b>SHUEN SIANG</b>                         | Unknown                           | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown   | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03                   |
| <b>SRI FU FA 168</b>                       | Unknown                           | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown   | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03                   |
| <b>SRI FU FA 18</b>                        | Unknown                           | June 2014                                       |                          |  |                                       | Unknown   | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03                   |

| Current name of vessel<br>(previous names) | Current flag<br>(previous flags) | Date first included on<br>IOTC IUU Vessels List | Lloyds/<br>IMO<br>number | Photo                     | Call sign<br>(previous call<br>signs) | Owner / beneficial<br>owners (previous owners) | Operator (previous<br>operators) | Summary of IUU activities                 |
|--|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>SRI FU FA 188</b>                       | Unknown                          | June 2014                                       |                          |                           |                                       | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>SRI FU FA 189</b>                       | Unknown                          | June 2014                                       |                          |                           |                                       | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>SRI FU FA 286</b>                       | Unknown                          | June 2014                                       |                          |                           |                                       | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>SRI FU FA 67</b>                        | Unknown                          | June 2014                                       |                          |                           |                                       | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>SRI FU FA 888</b>                       | Unknown                          | June 2014                                       |                          |                           |                                       | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>YU MAAN WON</b>                         | Unknown<br>(Georgia)             | May 2007  |                          |                           |                                       | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 07/02 |
| <b>KUNLUN<br/>(TAISHAN)</b>                | Equatorial<br>Guinea             | May 2015  | 7322897                  | IOTC CIRCULAR<br>2015-004 | 3CAG                                  | Stanley Management<br>Inc                      | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>SONGHUA<br/>(YUNNAN)</b>                | Equatorial<br>Guinea             | May 2015  | 9319856                  | IOTC CIRCULAR<br>2015-004 | 3CAF                                  | Eastern Holdings                               | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>YONGDING<br/>(JIANFENG)</b>             | Equatorial<br>Guinea             | May 2015  | 9042001                  | IOTC CIRCULAR<br>2015-004 | 3CAE                                  | Stanley Management<br>Inc                      | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>FU HSIANG FA 18</b>                     | Unknown                          | May 2015  |                          |                           | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>ANEKA 228</b>                           | Unknown                          | May 2015  |                          |                           | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>ANEKA 228; KM.</b>                      | Unknown                          | May 2015  |                          |                           | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>SAMUDERA PERKASA<br/>11</b>             | Unknown                          | May 2015  |                          |                           | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |

| Current name of vessel<br>(previous names) | Current flag<br>(previous flags) | Date first included on<br>IOTC IUU Vessels List | Lloyds/<br>IMO<br>number | Photo | Call sign<br>(previous call<br>signs) | Owner / beneficial<br>owners (previous owners) | Operator (previous<br>operators) | Summary of IUU activities                 |
|--|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>SAMUDRA PERKASA 12</b>                  | Unknown                          | May 2015  |                          |       | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>YI HONG 16</b>                          | Unknown                          | May 2015  |                          |       | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>KIM SENG DENG 3</b>                     | Bolivia                          | May 2015  |                          |       | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>YI HONG 106</b>                         | Bolivia                          | May 2015  |                          |       | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>YI HONG 116</b>                         | Bolivia                          | May 2015  |                          |       | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>YI HONG 6</b>                           | Bolivia                          | May 2015  |                          |       | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>CHI TONG</b>                            | Unknown                          | May 2015  |                          |       | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>KUANG HSING 127</b>                     | Unknown                          | May 2015  |                          |       | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>KUANG HSING 196</b>                     | Unknown                          | May 2015  |                          |       | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>MAAN YIH HSING</b>                      | Unknown                          | May 2015  |                          |       | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| <b>SHUEN SIANG</b>                         | Unknown                          | May 2015  |                          |       | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |



| Current name of vessel<br>(previous names) | Current flag<br>(previous flags) | Date first included on<br>IOTC IUU Vessels List | Lloyds/<br>IMO<br>number | Photo | Call sign<br>(previous call<br>signs) | Owner / beneficial<br>owners (previous owners) | Operator (previous<br>operators) | Summary of IUU activities                 |
|--|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|
| SIN SHUN FA 6                              | Unknown                          | May 2015  |                          |       | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| SIN SHUN FA 67                             | Unknown                          | May 2015  |                          |       | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| SIN SHUN FA 8                              | Unknown                          | May 2015  |                          |       | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| SIN SHUN FA 9                              | Unknown                          | May 2015  |                          |       | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| TIAN LUNG NO.12                            | Unknown                          | May 2015  |                          |       | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| YI HONG 3                                  | Unknown                          | May 2015  |                          |       | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |
| YU FONG 168                                | Unknown                          | May 2015  |                          |       | Not Available                         | Unknown  | Unknown                          | Contravention of IOTC<br>Resolution 11/03 |

**APPENDIX XIb**  
**PROVISIONAL IOTC IUU VESSELS LIST (MAY 2015)**

| Current name of vessel<br>(previous names) | Current flag<br>(previous flags) | Date first included on<br>IOTC IUU Vessels List | Lloyds/<br>IMO<br>number | Photo                 | Call sign<br>(previous call<br>signs) | Owner / beneficial<br>owners (previous owners)  | Operator (previous<br>operators) | Summary of IUU activities  |
|--|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>BENAIHA</b>                             | India                            | Not Applicable                                  |                          | Yes. Refer to Annex 1 | Not Available                         | Mr Raju S/O (Son of),<br>John Rose of 11-4-137<br>Kalingarajapuram,<br>Ezudesam China Thurai<br>RAJU J S/O John Rose<br>of K R Puram,<br>Chinnathurai,<br>Thoothoor PO, K K<br>Dist, Tamilnadu  | Mr Chris Lukaj                   | Fishing without a licence<br>in the waters of the<br>British Indian Ocean<br>Territory |
| <b>BOSIN</b>                               | India                            | Not Applicable                                  |                          | Yes. Refer to Annex 1 | Not Available                         | Titus, S/O (son of)<br>Sesaiyan of 111-9-170<br>Thoothoor<br>(post) O.Kanyakumari<br>District, Tamil Nadu,<br>India   | Titus, S/O (son<br>of) Sesaiyan  | Fishing without a licence<br>in the waters of the<br>British Indian Ocean<br>Territory |
| <b>CARMAL MATHA</b>                        | India                            | Not Applicable                                  |                          | Yes. Refer to Annex 1 | Not Available                         | Antony J S/O (son of)<br>Joseph of D No 111-7-<br>28. St<br>Thomas Nagar,<br>Thoothoor PO, KK Dist<br>Tamilnadu   | Mr Antony                        | Fishing without a licence<br>in the waters of the<br>British Indian Ocean<br>Territory |
| <b>DIGNAMOL 1</b>                          | India                            | Not Applicable                                  |                          | Yes. Refer to Annex 1 | Not Available                         | Jelvis s/o Dicostan of<br>7/103 K R Puram,<br>Thoothoor, KK<br>Dist, Mamilnadu<br>Mr SD. Jelvis, S/O<br>Dikostan of 7/169<br>Wasol 2, Block Y,<br>Yishming Block, ,<br>Thoothoor,<br>Kanyakumam | Mr James Robert                  | Fishing without a licence<br>in the waters of the<br>British Indian Ocean<br>Territory |

| Current name of vessel<br>(previous names) | Current flag<br>(previous flags) | Date first included on<br>IOTC IUU Vessels List | Lloyds/<br>IMO<br>number | Photo                 | Call sign<br>(previous call<br>signs) | Owner / beneficial<br>owners (previous owners)  | Operator (previous<br>operators) | Summary of IUU activities  |
|--|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>DIGNAMOL II</b>                         | India                            | Not Applicable                                  |                          | Yes. Refer to Annex 1 | Not Available                         | Unknown   | Mr F Britto                      | Fishing without a licence<br>in the waters of the<br>British Indian Ocean<br>Territory |
| <b>GREESHMA 1</b>                          | India                            | Not Applicable                                  |                          | Yes. Refer to Annex 1 | Not Available                         | TITUS K. of S/O.<br>Kastheen, 3/17B<br>CHINNATHURAI,<br>THOOTHOR POST,<br>KANYAKUMARI<br>DISTRICT,<br>TAMILNADU   | Mr T (Tony)<br>Resolin           | Fishing without a licence<br>in the waters of the<br>British Indian Ocean<br>Territory |
| <b>KING JESUS</b>                          | India                            | Not Applicable                                  |                          | Yes. Refer to Annex 1 | Not Available                         | Unknown   | Bibi S. R. Paul<br>Miranda S     | Fishing without a licence<br>in the waters of the<br>British Indian Ocean<br>Territory |
| <b>ST MARY'S NO.1</b>                      | India                            | Not Applicable                                  |                          | Yes. Refer to Annex 1 | Not Available                         | Mr Peter A S/O Antony<br>Ad'Mai of St Thomas<br>Nacer,<br>Thoothoor PO, KK<br>Dist, Tamilnadu<br>Peter A. Fathers Name,<br>ANTHONIADIMAI of<br>40 St<br>Thomas Street,<br>Thoothur, Kanyakuman<br>District, Tamil<br>Nadu, 629160 | Mr Borgen                        | Fishing without a licence<br>in the waters of the<br>British Indian Ocean<br>Territory |
| <b>ST MARY'S NO.2</b>                      | India                            | Not Applicable                                  |                          | Yes. Refer to Annex 1 | Not Available                         | Mr Peter A S/O<br>Anthoniadimai of East<br>Coastal road<br>Thoothoor – PO KK<br>Dist – Tamilnadu  | Mr Babin Melbin                  | Fishing without a licence<br>in the waters of the<br>British Indian Ocean<br>Territory |

| Current name of vessel<br>(previous names) | Current flag<br>(previous flags) | Date first included on<br>IOTC IUU Vessels List | Lloyds/<br>IMO<br>number | Photo                 | Call sign<br>(previous call<br>signs) | Owner / beneficial<br>owners (previous owners)   | Operator (previous<br>operators)                                  | Summary of IUU activities   |
|--|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| <b>IMASHA 2</b>                            | Sri Lanka                        | Not Applicable                                  |                          | Yes. Refer to Annex 1 | Not Available                         | Mr Gammanan<br>Arachchige Pristan<br>Tiran of St,<br>Visenthi Road,<br>Maggona                 | Unknown   | Fishing without a licence<br>and fishing with<br>prohibited gear.           |
| <b>KAVIDYA DUWA</b>                        | Sri Lanka                        | Not Applicable                                  |                          | Yes. Refer to Annex 1 | Not Available                         | Hewarathnasinghage<br>Ranga Harshapriya.<br>Silva of 53,<br>Temple Road, Berwula,<br>Sri Lanka | Mr. Kumara  | Fishing without a licence<br>and fishing with<br>prohibited gear            |
| <b>NIRODA PUTHA</b>                        | Sri Lanka                        | Not Applicable                                  |                          | Yes. Refer to Annex 1 | Not Available                         | WADP PRAGEETH<br>83/1, ST MARIYA RO<br>AD,<br>KUDA PAYAGALA,<br>PAYAGALA,<br>SRI LANKA         | Mr Ravindra Pri<br>yashantha<br>12/20W Ganayar<br>amba, Beruwala, | Fishing illegally in BIOT<br>and possession of prohibit<br>ed fishing gear. |
| <b>OTTO II</b>                             | Sri Lanka                        | Not Applicable                                  |                          | Yes. Refer to Annex 1 | Not Available                         | Weththamury Suranga<br>De Silva of 2/A/01/A,<br>Thalavila<br>Watta, Moragalla,<br>Aluthgama    | WAP Fernando  | Fishing without a licence<br>and fishing with<br>prohibited gear            |
| <b>SULARA 2</b>                            | Sri Lanka                        | Not Applicable                                  |                          | Yes. Refer to Annex 1 | Not Available                         | Mr Nainaboeduge<br>Sumith Fernando   | Unknown   | Fishing without a licence<br>and fishing with<br>prohibited gear            |
| <b>THIWANKA 5</b>                          | Sri Lanka                        | Not Applicable                                  |                          | Yes. Refer to Annex 1 | Not Available                         | Mr G P T Weerasuriya   | Unknown   | Fishing without a licence<br>and fishing with<br>prohibited gear            |

## APPENDIX XII

### RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 12<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE (23–24 APRIL 2015) TO THE COMMISSION

*Note: Appendix reference refer to the Report of the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (IOTC-2015-SCAF12-R)*

#### Financial Statement

SCAF12-01 ([para. 19](#)) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the IOTC Secretariat should continue to explore all possible avenues with the objective to recover the outstanding contributions and request support from FAO in engagement with CPCs in this regard.

#### Balance of funds

SCAF12-02 ([para. 25](#)) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission seeks guidance from FAO in regard to the financial continuity of operations of the Commission in 2015 and 2016, based on outstanding arrears in contributions, and requests support from FAO in regard to IOTC Secretariat staff contract extensions and advise on collecting arrears.

#### Contributions outstanding

SCAF12-03 ([para. 29](#)) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the IOTC Secretariat, in consultation with the Chair of the Commission, to conduct bilateral discussion with the I.R. Iran, and other Contracting Parties with outstanding contributions with a view to find a mutually satisfactory method to recover the outstanding contributions and to detail a plan of action for payment to Membership as soon as the situation allows for this financial transaction.

SCAF12-04 ([para. 30](#)) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that Contracting Parties that did not reply to the communications sent by the Chair of the Commission, regarding the payment of outstanding contributions shall not benefit from any IOTC related activities in regard to MPF, workshops, training and related support. CPCs in arrears for more than five years and have no interim payment should not benefit from any IOTC related activities, with the exception of I.R. Iran on the basis of the difficulties highlighted in this report.

#### Capital Reserve Fund

SCAF12-05 ([para. 32](#)) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that since it could not arrive on a decision on how to address the existing negative balance (US\$ 849,248) in the IOTC FAO account, this matter should be further discussed during the 19<sup>th</sup> Session.

#### Membership of Sierra Leone and Guinea in the IOTC

SCAF12-06 ([para. 38](#)) **NOTING** the financial implications of the continuing membership of Sierra Leone and Guinea, the SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider whether Sierra Leone and Guinea should be deemed to have withdrawn their membership therefrom effective from the date of receipt of the communication to this effect and any and all future contributions due from Sierra Leone and Guinea shall cease to be effective from the date of the receipt of such communication. Past dues from both Governments shall be pursued, in conjunction with FAO Finance.

#### Deficit Contingency Budget

SCAF12-07 ([para. 50](#)) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Deficit Contingency budget be inserted within the proposed budget for 2016 (US\$375,051) and indicative budget for 2017.

#### Operating expenses – Support to Capacity Building

SCAF12-08 ([para. 52](#)) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that capacity building activities, including workshops on data collection and reporting, the Regional Observer Scheme, data analysis techniques, compliance with IOTC CMMs and bridging the gap between IOTC science and management advice, be continued in 2016 and financially supported through the IOTC budget, to the extent possible, and through voluntary contributions from Members and other interested parties.

**Programme of work and budget estimates: proposed for 2016 and 2017**

SCAF12–09 ([para. 54](#)) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission endorse the IOTC Secretariat's *Program of Work* for the financial period 1 January to 31 December 2016, as outlined in paper IOTC–2015–SCAF12–05.

SCAF12–10 ([para. 55](#)) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt the budget for, and the scheme of contributions for 2016 as outlined in [Appendix IV](#) and [Appendix V](#), while noting the objection of Indonesia.

SCAF12–11 ([para. 56](#)) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note that the *Program of Work* for the IOTC Secretariat is based on the assumption that the nature and extent of the activities undertaken by the IOTC Secretariat will remain within the current scope. Any new activities agreed to during the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission (S19) that are likely to have budgetary consequences, will require an amendment of the figures presented to, and endorsed by the Commission.

**Performance Review Update (Resolution 09/01 on the performance review follow-up)**

SCAF12–12 ([para. 61](#)) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the current status of implementation for each of the recommendations arising from the Report of the IOTC Performance Review Panel, relevant to the SCAF, as provided in [Appendix VI](#).

**Other Business**

SCAF12–13 ([para. 65](#)) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** to the Commission to discuss the implication of this matter on the future work of the Commission. [*para. 64. The SCAF NOTED its concerns on the decision of FAO to limit the contract of the Executive Secretary for a two month duration. A communication was sent from the Chair of the Commission to FAO for which a response is pending.*]

**Review of the Draft and Adoption of the Report of the 12th Session of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance**

SCAF12–14 ([para. 66](#)) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider the consolidated set of recommendations arising from SCAF12, provided at [Appendix VII](#).



**APPENDIX XIII**  
**BUDGET FOR 2016 AND INDICATIVE BUDGET FOR 2017 (IN USD)**

|      | Budget item description                   | 2016             | 2017             |
|------|---|------------------|------------------|
| 1    | <b><u>Administrative Expenditures</u></b> |                  |                  |
|      | Gross salary costs (before deductions)    |                  |                  |
| 1.1  | Professional                              |                  |                  |
|      | Executive Secretary                       | 173,907          | 176,907          |
|      | Deputy Secretary                          | 148,947          | 151,947          |
|      | Data Coordinator                          | 138,308          | 131,308          |
|      | Compliance Coordinator                    | 118,114          | 121,114          |
|      | Fishery Officer (Stock assessment)        | 131,308          | 131,308          |
|      | Fishery Officer (Compliance)              | 130,685          | 133,685          |
|      | Fishery Officer (Statistics)              | 103,717          | 106,717          |
|      | Fishery Officer (Science)                 | 101,258          | 104,258          |
|      | Administrative Officer                    | 105,970          | 108,970          |
|      | Compliance Officer                        | 0                | 104,258          |
| 1.2  | General Service                           |                  |                  |
|      | Administrative Assistant                  | 14,445           | 15,445           |
|      | Compliance Assistant                      | 10,950           | 11,950           |
|      | Office Assistant                          | 11,747           | 12,747           |
|      | Database Assistant                        | 14,869           | 15,869           |
|      | Office Assistant                          | 7,459            | 8,459            |
|      | Driver                                    | 8,165            | 9,165            |
|      | Overtime                                  | 6,000            | 6,000            |
|      | <b>Total Salary costs</b>                 | <b>1,225,849</b> | <b>1,350,106</b> |
| 1.3  | Employer Pension & Health                 | 364,650          | 359,651          |
| 1.4  | Employer FAO entitlement fund             | 531,582          | 561,582          |
| 1.5  | Improved Cost Recovery Uplift             | 63,790           | 66,790           |
|      | <b>Total staff costs</b>                  | <b>2,185,871</b> | <b>2,338,129</b> |
|      | Expenditure for Activities                |                  |                  |
| 2    | <b><u>Operating Expenditures</u></b>      |                  |                  |
| 2.1  | Support Capacity Building                 | 115,000          | 115,000          |
| 2.2  | Consultants                               | 110,000          | 145,000          |
| 2.3  | Duty travel                               | 190,000          | 195,000          |
| 2.4  | Meetings                                  | 45,000           | 60,000           |
| 2.5  | Interpretation                            | 145,000          | 145,000          |
| 2.6  | Translation                               | 135,000          | 135,000          |
| 2.7  | Equipment                                 | 29,000           | 24,000           |
| 2.8  | General Operating Expenses                | 49,000           | 52,000           |
| 2.9  | Printing                                  | 30,000           | 30,000           |
| 2.10 | Contingencies                             | 2,000            | 2,500            |
|      | <b>Total Operating Expenditure</b>        | <b>850,000</b>   | <b>903,500</b>   |
|      | <b>SUB-TOTAL</b>                          | <b>3,035,871</b> | <b>3,241,629</b> |
| 3    | Additional Contrib. Seychelles            | <b>-20,100</b>   | <b>-20,100</b>   |
| 4    | FAO Servicing Costs                       | 136,614          | 145,873          |
| 5    | Deficit Contingency                       | 375,051          | 522,509          |
| 6    | MPF                                       | 150,000          | 150,000          |
|      | <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>                        | <b>3,677,436</b> | <b>4,039,911</b> |

# APPENDIX XIVA SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2016

| Country                   | World Bank<br>Classification in 2012 | OECD<br>Membership | Average catch for 2010-<br>2012 (in metric tons) | Base<br>Contribution | Operations<br>Contribution | GNP<br>Contribution | Catch<br>Contribution | Total Contribution<br>(USD) |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Australia                 | High                                 | Yes                | 5,164  | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$136,835           | \$16,049              | \$180,887                   |
| Belize                    | Middle                               | No                 | 326  | \$12,681             | \$0                        | \$34,209            | \$203                 | \$47,092                    |
| China                     | Middle                               | No                 | 67,391   | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$34,209            | \$41,891              | \$104,103                   |
| Comoros                   | Low                                  | No                 | 5,164  | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$0                 | \$3,210               | \$31,214                    |
| Eritrea                   | Low                                  | No                 | 612  | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$0                 | \$380                 | \$28,384                    |
| European Union            | High                                 | Yes                | 199,292  | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$136,835           | \$619,409             | \$784,248                   |
| France(Terr)              | High                                 | Yes                | 0  | \$12,681             | \$0                        | \$136,835           | \$0                   | \$149,516                   |
| India                     | Middle                               | No                 | 158,296  | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$34,209            | \$98,398              | \$160,611                   |
| Indonesia                 | Middle                               | No                 | 368,252  | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$34,209            | \$228,908             | \$291,121                   |
| Iran, Islamic Republic of | Middle                               | No                 | 185,012  | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$34,209            | \$115,005             | \$177,217                   |
| Japan                     | High                                 | Yes                | 16,479   | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$136,835           | \$51,218              | \$216,056                   |
| Kenya                     | Low                                  | No                 | 565  | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$0                 | \$351                 | \$28,355                    |
| Korea, Republic of        | High                                 | Yes                | 2,774  | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$136,835           | \$8,621               | \$173,460                   |
| Madagascar                | Low                                  | No                 | 8,705  | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$0                 | \$5,411               | \$33,415                    |
| Malaysia                  | Middle                               | No                 | 28,295   | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$34,209            | \$17,588              | \$79,800                    |
| Maldives                  | Middle                               | No                 | 99,976   | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$34,209            | \$62,146              | \$124,358                   |
| Mauritius                 | Middle                               | No                 | 587  | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$34,209            | \$365                 | \$62,577                    |
| Mozambique                | Low                                  | No                 | 3,680  | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$0                 | \$2,287               | \$30,291                    |
| Oman                      | High                                 | No                 | 29,188   | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$136,835           | \$18,144              | \$182,982                   |
| Pakistan                  | Middle                               | No                 | 55,689   | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$34,209            | \$34,617              | \$96,829                    |
| Philippines               | Middle                               | No                 | 1,331  | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$34,209            | \$827                 | \$63,039                    |
| Seychelles                | Middle                               | No                 | 72,399   | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$34,209            | \$45,004              | \$107,216                   |
| Somalia                   | Low                                  | No                 | 0  | \$12,681             | \$0                        | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$12,681                    |
| Sri Lanka                 | Middle                               | No                 | 100,739  | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$34,209            | \$62,620              | \$124,833                   |
| Sudan                     | Middle                               | No                 | 34   | \$12,681             | \$0                        | \$34,209            | \$21                  | \$46,910                    |
| Tanzania                  | Low                                  | No                 | 6,433  | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$0                 | \$3,999               | \$32,002                    |
| Thailand                  | Middle                               | No                 | 13,822   | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$34,209            | \$8,592               | \$70,804                    |
| United Kingdom(Terr)      | High                                 | Yes                | 12   | \$12,681             | \$0                        | \$136,835           | \$38                  | \$149,553                   |
| Yemen                     | Middle                               | No                 | 41,299   | \$12,681             | \$15,323                   | \$34,209            | \$25,672              | \$87,884                    |
|                           |                                      |                    | <b>Total</b>                                     | <b>367,744</b>       | <b>367,744</b>             | <b>1,470,974</b>    | <b>1,470,974</b>      | <b>3,677,436</b>            |

\*Total contributions may vary from the sum of the four components by up to one dollar due to rounding



**APPENDIX XIVB**  
**INDICATIVE SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2017**

| Country               | World Bank<br>Classification in 2013 | OECD<br>Membership | Average catch for 2011-<br>2013 (in metric tons) | Base<br>Contribution | Operations<br>Contribution | GNP<br>Contribution | Catch<br>Contribution | Total Contribution<br>(USD) |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Australia             | High                                 | Yes                | 4,985  | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$150,322           | \$16,227              | \$197,313                   |
| Belize                | Middle                               | No                 | 298  | \$13,931             | \$0                        | \$37,581            | \$194                 | \$51,705                    |
| China                 | Middle                               | No                 | 69,372   | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$37,581            | \$45,161              | \$113,505                   |
| Comoros               | Low                                  | No                 | 5,091  | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$0                 | \$3,314               | \$34,078                    |
| Eritrea               | Low                                  | No                 | 405  | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$0                 | \$264                 | \$31,027                    |
| European Union        | High                                 | Yes                | 205,556  | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$150,322           | \$669,077             | \$850,162                   |
| France(Terr)          | High                                 | Yes                | 0  | \$13,931             | \$0                        | \$150,322           | \$0                   | \$164,253                   |
| India                 | Middle                               | No                 | 173,704  | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$37,581            | \$113,080             | \$181,424                   |
| Indonesia             | Middle                               | No                 | 390,108  | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$37,581            | \$253,958             | \$322,302                   |
| Iran, Islamic Rep. of | Middle                               | No                 | 200,228  | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$37,581            | \$130,347             | \$198,692                   |
| Japan                 | High                                 | Yes                | 16,112   | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$150,322           | \$52,445              | \$233,531                   |
| Kenya                 | Low                                  | No                 | 563  | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$0                 | \$367                 | \$31,130                    |
| Korea, Republic of    | High                                 | Yes                | 6,935  | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$150,322           | \$22,574              | \$203,660                   |
| Madagascar            | Low                                  | No                 | 8,672  | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$0                 | \$5,645               | \$36,409                    |
| Malaysia              | Middle                               | No                 | 27,181   | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$37,581            | \$17,695              | \$86,039                    |
| Maldives              | Middle                               | No                 | 107,573  | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$37,581            | \$70,029              | \$138,374                   |
| Mauritius             | Middle                               | No                 | 697  | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$37,581            | \$454                 | \$68,798                    |
| Mozambique            | Low                                  | No                 | 2,348  | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$0                 | \$1,528               | \$32,292                    |
| Oman                  | High                                 | No                 | 30,125   | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$150,322           | \$19,611              | \$200,697                   |
| Pakistan              | Middle                               | No                 | 58,291   | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$37,581            | \$37,947              | \$106,291                   |
| Philippines           | Middle                               | No                 | 1,456  | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$37,581            | \$948                 | \$69,292                    |
| Seychelles            | Middle                               | No                 | 67,407   | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$37,581            | \$43,882              | \$112,226                   |
| Somalia               | Low                                  | No                 | 0  | \$13,931             | \$0                        | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$13,931                    |
| Sri Lanka             | Middle                               | No                 | 100,825  | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$37,581            | \$65,637              | \$133,981                   |
| Sudan                 | Middle                               | No                 | 34   | \$13,931             | \$0                        | \$37,581            | \$22                  | \$51,533                    |
| Tanzania              | Low                                  | No                 | 7,119  | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$0                 | \$4,634               | \$35,398                    |
| Thailand              | Middle                               | No                 | 13,321   | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$37,581            | \$8,672               | \$77,016                    |
| United Kingdom(Terr)  | High                                 | Yes                | 10   | \$13,931             | \$0                        | \$150,322           | \$34                  | \$164,287                   |
| Yemen                 | Middle                               | No                 | 49,493   | \$13,931             | \$16,833                   | \$37,581            | \$32,220              | \$100,564                   |
|                       |                                      |                    | <b>Total</b>                                     | <b>403,991</b>       | <b>403,991</b>             | <b>1,615,964</b>    | <b>1,615,964</b>      | <b>4,039,911</b>            |

## APPENDIX XV

### 2015: UPDATE ON PROGRESS REGARDING RESOLUTION 09/01 – ON THE PERFORMANCE REVIEW FOLLOW-UP

(NOTE: NUMBERING AND RECOMMENDATIONS AS PER APPENDIX I OF RESOLUTION 09/01)

| ON THE IOTC AGREEMENT – REFORM   | RESPONSIBILITY                | UPDATE/STATUS  | WORKPLAN/ TIMELINE | PRIORITY |
|--|-------------------------------|--|--------------------|----------|
| 0. The IOTC Agreement needs to be revised or replaced to: 1) allow the full participation of all fishing players, 2) take into account modern principles for fisheries management.   | <i>Commission</i>             | <b>Pending:</b> No new developments have taken place in this area. |                    | High     |
| ON THE IOTC AGREEMENT – A LEGAL ANALYSIS   | RESPONSIBILITY                | UPDATE/STATUS  | WORKPLAN/ TIMELINE | PRIORITY |
| 1. The final conclusion of the Panel is that the Agreement is outdated and there are many areas for improvement. The weaknesses and gaps identified are, or have a potential to be, major impediments to the effective and efficient functioning of the Commission and its ability to adopt and implement measures aimed at long-term conservation and sustainable exploitation of stocks, according to model fisheries management instruments. More fundamentally, these deficiencies are likely to prevent the Commission from achieving its basic objectives. | <i>Commission and Members</i> | <b>Pending:</b> No new developments have taken place in this area. |                    | High     |
| 2. Consequently, the Panel recommends that the IOTC Agreement either be amended or replaced by a new instrument. The decision on whether to amend the Agreement or replace it should be made taking into account the full suite of the deficiencies identified.  | <i>Commission and Members</i> | <b>Pending:</b> No new developments have taken place in this area. |                    | High     |

| ON CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT  | RESPONSIBILITY              | UPDATE/STATUS  | WORKPLAN/TIMELINE                             | PRIORITY |
|---|-----------------------------|--|---|----------|
| <b>Data collection and sharing</b>  |                             |  |   |          |
| <i>The Panel identified a poor level of compliance by many IOTC Members. with their obligations, notably those related to the statistical requirements on artisanal fisheries and sharks, and recommends that:</i>          |                             |  |   |          |
| 3. The timing of data reporting be modified to ensure that the most recent data are available to the working parties and the Scientific Committee.  | <i>Scientific Committee</i> | <b>Completed:</b> Currently CPCs are required to submit information on their flag vessels by 30 <sup>th</sup> June every year. The timeline for coastal CPCs who license foreign vessels has been brought forward to 15 <sup>th</sup> February every year. The timing of the Working Parties will be reviewed annually to ensure that assessments can be completed and results reported to the Scientific Committee each year. | Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.   | Medium   |
| 4. The deadline to provide data on active vessels be modified to a reasonable time in advance of the meeting of the Compliance Committee. This deadline is to be defined by the Compliance Committee.                       | <i>Compliance Committee</i> | <b>Completed:</b> Resolutions 10/07 and 10/08 have modified the reporting date for active vessels, which is now in the month preceding the meeting of the Compliance Committee. Resolution 10/08 establishes February 15 <sup>th</sup> as the new deadline for submission of the list of active vessels for the previous year.   | Periodic review of Resolutions.               | Low      |
| 5. The scheduling of meetings of the working parties and Scientific Committee be investigated based on the experience of other RFMOs. This should bear in mind the optimal delivery of scientific advice to the Commission. | <i>Scientific Committee</i> | <b>Completed:</b> Given the large number of meetings of other RFMOs, it is becoming increasingly difficult to find a schedule of meetings that would be better than the one currently in practice. However, the Working Parties and the Scientific Committee will annually review the timing of the Working Parties.   | Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.   | Low      |
| 6. The Commission task the Scientific Committee with exploring alternative means of communicating data to improve timeliness of data provision.   | <i>Scientific Committee</i> | <b>Partially Completed &amp; Ongoing:</b> The Secretariat encourages members to utilise electronic means to expedite reporting.<br><br>A study was commissioned for 2011 to determine the feasibility of reporting near real-time for various fleets. Outcome: Real time reporting not currently possible for most CPCs.   | Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.   | Medium   |
| 7. Non-compliance be adequately monitored and identified at individual Member level, including data reporting.  | <i>Compliance Committee</i> | <b>Ongoing:</b> Resolution 10/09 has partially been developed for this purpose. Reports on compliance with data reporting requirements have been regularly reviewed by the Compliance Committee, as well as discussed at the species Working Parties, the Working  | Annual review at Compliance Committee meeting | High     |

|  |                             |   |   |      |
|--|-----------------------------|---|---|------|
|  |                             | <p>Party on Data Collection and Statistics and the Scientific Committee. For the Compliance Committee meetings, country-based reports have been prepared for this purpose since the 2011 meeting.</p> <p>A first implementation of this approach took place in the Compliance Committee meeting 2011 (Colombo, Sri Lanka)</p> <p>There remains a need to setup a scheme of penalties and incentives.</p>  |   |      |
| 8. The causes of non-compliance be identified in cooperation with the Member concerned.  | <i>Compliance Committee</i> | <p><b>Ongoing:</b> The Terms of Reference of the Compliance Committee was revised in 2010 (Resolution 10/09) and provides for the assessment of compliance by CPCs. The Secretariat, via the Compliance Section, maintains contact with national officers to determine the reasons for non-compliance, in particular, concerning data reporting.</p> <p>The identification of non-compliance causes started with the country based approach (Compliance Committee meeting 2011 – Colombo, Sri Lanka).</p> <p>Starting in 2013 the Compliance Section has begun conducting Compliance Support Missions (CSM). To date 15 CPCs have benefitted from CSMs and six CPCs have benefitted from follow-up CSMs.</p> <p>During the intersessional period, staff of the Secretariat have conducted CSMs in Comoros, India, Malaysia, Seychelles/Somalia, South Africa and Thailand, where a Compliance Action Plan have been developed with these CPCs.</p> <p>The Capacity Building activities planned for 2015/16 are detailed in the annual Programme of work and budget for the Secretariat. Refer: IOTC-2015-SCAF12-05.</p> | Review annually at the Compliance Committee meeting | High |
| 9. When the causes of non-compliance are identified and all reasonable efforts to improve the situation are exhausted, any Member or non-Member continuing to not comply be adequately sanctioned (such as market related measures). | <i>Compliance Committee</i> | <p><b>Pending:</b> Resolution 10/10 provides the necessary framework in which to apply market related measures, following an appropriate process. Reductions in future quota allocation have been proposed as deterrents for non-compliance. Process still to be implemented.</p>   | Review annually at the Compliance Committee meeting | High |



|   |   |   |   |      |
|---|---|---|---|------|
| 10. There is a need to improve the quality and quantity of the data collected and reported by the Members, including the information necessary for implementing the ecosystem approach. The most immediate emphasis should be placed on catch, effort and size frequency. The Panel also recommends that: | <i>Scientific Committee</i>                             | <b>Ongoing:</b> See below recommendation 11.<br><br>Other sources and cooperative arrangements will continue (e.g. IOTC-OFCF Project) or might be available in the future (e.g. SWIOFC, COI, etc.). The Secretariat continues to collaborate with these initiatives.  | Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings. | High |
| 11. Support for capacity building be provided to developing States – the Commission should enhance funding mechanisms to build developing country CPCs' capacity for data collection, processing and reporting infrastructures, in accordance with the Commission requirements.                           | <i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance</i> | <b>Ongoing:</b> In 2010 the Commission allocated USD\$400,000 for a range of projects related to capacity building in data collection and reporting.<br><br>The Commission allocated USD\$60,000 for Capacity Building in the 2011 budget, USD\$78,000 in 2012 and US\$80,000 in 2013. Further increases have been proposed for the 2014 and 2015 budgets. One workshop was organised in 2011, in Chennai, India involving representatives of several CPCs.<br><br>Numerous capacity building activities have been delivered by the Secretariat, or in collaboration with other institutions in recent years (e.g., IOTC-OFCF Project, EU-COI-Smartfish, BOBLME, and CPCs). A summary of current activities can be found on the IOTC website: <a href="http://iotc.org/about-iotc/capacity-building">http://iotc.org/about-iotc/capacity-building</a> | Review annually at IOTC meetings.           | High |
| 12. A regional scientific observer programme to enhance data collection (also for non–target species) and ensure a unified approach be established, building on the experience of other RFMOs, Regional standards on data collection, data exchanged and training should be developed.                    | <i>Scientific Committee</i>                             | <b>Partially completed:</b> Resolution 11/04 (superseding Res.09/04 and Res. 10/04) provides CPCs with the necessary framework for putting in place national scientific observer programmes. The Regional Observers Scheme commenced July 1 <sup>st</sup> 2010, and is based on national implementation. The Secretariat coordinated the preparation of standards for data requirements, training and forms. Implementation by CPCs has been limited to date. The IOTC Secretariat will commence training workshops in 2015 in several key CPCs requesting assistance (i.e. I.R. Iran and Sri Lanka).   | Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings. | High |
| 13. Actions be taken so that fishing fleets, especially Maldives, Taiwan, Province of China and Yemen participate in data collection and reporting.   | <i>Commission</i>                                       | <b>Partially Completed &amp; Ongoing:</b> Maldives became a Member in July 2011 and is complying with its mandatory data requirements. Taiwan, Province of China, submits data from its fishing fleet on a regular basis and complies with most of the IOTC mandatory data requirements. The Yemen became a Member in July 2012.  |   | High |



|   |   |  |  |        |
|---|---|--|--|--------|
| 14. A relationship with Taiwan, Province of China be developed in order to have data access when needed, to all its fleet data as well as historical series, and address the problems deriving from the current legal framework.  | <i>Commission and Members</i>   | <b>Partially Completed &amp; Ongoing:</b> Taiwan, Province of China, provides data from its fishing fleet on a regular basis and routinely allows access to historical data. It also continues to participate in the Regional Observer Programme to monitor transshipment at sea.  |  | High   |
| 15. The Secretariat's capacity for data dissemination and quality assurance be enhanced, including through the employment of a fisheries statistician.  | <i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance via Scientific Committee Commission</i> | <b>Partially Completed &amp; Ongoing:</b> The existing post of Data Analyst was converted to a Fisheries Statistician to join the Data Section of the Secretariat. The position was filled in September 2012.<br><br>Further efforts continue to be made to improve data dissemination, including through an online data atlas, planned for 2014/15 which will be launched in early-2015, in addition to general improvements in the dissemination and access to IOTC datasets via the new IOTC website. | Staffing needs to be assessed annually at IOTC meetings.                         | Medium |
| 16. A statistical working party be established to provide a more efficient way to identify and solve the technical statistical questions.   | <i>Scientific Committee</i>   | <b>Completed:</b> The Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics (WPDCS) has been formed and will hold its 11 <sup>th</sup> Session in October 2015.  | Annual meeting.  | High   |
| 17. The obligation incumbent to a flag State to report data for its vessels be included in a separate Resolution from the obligation incumbent on Members to report data on the vessels of third countries they licence to fish in their exclusive economic zones (EEZs).   | <i>Compliance Committee</i>   | <b>Completed:</b> Resolutions 14/05 (formerly 12/07) and 10/08 address the reporting requirements of flag and coastal States responsibilities, with regards to vessels that are active in the IOTC Area.   | Review annually at the Compliance Committee meetings                             | Medium |
| <i>In relation to non-target species, the panel recommends that:</i><br><br>18. The list of shark species for which data collection is required in Recommendation 08/04 be expanded to include the five species identified by the Scientific Committee (blue shark, shortfin mako, silky shark, scalloped hammerhead, oceanic whitetip), and apply to all gear types. | <i>Commission</i>   | <b>Partially Completed &amp; Ongoing:</b> The Commission meetings in 2012, 2013 and 2014 considered several proposals in this regard, and Resolution 12/03 was subsequently adopted and then revised in 2013 as Resolution 13/03.<br><br>The Scientific Committee has identified several remaining gaps which will be considered at the S19 meeting.   | The Commission to revisit in 2015, taking into account the SC17 recommendations. | Medium |
| 19. The Secretariat's capacity to provide support to developing States' Members should be enhanced.   | <i>Commission and Standing</i>  | <b>Ongoing:</b> Resolution 10/05 provides a mechanism for financial support to facilitate scientists and representatives from developing   | Review annually at IOTC meetings.  | High   |

|  |  |  |   |        |
|--|--|--|---|--------|
|  | <i>Committee on Administration and Finance</i> | <p>IOTC CPCs to attend and/or contribute to the work of the Commission, the Scientific Committee and its Working Parties. In 2012, 2013 and 2014, capacity building funds were provided and utilized in workshops to enhance understanding of the IOTC process among officials of member countries.</p> <p>The Secretariat has also collaborated directly and indirectly with other regional initiatives, including, inter alia, to the EU-COI/SmartFish, BOBLME, OFCF, SWIOFC and EU-COI/SmartFish Project. In 2014 a Regional workshop was organised in collaboration with EU-COI/Smartfish Project, aimed at improving levels of compliance amongst coastal states in particular, in terms of the collection and reporting of fisheries data to the IOTC.</p> |   |        |
| 20. Cooperative capacity building efforts amongst Members and, as appropriate external organisations, should be encouraged.      | <i>Members and Secretariat</i>                 | <p><b>Ongoing:</b> In November 2011, the first of a series of Capacity Building workshops was held in Chennai, India (17–18 November). The theme was ‘Bridging the gap between IOTC science and management’. See also Recommendations 13 and 21. Support was received from the ACP Fish II Project for other workshops in 2012. Further workshops were undertaken in 214 and 2015 in Thailand and South Africa.</p>  | Seek opportunities through other regional projects, and funding directly from CPCs. | High   |
| 21. Innovative or alternative means of data collection (e.g. port sampling) should be explored and, as appropriate, implemented. | <i>Scientific Committee</i>                    | <p><b>Ongoing:</b> The Secretariat has been implementing sampling programmes since 1999. The IOTC, in collaboration with others (i.e. OFCF, COI, BOBLME) has supported sampling programmes and other means of data collection since 2002. The Secretariat continues to work with CPCs to improve their data collection programs.</p>   | Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.   | Medium |
| 22. Avenues to collect data from non-Members should be explored.   | <i>Secretariat</i>                             | <p><b>Ongoing:</b> The activities of the IOTC–OFCF Project have not been limited to IOTC Members, and, in the past, have extended to important non-member fishing countries such as Yemen (now a Member).</p> <p>Participation at IOTC Working Party meetings by scientists from non-IOTC CPCs has been and will continue to be encouraged.</p>  | Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.   | Medium |



| Quality and provision of scientific advice   |                             |  |   |        |
|--|-----------------------------|--|---|--------|
| 23. For species with little data available, the Scientific Committee should be tasked with making use of more qualitative scientific methods that are less data intensive.         | <i>Scientific Committee</i> | <p><b>In progress:</b> The species Working Parties have been using informal analyses of stock status indicators when data are considered insufficient to conduct full assessments for some time. However, a formal system that reviews those qualitative indicators and provides a recommendation on the current status, based on the weight-of-evidence is currently being implemented.</p> <p>In 2013 and 2014, data poor approaches to determining stock status was applied to a range of billfish and neritic tuna species. The SC will consider in 2014, options to rank stock status determination using a 'tier' approach, which will assist in the interpretation of the level of uncertainty present in assessment methods applied.</p> | <p>To be considered at the WPM and others.</p> <p>Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.</p> | High   |
| 24. More emphasis should be given to adherence to data collection requirements.  | <i>Compliance Committee</i> | <p><b>Ongoing:</b> The Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics and the species Working Parties evaluate the availability and quality of data, and make recommendations to the Scientific Committee on how to improve data quality. The country-based compliance report submitted to the Compliance Committee provides information on the timeliness and completeness of the reporting of data required by the various Resolutions of the Commission.</p> <p>A Regional Workshop was conducted in February 2014 to address the issue data reporting, for compliance with IOTC requirements. A conclusion from the Regional Workshop is that the Secretariat will need to conduct in country missions in several of the Member States.</p> | <p>Review annually at the Compliance Committee meeting.</p>                                       | High   |
| 25. Confidentiality provisions and issues of accessibility to data by the scientists concerned needs to be clearly delineated, and/or amended, so that analysis can be replicated. | <i>Scientific Committee</i> | <p><b>Ongoing:</b> Input, output and executable files for the assessment of major stocks are archived with the Secretariat to allow replication of analyses. Access to operational data under cooperative arrangements, and those subject to confidentiality rules is still limited. In some cases the Secretariat is bound by the domestic data confidentiality rules of Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties. The SC recommended to include observer data under the confidentiality policy of IOTC, which was Adopted by the Commission in 2012 as Resolution 12/02.</p>  | <p>Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.</p>  | Medium |



|  |  |   |   |        |
|--|--|---|---|--------|
| 26. The resources of the IOTC Secretariat should be increased. Even though some progress will be made with recruitment of the stock analysis expert, some additional professional staffing is required.  | <i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance on advice from Committees and the Commission</i> | <b>Ongoing:</b> The Secretariat recruited a Fisheries Officer (Science) in 2014, as requested by the Scientific Committee and Commission.   | Review annually at IOTC meetings.           | High   |
| 27. To enhance the quality of scientific advice and the technical soundness of the papers being considered by the Scientific Committee and its working parties, and to encourage publication of IOTC scientific papers in relevant journals, future consideration should be given to the establishment of a scientific editorial board within the Scientific Committee | <i>Scientific Committee</i>  | <b>Partially Completed &amp; Ongoing:</b> Guidelines for the presentation of stock assessment papers were revised and agreed to by the Scientific Committee in 2010 and 2012. The SC will again revise the guidelines in 2014, as a result of the Commission adoption Recommendation 14/07 <i>To standardise the presentation of scientific information in the annual Scientific Committee report and in Working Party reports.</i><br><br>The SC actively encourages national scientists to publish in peer reviewed journals, as is the case following the Tuna tagging Symposium held in 2012. | Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings. | Medium |
| 28. An online IOTC Data Summary should be established  | <i>Secretariat</i>   | <b>Ongoing:</b> Online data summary, Phase I was launched in March 2015. Phase II, which will include a mapping component will be completed by the end of 2015.   | Review at SCAF meeting.                     | Medium |
| 29. Ongoing peer review by external experts should be incorporated as standard business practice of working parties and the Scientific Committee.  | <i>Scientific Committee</i>  | <b>Pending:</b> External experts (Invited Experts) are regularly invited to provide additional expertise at Working Party meetings, although this does not constitute a formal process of peer review. The Scientific Committee in 2010 and 2011, agreed that once stock assessment models were considered robust, that peer review would be advantageous and funds will be requested to undertake peer reviews of stock assessments.<br><br>The Scientific Committee reviewed the processes for Invited Experts, Consultants and Peer review at its 14 <sup>th</sup> Session in 2011.            | Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings. | Medium |
| 30. New guidelines for the presentation of more user friendly scientific reports in terms of stock assessments should be developed. In this respect, Kobe plots are considered to be the most desirable  | <i>Scientific Committee</i>  | <b>Pending:</b> External experts (Invited Experts) are regularly invited to provide additional expertise at Working Party meetings, although this does not constitute a formal process of peer review. The Scientific Committee, in 2010 and 2011, agreed that once stock   | Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings. | Medium |



|  |   |   |  |           |
|--|---|---|--|-----------|
| method of graphical presentation, especially to non-technical audience.  |   | assessment models were considered robust, that peer review would be advantageous and funds will be requested to undertake peer reviews of stock assessments.<br><br>The Scientific Committee reviewed the processes for Invited Experts, Consultants and Peer review at its 14 <sup>th</sup> Session in 2011.   |  |           |
| 31. A special fund to support the participation of scientists from developing States should be established.  | <i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance</i> | <b>Completed:</b> A Meeting Participation Fund was established via Resolution 10/05 and now integrated into the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014, ROP). The Resolution ROP provides a funding mechanism to facilitate scientists and other representatives from developing IOTC CPCs to attend and/or contribute to the work of the Commission, the Scientific Committee and its Working Parties. The approved MPF budget for 2014 and 2015 is US\$60,000. In addition to this amount, Membership agreed in S18 to place future reductions of the budget under Improved Cost Recover Uplift (ICRU) within the MPF budget. FAO announced a reduction of the ICRU charges in 2014 and US\$66,989 was added to the 2014 and 2015 MPF budget (giving a total budget of US\$126,989). Members agreed that contribution shall be funded through the regular budget contributions of membership. 2016 Budget include a full amount that is required to support participation of scientist to IOTC meetings. | Review annually at IOTC SCAF and Commission meetings. A procedure for supplying funds to the MPF should be developed and presented at S19. | High      |
| 32. The Commission should renew efforts to convene meetings of the Working Party on Neritic Tunas  | <i>Commission</i>                                       | <b>Completed:</b> The first Session of the WPNT took place in India, 14–16 November 2011. The 5 <sup>th</sup> Session will be held in Tanzania, May 2015.   | Annual meeting.  | High      |
| <b>Adoption of conservation and management measures</b>  |   |   |  |           |
| 33. As the IOTC has faced the management of the main targeted stock under its purview only through a regulation of the fishing effort; other approaches should be explored, such as those envisioned in Resolution 05/01, including catch limits, total allowable catch (TAC) or total allowable effort (TAE). | <i>Commission</i>                                       | <b>In progress:</b> Resolution 10/01, superseded by Resolution 12/13 and again by Resolution 14/02 provides the starting point in the process of moving towards a total allowable catch limit. The first meeting of the Technical Meeting on Allocation Criteria was held in Nairobi, Kenya from 16–18 February 2011 and the Second meeting was held in Muscat, Oman from 18–20 February, 2013.   | Annual meeting.  | Very High |

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| 34. Within the system of the freezing of fishing effort in terms of number of vessels and correspondent capacity in gross tonnage, a deadline should be agreed for the implementation of fleet development plans.                         | <i>Commission</i>                          | <b>Completed:</b> Some CPCs have cited the global financial crisis as the reason for their inability to implement their fleet development plan and have therefore signalled to the Commission that their plan will be revised. A deadline of 31 <sup>st</sup> December, 2010, was set for submission of all revised or new fleet development plans.   | Review annually at the CoC and Commission meeting. | Low/Medium |
| 35. IOTC should consider developing a framework to take action in the face of uncertainty in scientific advice.   | <i>Scientific Committee and Commission</i> | <b>In progress:</b> The Scientific Committee has agreed that the development of a Management Strategy Evaluation process be initiated to provide better advice that would incorporate explicit consideration of uncertainty.  | Progress at WPM annual meeting.                    | High       |
| 36. IOTC should use the full range of decision making processes available to it under the Agreement.  | <i>Commission</i>                          | <b>Ongoing:</b> For the first time in its history of adopting Conservation and Management Measures, the Commission took a vote on a proposed resolution during its 14 <sup>th</sup> Annual Session.   | Annual meeting.                                    | High       |
| 37. The IOTC Agreement needs to be amended or replaced in order to incorporate modern fisheries management principles, such as the precautionary approach.  | <i>Commission and Members</i>              | <b>Partially Completed &amp; Ongoing.</b> The Commission addressed this matter through the adoption of Resolution 12/01 <i>on the implementation of the precautionary approach</i> . Some elements of Precautionary Approach were also adopted in Resolution 13/10 <i>on interim target and limit reference point and a decision framework</i> .      | –  | High       |
| 38. Pending the amendment or replacement of the Agreement, the Commission should implement the precautionary approach as set forth in the UNFSA.  | <i>Commission</i>                          | <b>Pending:</b> see also Recommendations 35 and 37.   | For consideration at S17.                          | High       |
| 39. Measures to regulate shark fisheries should be considered by the Commission.  | <i>Commission</i>                          | <b>In progress:</b> Resolution 05/05 provides the framework for combating the practice of shark finning and Resolution 12/09 is aimed at the conservation of sharks of the family Alopiidae. Resolution 13/06 <i>on a scientific and management framework on the conservation of sharks species caught in association with IOTC managed species</i> . | For consideration at S18.                          | High       |
| 40. There is a need to develop and take into account modern principles for fisheries management, including ecosystem based approach, protection of marine biodiversity and reducing the harmful impacts of fishing on marine environment. | <i>Commission and Members</i>              | <b>Ongoing:</b> Resolutions 10/06, 12/06, 12/04, 12/12, 13/04 and 13/05, are all aimed at encouraging fishing practices that protect marine biodiversity and reducing the harmful impacts of fishing on the marine environment or on species that are incidentally caught in association with IOTC species.   | For further consideration at S19.                  | Medium     |
| 41. These concepts should be integrated in the  | <i>Commission</i>                          | <b>Pending.</b> See Recommendations 1 and 2 above.  |  | High       |





|   |  |  |   |           |
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| IOTC Agreement.   | <i>and Members</i>   |  |   |           |
| <b>Capacity management</b>  |  |  |   |           |
| 42. IOTC should establish a stronger policy on fishing capacity to prevent or eliminate excess fishing capacity.  | <i>Working Party on Fishing Capacity</i><br><i>Scientific Committee</i><br><i>Commission</i> | <b>Ongoing:</b> The Commission has since 2003 adopted a series of Resolutions (03/01, 06/05, 07/05, 09/02, 12/11) with the objective of addressing the issue of fishing capacity. However, to date these resolutions have not resulted in a strong control on fishing capacity, and the concern remains that overcapacity might result from this lack of control. The Secretariat is actively involved in developing the global vessels record for vessels fishing for tuna and tuna-like species that would contribute to the assessment of existing fishing capacity. A second fishing capacity study was conducted in 2013. | See Recommendation 33, which has been agreed as the priority path in this regard. | Medium    |
| 43. Loopholes in the current systems of fishing capacity limitation, such as the establishment of fleet development plans and exemptions for vessels less than 24 meters, should be closed. | <i>Working Party on Fishing Capacity</i><br><i>Commission</i>                                | <b>Partially Completed &amp; Ongoing:</b> Resolution 09/02, superseded by Resolution 12/11, and the decisions made at IOTC 14, establishing a new deadline to file fleet developments plans, aim at establishing firm capacity targets.<br><br>The IOTC Scientific Committee has indicated that IOTC fisheries should not be managed via fishing capacity limitations, as they are inherently difficult to manage and highly uncertain due to variations in fishing power over time and among vessels.   | See Recommendation 33, which has been agreed as the priority path in this regard. | Medium    |
| 44. IOTC should endorse the recommendation of the Scientific Committee to create a Working Group on Fishing Capacity.   | <i>Commission</i>  | <b>Partially completed &amp; Ongoing:</b> The first Working Party on Fishing Capacity was convened in 2009. In 2010 and all years since, as no new documents were presented, it was amalgamated into the Working Party on Tropical Tunas as a theme session. A review of compliance to Resolution 12/11 on fishing the capacity resolution to be included in the second performance review of the IOTC.  | See Recommendation 33, which has been agreed as the priority path in this regard. | Medium    |
| <b>Compatibility of management measures</b>   |  |  |   |           |
| 45. IOTC Members should be invited to promptly implement IOTC conservation and management measures through their national legislation.  | <i>Secretariat and Commission</i>  | <b>Ongoing:</b> CPCs are reminded annually about the responsibility of integrating IOTC Conservation and Management Measures in their national legislation. The Secretariat is cooperating with CPCs by assisting in the assessment of the legal needs to effectively implement IOTC measures.   | Annually review at CoC and Commission meetings.                                   | Very high |



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| <b>Fishing allocations and opportunities.</b>  |                               |   |   |                 |
| 46. IOTC should explore the advantages and disadvantages of implementing an allocation system of fishing quota, expressed as TAC or TAE system. Such an investigation should include consideration of how significant catches by current non-Members would be accounted for. | <i>Commission</i>             | <b>In progress:</b> Resolution 10/01, superseded by Resolution 12/13 and again by Resolution 14/02 has begun the process of moving towards the implementation of a total allowable catch limit for IOTC species. The Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria met twice to discuss on proposed guidelines and methods to allocate future quota. No allocation criteria have been decided so far.  | See Recommendation 33, which has been agreed as the priority path in this regard. | Medium          |
| <b>ON COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT</b>   | <b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>         | <b>UPDATE/STATUS</b>  | <b>WORKPLAN/TIMELINE</b>  | <b>PRIORITY</b> |
| <b>Flag State duties</b>   |                               |   |   |                 |
| 47. Any amendment to or replacement of the IOTC Agreement should include specific provisions on Member's duties as flag States, drawing on the relevant provisions of the UNFSA.   | <i>Commission and Members</i> | <b>Pending.</b>   |   | High            |
| <b>Port State measures</b>   |                               |   |   |                 |
| 48. Any amendment to or replacement of the IOTC Agreement should include specific provisions on Member's duties as port States.  | <i>Commission and Members</i> | <b>Pending.</b>   |   | High            |
| 49. IOTC should explore the possible implementation of the FAO Model Scheme on Port State Measures.  | <i>Commission</i>             | <b>Completed:</b> Resolution 10/11 is inspired by the FAO Port State Measures Agreement. By adopting this resolution, IOTC CPCs have agreed to implement the conditions of this agreement even before it becomes globally binding, and it became the first RFMO to do so. Implementation begun as of 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2011.<br><br>An evaluation of legal needs and training for officials of coastal CPCs was organised by the Secretariat with the support of the ACP Fish II Programme. | Review annually at the CoC meeting.   | High            |
| 50. The IOTC should duly note the outcome of the current process for establishment of a globally binding agreement on port State measures.   | <i>Commission</i>             | <b>Completed:</b> see Recommendation 49.  |   |                 |



| Monitoring, Control and Surveillance   |                                    |   |  |             |
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| <p>51. IOTC should develop a comprehensive monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) system through the implementation of the measures already in force, and through the adoption of new measures and tools such a possible on-board regional observers' scheme, a possible catch documentation scheme as well as a possible system on boarding and inspection.</p> | <p><i>Compliance Committee</i></p> | <p><b>Ongoing:</b> IOTC already has an extensive number of MCS related measures. However, the implementation of these measures are the duty and responsibility of the CPCs. Proposals to introduce a catch documentation scheme, especially for the major IOTC species, have until now not received the agreements CPCs. As a way forward, the Commission agreed to set up an IOTC Intersessional Working Party to make progress on a catch documentation scheme for tropical tuna species.</p> <p>During the intersessional period the EU circulated two documents to the WG for comments and Mozambique produced a document designed to capture comments. Beyond this not much progress has been made, as it was not possible to hold a meeting.</p> <p>It should be noted that there is a Project under the ABNJ Programme, on Tuna Traceability &amp; CDS Best Practices. It would be advisable that the Working Party waits for the conclusion of this project so that it can be better guided in its work.</p> <p>Resolution 11/04 – observers and field samplers are required to monitor the landing and unloading of catches respectively.</p> <p>The IOTC Regional Observer Programme (ROP) has over the years expanded in scope to include the verification of documents on board fishing vessels (flag State Authorisation To Fish and fishing logbook), marking of vessels (consistent with information in the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels) as well as their VMS.</p> <p>The results of a study on options for a regional high-seas boarding and inspection scheme, for the IOTC Area, was presented the last Compliance Committee meeting (CoC11). However, CPCs were of the opinion that the further work is required to adapt the option for the IOTC Area. For this purpose, the Commission requested that an informal Working Group be constituted. Not much progress has been made by the Working Group in the intersessional period.</p> | <p>Review annually at IOTC meetings.</p> | <p>High</p> |
| Follow-up on infringements   |                                    |   |  |             |



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| 52. The current IUU resolution should be amended to allow the inclusion of vessels flagged to Members.   | <i>Commission</i>             | <p><b>Ongoing:</b> The Compliance Committee, under its revised terms of reference, is in a better position to assess such cases through the country-based Compliance Reports, and will continue to do so in 2015.</p> <p>Infringements detected under the ROP are communicated to the concerned fleets for their investigation and provision of explanations and/or actions taken.</p> <p>There remains a need to setup a scheme of penalties and incentives.</p> | Review annually at IOTC meetings   | Medium |
| 53. IOTC should explore options concerning the possible lack of follow-up on infringements by CPCs.  | <i>Compliance Committee</i>   | <p><b>Ongoing:</b> The Compliance Committee, under its revised terms of reference, is in a better position to assess such cases through the country-based Compliance Reports, and will continue to do so in 2015.</p> <p>Infringements detected under the ROP are communicated to the concerned fleets for their investigation and provision of explanations and/or actions taken.</p> <p>There remains a need to setup a scheme of penalties and incentives.</p> | Review annually at IOTC meetings   | Medium |
| 54. IOTC should establish a sanction mechanism for non-compliance, and task the Compliance Committee to develop a structured approach for cases of infringement. | <i>Compliance Committee</i>   | <p><b>Pending:</b> The Compliance Committee, under its revised terms of reference, shall develop a scheme of incentives and sanctions and a mechanism for their application to encourage compliance by all CPCs.</p> <p>There remains a need to setup a scheme of penalties and incentives.</p>   | <p>Attempts over the last two years to introduce a scheme of penalties to be applied in case of non-fulfilment of reporting obligations have so far not received the required support for adoption.</p> <p>There is a need to continue with these efforts.</p> | High   |
| 55. Provisions for follow-up on infringement should be included in any amended/replaced Agreement.   | <i>Commission and Members</i> | <b>Pending:</b>   |  | High   |
| <b>Cooperative mechanisms to detect and deter non-compliance</b>   |                               |   |  |        |



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| 56. A structured, integrated approach to evaluate the compliance of each of the Members against the IOTC Resolutions in force should be developed by the Compliance Committee.      | <i>Compliance Committee</i> | <b>Ongoing:</b> Since the 2011 Compliance Committee meeting, country-based reports have been prepared for this purpose on the basis of Resolution 10/09.  | Review annually at the Compliance Committee meeting | High   |
| 57. CPCs should be reminded of their duty to implement in their national legislations the conservation and management measures adopted by IOTC.                                     | <i>Compliance Committee</i> | <b>Ongoing:</b> CPCs are reminded annually about the responsibility of integrating IOTC conservation and management measures in their national legislation. The Reports of Implementation, mandated in the IOTC Agreement, provide a mechanism to monitor progress of implementation at the national level.<br><br>The first phase of a project sponsored through the WB/IOC grant for <i>Global Partnership for Oceans</i> , has just been completed. The objective of the project is to develop a model legal framework to facilitate CPCs to efficiently transpose conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission into their national legislation. | Review annually at IOTC meetings                    | High   |
| 58. The requirement to present national reports on the implementation of IOTC measures should be reinforced.  | <i>Compliance Committee</i> | <b>Ongoing:</b> Reminders are sent to CPCs prior to the Commission meeting and a template, which is revised annually, is provided by the Secretariat to facilitate CPCs preparation of national reports on implementation of IOTC measures. Compliance with this requirement is assessed in the country-based compliance reports. With the introduction of the country-based Compliance Reports, this reporting requirement has gone from 52% for 2010 to 82% for 2012, and down to 76% in 2013.  | Review annually at IOTC meetings                    | High   |
| 59. The sense of accountability within IOTC seems to be very low; therefore more accountability is required. There is probably a need for an assessment of the performance of CPCs. | <i>Compliance Committee</i> | <b>Ongoing:</b> The revised terms of reference of the Compliance Committee now facilitates this assessment in the form of the country reports prepared for the Compliance Committee meeting.<br><br>Through the Compliance Support Mission, CPCs are becoming more conscious of their role in ensuring the effectiveness of the Commission.   | Review annually at IOTC meetings                    | High   |
| 60. Establishment of formal mechanisms of MCS (e.g. observers programmes) should be considered  | <i>Compliance Committee</i> | <b>Ongoing:</b> Resolution 14/06 (superseding Resolutions 12/05, 11/05, 08/02 and 06/02) provides for an observer programme to monitor at sea transshipments, by placing observers on carrier vessels. Resolution 11/04 (superseding Resolution 09/04 and 10/04) establishes a Regional Observer Scheme that includes observers on  | Review annually at IOTC meetings                    | Medium |

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|  |                               | board fishing vessels and port sampling for artisanal fisheries.<br>Implementation remains pending for a number of CPCs.   |   |                 |
| <b>Market related measures</b>   |                               |  |   |                 |
| 61. As IOTC action in terms of measures relating to the exercise of rights and duties of its Members as market States are very weak, the non-binding market related measure should be transformed into a binding measure.  | <i>Commission</i>             | <b>Partially completed:</b> Resolution 10/10 partially meets this requirement.   | Review annually at IOTC meetings                                  | Medium          |
| 62. The bigeye statistical document programme should be applied to all bigeye products (fresh and frozen). Catch documentation schemes for target species of high commercial value should be considered. Alternatively, expanding the scope of the current statistical document programme to address current loopholes should be considered. | <i>Commission</i>             | <b>In progress:</b> Proposals for a resolution to introduce a catch documentation scheme, especially for the major IOTC species, was not endorsed by CPCs at its 14 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> or 16 <sup>th</sup> annual Sessions.  | Commission to consider proposals from CPCs at its annual session. | High            |
| <b>ON DECISION MAKING AND DISPUTE SETTLEMENT</b>   | <b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>         | <b>UPDATE/STATUS</b>   | <b>WORKPLAN/TIMELINE</b>  | <b>PRIORITY</b> |
| <b>Decision making</b>   |                               |  |   |                 |
| 63. In order to improve the IOTC practices of decision making and adoption of measures, when every effort to achieve consensus has been exhausted, invoking the procedure of voting should be explored   | <i>Commission</i>             | <b>Ongoing:</b> Resolution 10/12 (superseded by Resolution 12/09) was voted upon by CPCs at the IOTC's 14 <sup>th</sup> Annual Session. It was the first time that the voting procedure was used in IOTC for the adoption of a resolution. | To be implemented as necessary.                                   | High            |
| 64. Amending the objection procedure so that it is more rigorous, and in line with other RFMO Conventions, featuring restricted grounds for the bases to object is recommended.  | <i>Commission and Members</i> | <b>Pending.</b>  |   | High            |
| <b>Dispute settlement</b>  |                               |  |   |                 |
| 65. A provision on dispute settlement should be amended in line with the requirements of UNFSA.  | <i>Commission and Members</i> | <b>Pending.</b>  |   | High            |

| ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION   | RESPONSIBILITY                | UPDATE/STATUS  | WORKPLAN/TIMELINE                | PRIORITY |
|--|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|----------|
| <b>Transparency</b>  |                               |  |                                  |          |
| 66. The active vessels list should be made available on the IOTC website.  | <i>Commission Secretariat</i> | <b>Completed:</b> Resolutions 07/02, 10/07 and 10/08. The lists of authorised and active vessels are hosted on the IOTC website.   | Periodic revision.               | High     |
| 67. The Commission, in consultation with the Scientific Committee, should review the availability of critical data sets used in development of scientific advice and take steps to assure that these data are held at the Secretariat and available for validation of analyses, subject to the appropriate confidentiality requirements. | <i>Commission</i>             | <b>Ongoing:</b> See Recommendations on Data collection and sharing above.  |                                  |          |
| <b>Relationship to cooperating non Members</b>   |                               |  |                                  |          |
| 68. The legal framework of the IOTC Agreement should be amended or replaced in order to enable fishing players active in the area to discharge their obligations in line with the UNFSA.   | <i>Commission and Members</i> | <b>Pending:</b> In the meantime, alternative ways of participation of active fishing fleets in the activities of the Commission are being pursued.   |                                  | High     |
| <b>Relationship to non cooperating non Members</b>   |                               |  |                                  |          |
| 69. Although the IOTC has strengthened its action towards non-Members in order to have all important fishing players included under its remit, diplomatic approaches should be made by IOTC Members to non-Members with active vessels in the area.  | <i>Commission</i>             | <b>Ongoing:</b> The Secretariat has been active in contacting relevant non-Members to encourage their participation. The Secretariat has also responded to queries, briefed representatives about membership from Bangladesh, DPR of Korea, United Arab Emirates, Singapore and Myanmar.   |                                  | High     |
| 70. When non-cooperation is identified and all reasonable efforts to improve the situation are exhausted, any non-Members continuing not to cooperate should be adequately sanctioned by, for example, market related measures.  | <i>Compliance Committee</i>   | <b>Ongoing:</b> Resolution 10/10 provides the necessary framework in which to apply market related measures. Actions are to be taken by the Compliance Committee, under its revised terms of reference.<br><br>However, the creation of a scheme of incentives and sanctions and a mechanism for their application to encourage compliance by all CPCs is still <b>pending</b> . | Review annually at IOTC meetings | High     |



| <b>Cooperation with other RFMOs</b>  |   |  |   |        |
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| 71. IOTC should establish mechanisms for a mutual recognition of IUU lists with other RFMOs.   | <i>Commission</i>                                       | <b>Partially Completed &amp; Ongoing:</b> This issue is addressed in the Resolutions dealing with capacity transfers insofar as to vessels found on IUU lists of other tuna RFMOs should not be flagged by CPCs.   | Review other RFMO IUU Lists upon request to add new vessels to the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels. | High   |
| 72. IOTC should develop cooperative mechanisms, such as MoUs, to work in a coordinated manner on issues of common interest, in particular non-target species and an ecosystem approach with other RFMOs especially with SIOFA. | <i>Commission</i>                                       | <b>Ongoing:</b> The Secretariat is active in identifying opportunities for collaboration, for the consideration of the Commission. The KOBE process also facilitates the interaction of tRFMO's. In 2011 the first bycatch joint technical working group was held.<br><br>MoUs have been signed with ICCAT and CCSBT for the implementation of the Regional Observer Programme.<br><br>IOTC and WCPFC has a MoU to exchange information at the Secretariat level on matters of common interest.<br><br>Further information is available via the IOTC Website:<br><a href="http://iotc.org/about-iotc/cooperation-other-organisations">http://iotc.org/about-iotc/cooperation-other-organisations</a> | Annual review   | Medium |
| 73. IOTC should annually agree on a Member attending other tuna RFMO meetings as an observer on its behalf and reporting back to the Commission on matters of interest   | <i>Commission</i>                                       | <b>Ongoing:</b> Pending annual financial approval by the Commission.   | Annual review.  | Low    |
| <b>Special requirements of developing States</b>   |   |  |   |        |
| 74. A specific fund to assist capacity building should be put in place.  | <i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance</i> | <b>Partially completed &amp; Ongoing.</b> A Meeting Participation Fund was established via Resolution 10/05 and now integrated into the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014, ROP) (See 19 and 31) and needs ongoing financial contributions. Additional funding for capacity building provided in 2012, and 2013, 2014, 2015 and proposed in the budgets for 2014, 2016 and 2017.<br><br>See also para. 11 above.  | S19 will need to consider proposed budget lines for capacity building funds.                          | High.  |
| 75. Members, that are Parties of UNFSA, should make use of the part VII Fund, established under UNFSA.   | <i>Members</i>  | <b>Ongoing:</b> Regular reminders are sent to CPCs.  | Annually for each IOTC meeting. Currently unknown to what degree CPCs are                             | Medium |



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|   |  |  | utilizing this fund. Feedback from delegates sought.    |          |
| <b>Participation</b>  |  |  |   |          |
| 76. Financial support, in particular for attendance in the scientific activities to developing States, is needed.   | <i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance</i>                                      | <b>Partially completed &amp; Ongoing:</b> A Meeting Participation Fund was established via Resolution 10/05 and now integrated into the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014, ROP). The Resolution ROP provides a funding mechanism to facilitate scientists and other representatives from CPCs who are developing States to attend IOTC meetings. The fund is financed in the, initially, by accumulated funds, with no provisions for long-term support yet agreed through membership contributions. | Annually for each IOTC meeting.                         | High     |
| 77. The legal framework of the IOTC should be amended or replaced in order to enable fishing players active in the area to discharge their obligations in line with the UNFSA.  | <i>Commission and Members</i>  | <b>Pending.</b>  | Commenced in 2014. Small working group of CPCs to lead. | High     |
| <b>ON FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES</b>   |  | UPDATE/STATUS  | WORKPLAN/TIMELINE                                       | PRIORITY |
| <b>Availability of resources for RFMO activities – efficiency and cost-effectiveness</b>  |  |  |   |          |
| 78. The IOTC Agreement as well as financial management rules should be amended or replaced in order to increase Members' as well as Secretariat's control of all the budget elements, including staff costs of the budget. This would also improve transparency.              | <i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance</i><br><br><i>Commission and Members</i> | <b>Pending.</b> See Recommendations 1 and 2.   |   | High     |
| 79. Prior to the Commission assuming full control of the budget, the Commission meeting at which the budget is considered should be held as close as possible to the commencement of the financial year to which this budget relates and if possible in advance of that year. | <i>Commission</i>  | <b>Completed:</b> The Commission has adopted a modified annual budget process to address this issue, with the budget for the next financial year adopted in the previous year (i.e. 2015 Session adopts the budget for 2016).  |   | Medium   |
| 80. A fee system should be considered as a  | <i>Commission</i>  | <b>Pending:</b> The IOTC Regional Observer Program (monitoring   |   | Medium   |



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| possible funding mechanism for possible new activities.  |  | transshipment at sea) is fully funded by the participants through such a fee system. |  |  |
| 81. The agreed external financial audit should be implemented as soon as possible, and should include a focus on whether IOTC is efficiently and effectively managing its human and financial resources, including those of the Secretariat. | <i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance Commission</i> | <b>Pending.</b>  |  |  |

**APPENDIX XVI**  
**RESOLUTION 15/01**

***ON THE RECORDING OF CATCH AND EFFORT DATA BY FISHING VESSELS IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE***

**Keywords:** Data recording; logbook; purse seine; longline; gillnet; pole and line; handline; trolling; fishing vessels.

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

RECALLING the commitment made by Contracting Parties under Article V of the IOTC Agreement to keep under review the conditions and trends of the stocks and to gather, analyse and disseminate scientific information, catch and effort statistics and other data relevant to the conservation and management of the stocks and to fisheries based on the stocks covered by the Agreement;

CONSIDERING the provisions set forth in [Resolution 15/02](#) *Mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs)* (or any subsequent superseding Resolution), and in particular paragraph 4, which sets out the catch and effort reporting requirements for surface fisheries, longline and coastal fisheries;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the IOTC Scientific Committee has repeatedly stressed the importance of the timeliness and accuracy of data submissions for Members;

ALSO RECALLING the outcomes of the 9<sup>th</sup> Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee held in Victoria, Seychelles from 6 to 10 November 2006 where it was agreed that a standardised logbook would be advantageous and agreed on the minimum requirements for all purse seine and bait boat fleets operating in the IOTC area of competence in order to harmonise data gathering and provide a common basis for scientific analysis for all IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs);

FURTHER RECALLING the recommendations adopted by the KOBE II Workshop on Bycatch, held in Brisbane, Australia, 23–25 June 2010; in particular that RFMOs should consider adopting standards for bycatch data collection which, at a minimum, allows the data to contribute to the assessment of bycatch species population status and evaluation of the effectiveness of bycatch measures, and that the data should allow the RFMOs to assess the level of interaction of the fisheries with bycatch species;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the work of the small task force created by the IOTC Scientific Committee during its 10<sup>th</sup> Session held in Seychelles in November 2007, to harmonise the various forms currently used by the fleets and the IOTC Scientific Committee agreement on the minimum standard requirements for all purse seine, longline and gillnet fleets as well as the produced logbook template;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the deliberations of the 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee held in Victoria, Seychelles from 6 to 10 December 2010, that recommended three options, one of which is mandatory reporting of a revised list of shark species in logbooks to improve the data collection and statistics on sharks in the IOTC area of competence;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the deliberations of the 14<sup>th</sup> Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee held in Mahé, Seychelles from 12 to 17 December 2011, that proposed a list of shark species for all gears and recommended minimum recording requirements for handline and trolling gears in the IOTC area of competence;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the recommendations of the 17<sup>th</sup> Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee referring to bycatch;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the call upon States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organisations and arrangements included in the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 67/79 on

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sustainable fisheries to collect the necessary data in order to evaluate and closely monitor the use of large-scale fish aggregating devices and others, as appropriate, and their effects on tuna resources and tuna behaviour and associated and dependent species, to improve management procedures to monitor the number, type and use of such devices and to mitigate possible negative effects on the ecosystem, including on juveniles and the incidental bycatch of non-target species, particularly sharks and turtles;

ADOPTS, in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, paragraph 1 of the IOTC Agreement, the following:

1. Each flag CPC shall ensure that all purse seine, longline, gillnet, pole and line, handline and trolling fishing vessels flying its flag and authorised to fish species managed by IOTC be subject to a data recording system.
2. The measure shall apply to all purse seine, longline, gillnet, pole and line, handline and trolling fishing vessels over 24 metres length overall and those under 24 metres if they fish outside the EEZs of their flag States within the IOTC area of competence. The data recording systems for developing CPCs vessels less than 24 metres operating within the EEZ of coastal States are subject to Paragraphs 11 and 12. The vessels of less than 24 metres operating within the EEZ of developed CPCs shall apply this measure.
3. All vessels shall keep a bound paper or electronic logbook to record data that includes, as a minimum requirement, the information and data in the logbook set forth in **Annex I, II and III**.
4. Each flag CPC shall submit to the IOTC Executive Secretary by 15 February 2016 a template of its official logbooks to record data in accordance with **Annex I, II and III**, for publishing on the IOTC website to facilitate MCS activities. For CPCs that use electronic logbook systems, a copy of the applicable regulations implementing the electronic logbook system in that CPC, a set of screen captures and the name of the certified software may be provided. If changes are made to the template after 15 February 2016, an updated template shall be submitted.
5. Where the logbook is not in one of the two languages of the IOTC, CPCs shall provide a complete field description of the logbook in one of the two languages of the IOTC together with the submission of the sample of the logbook. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall publish the sample of the logbook and the field description on the IOTC website.
6. **Annex I** includes information on vessel, trip and gear configuration for purse seine, longline, gillnet and pole and line, and shall only be completed once for each trip, unless the gear configuration changes during the trip.
7. **Annex II** contains information for purse seine, longline, gillnet and pole and line operations and catch, which shall be completed for each set/shot/operation of the fishing gear.
8. **Annex III** contains specifications for handline and trolling gears.
9. The logbook shall be completed by the Master of the fishing vessel and submitted to the flag State administration, as well as to the coastal State administration where the vessel has fished in that coastal State's EEZ. Only the part of the logbook corresponding to the activity deployed in the coastal State EEZ shall be provided to the coastal State administration where the vessel has fished in that coastal State's EEZ.
10. The Flag State shall provide all the data for any given year to the IOTC Secretariat by June 30<sup>th</sup> of the following year on an aggregated basis. The confidentiality rules set out in [Resolution 12/02 Data Confidentiality Policy and Procedures](#) (or any subsequent superseding Resolution) for fine-scale data shall apply.
11. Noting the difficulty in implementing a data recording system on fishing vessels from developing CPCs, the

data recording systems for vessels less than 24 metres of developing CPCs operating inside the EEZ shall be implemented progressively from 1 July 2016.

12. The Commission shall consider development of a special program to facilitate the implementation of this Resolution by developing CPCs. Furthermore, developed and developing CPCs are encouraged to work together to identify opportunities for capacity building to assist the long-term implementation of this Resolution.
13. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 13/03 *On the recording of catch and effort by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence*.

## ANNEX I

### Record once per trip (unless gear configuration changes)

#### 1.1 REPORT INFORMATION

1. Date of the submission of logbook
2. Name of reporting person

#### 1.2 VESSEL INFORMATION

1. Vessel name and/or registration number
2. IMO number, where available
3. IOTC number
4. Call sign: if call sign is not available, other unique identifying code such as fishing licence number should be used
5. Vessel size: gross tonnage and overall length (meters)

#### 1.3 CRUISE INFORMATION

For multiday fishing operations record the:

1. Departure date (at your location) and port
2. Arrival date (at your location) and port

#### 1.4 OTHER REQUIRED INFORMATION

##### **Longline (Gear Configuration):**

1. Average branch line length (meters): straight length in meters between snap and hook (**Figure 1**)
2. Average float line length (meters): straight length in meters from the float to the snap
3. Average length between branch (meters): straight length of main line in meters between successive branch lines
4. Main line material classified into four categories:

- 
- a) Thick rope (Cremona rope)
  - b) Thin rope (Polyethylene or other materials)
  - c) Nylon braided
  - d) Nylon monofilament
5. Material of the terminal tackle of the branch line (leader/trace) classified into two categories:
- a) Nylon monofilament
  - b) Other (such as wire)

**Purse Seine:**

**(Gear configuration):**

- 1. Length of the purse seine net
- 2. Height of the purse seine net
- 3. Total number of FADs deployed per trip: refer to the [Resolution 15/08](#) *Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan, including a limitation on the number of FADs, more detailed specification of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species* (or any subsequent superseding Resolution)

**(Search information):**

- 1. Days searched
- 2. Spotter plane used (Yes/No)
- 3. Supply vessel used (Yes/No), if yes what is the name and registration number of the supply vessel

**Gillnet (Gear Configuration):**

- 1. Overall length of net (metres): record the total overall length of the net onboard
- 2. Mesh size of net (millimetres): record the mesh size (measured between opposite knots when fully stretched) used during the trip
- 3. Depth of assembled net (meters): height of assembled net in meters
- 4. Netting material: e.g. nylon braid, nylon monofilament, etc.

**Pole and line (Gear Configuration):**

- 1. Number of fishermen

**ANNEX II**

**Record once per set/shot/operation**

**Note: for all gears in this annex use the follow format for date and time**

**For date: when recording date of the set/shot/operation: record the YYYY/MM/DD**

**For time: record 24hr time as either the local time, GMT or national time and clearly specify which time has been used.**

**2.1 OPERATION**

**For longline:**

1. Date of set
2. Position in latitude and longitude: either position at noon or position of start of gear or area code of operation (e.g. Seychelles EEZ, High seas, etc.) may be optionally used
3. Time of starting setting and, when possible, retrieving the gear
4. Number of hooks between floats: if there are different hooks counts between floats in a single set then record the most representative (average) number
5. Total number of hooks used in the set
6. Number of light-sticks used in the set
7. Type of bait used in the set: e.g. fish, squid, etc.
8. Optionally, sea surface temperature at noon with one decimal point (XX.X°C)

**For purse seine:**

1. Date of set
2. Type of event: fishing set or deployment of a new FAD
3. Position in latitude and longitude and time of event, or if no event during the day, at noon
4. If fishing set: specify if the set was successful, nil, well; type of school (free swimming school or FAD associated. If FAD associated, specify the type (e.g. log or other natural object, drifting FAD, anchored FAD, etc.). Refer to the [Resolution 15/08 Procedures on a fish aggregating devices \(FADs\) management plan, including a limitation on the number of FADs, more detailed specification of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species](#) (or any subsequent superseding Resolution)
5. Optionally, sea surface temperature at noon with one decimal point (XX.X°C)

**For gillnet:**

1. Date of set: record the date for each set or day at sea (for days without sets)
2. Total length of net (meters): floatline length used for each set in meters



3. Start fishing time: record the time when starting each set and, when possible, gear retrieving
4. Start and end position in latitude and longitude: record start and end latitude and longitude that represent the area that your gear is set between or, if no set, record the latitude and longitude at noon for days without sets
5. Depth at which net is set (meters): approximate depth at which the gillnet is set

#### For Pole and Line:

Fishing effort information in logbooks shall be recorded by day. Catch information in logbooks shall be recorded by trip or, when possible, by fishing day.

1. Date of operation: record the day or date
2. Position in latitude and longitude at noon
3. Number of fishing poles used during that day
4. Start fishing time (record the time immediately after bait fishing is complete and the vessel heads to the ocean for fishing. For multiple days, the time at which search starts should be recorded) and end fishing time (record the time immediately after fishing is complete from the last school; on multiple days this is the time fishing stopped from the last school). For multiple days number of fishing days should be recorded.
5. Type of school: FAD associated and/or free school

## 2.2 CATCH

1. Catch weight (kg) or number by species per set/shot/fishing event for each of the species and form of processing in section 2.3:
  - a) For longline by number and weight
  - b) For purse seine by weight
  - c) For gillnet by weight
  - d) For pole and line by weight or number

## 2.3 SPECIES

#### For Longline:

| Primary Species                                   | FAO code | Other Species   | FAO code |
|---|----------|---|----------|
| Southern bluefin tuna ( <i>Thunnus maccoyii</i> ) | SBF      | Shortbill spearfish ( <i>Tetrapturus angustirostris</i> ) | SSP      |
| Albacore ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )              | ALB      | Blue shark ( <i>Prionace glauca</i> )                     | BSH      |
| Bigeye tuna ( <i>Thunnus obesus</i> )             | BET      | Mako sharks ( <i>Isurus</i> spp.)                         | MAK      |
| Yellowfin tuna ( <i>Thunnus albacares</i> )       | YFT      | Porbeagle shark ( <i>Lamna nasus</i> )                    | POR      |
| Skipjack tuna ( <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> )       | SKJ      | Hammerhead sharks ( <i>Sphyrna</i> spp.)                  | SPN      |

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|  |     |   |     |
|--|-----|---|-----|
| Swordfish ( <i>Xiphius gladius</i> )                     | SWO | Silky shark ( <i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i> )           | FAL |
| Striped marlin ( <i>Tetrapturus audax</i> )              | MLS | Other bony fishes   | MZZ |
| Blue marlin ( <i>Makaira nigricans</i> )                 | BUM | Other sharks  | SKH |
| Black marlin ( <i>Makaira indica</i> )                   | BLM | Seabirds (in number) <sup>2</sup>                         |     |
| Indo-Pacific sailfish ( <i>Istiophorus platypterus</i> ) | SFA | Marine Mammals (in number)                                | MAM |
|  |     | Marine turtles (in number)                                | TTX |
|  |     | Thresher sharks ( <i>Alopias</i> spp.)                    | THR |
|  |     | Oceanic whitetip shark ( <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> ) | OCS |
|  |     | <b>Optional species to be recorded</b>                    |     |
|  |     | Tiger shark ( <i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i> )                  | TIG |
|  |     | Crocodile shark ( <i>Pseudocarcharias kamoharui</i> )     | PSK |
|  |     | Great white shark ( <i>Carcharodon carcharias</i> )       | WSH |
|  |     | Mantas and devil rays ( <i>Mobulidae</i> )                | MAN |
|  |     | Pelagic stingray ( <i>Pteroplatytrygon violacea</i> )     | PLS |
|  |     | Other rays  |     |

### For Purse Seine:

| Primary Species                             | FAO code | Other species   | FAO code        |
|---|----------|---|-----------------|
| Albacore ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )        | ALB      | Marine turtles (in number)                                | TTX             |
| Bigeye tuna ( <i>Thunnus obesus</i> )       | BET      | Marine mammals (in number)                                | MAM             |
| Yellowfin tuna ( <i>Thunnus albacares</i> ) | YFT      | Whale sharks ( <i>Rhincodon typus</i> ) (in number)       | RHN             |
| Skipjack tuna ( <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> ) | SKJ      | Thresher sharks ( <i>Alopias</i> spp.)                    | THR             |
| Other IOTC species                          |          | Oceanic whitetip shark ( <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> ) | OCS             |
|   |          | Silky sharks ( <i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i> )          | FAL             |
|   |          | <b>Optional species to be recorded</b>                    | <b>FAO code</b> |
|   |          | Mantas and devil rays ( <i>Mobulidae</i> )                | MAN             |
|   |          | Other sharks  | SKH             |
|   |          | Other rays  |                 |
|   |          | Other bony fish   | MZZ             |

<sup>2</sup> When a CPC is fully implementing the observer program the provision of seabird data is optional

**For Gillnet:**

| Primary Species   | FAO code | Other Species   | FAO code |
|---|----------|---|----------|
| Albacore ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )                              | ALB      | Shortbill spearfish ( <i>Tetrapturus angustirostris</i> ) | SSP      |
| Bigeye tuna ( <i>Thunnus obesus</i> )                             | BET      | Blue shark ( <i>Prionace glauca</i> )                     | BSH      |
| Yellowfin tuna ( <i>Thunnus albacares</i> )                       | YFT      | Mako sharks ( <i>Isurus</i> spp.)                         | MAK      |
| Skipjack tuna ( <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> )                       | SKJ      | Porbeagle shark ( <i>Lamna nasus</i> )                    | POR      |
| Longtail tuna ( <i>Thunnus tonggol</i> )                          | LOT      | Hammerhead sharks ( <i>Sphyrna</i> spp.)                  | SPN      |
| Frigate tuna ( <i>Auxis thazard</i> )                             | FRI      | Other sharks  | SKH      |
| Bullet tuna ( <i>Auxis rochei</i> )                               | BLT      | Other bony fish   | MZZ      |
| Kawakawa ( <i>Euthynnus affinis</i> )                             | KAW      | Marine turtles (in number)                                | TTX      |
| Narrow barred Spanish mackerel ( <i>Scomberomorus commerson</i> ) | COM      | Marine mammals (in number)                                | MAM      |
| Indo-Pacific king mackerel ( <i>Scomberomorus guttatus</i> )      | GUT      | Whale sharks ( <i>Rhincodon typus</i> ) (in number)       | RHN      |
| Swordfish ( <i>Xiphias gladius</i> )                              | SWO      | Seabirds (in number) <sup>3</sup>                         |          |
| Indo-Pacific sailfish ( <i>Istiophorus platypterus</i> )          | SFA      | Thresher sharks ( <i>Alopias</i> spp.)                    | THR      |
| Marlins ( <i>Tetrapturus</i> spp, <i>Makaira</i> spp.)            | BIL      | Oceanic whitetip shark ( <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> ) | OCS      |
| Southern bluefin tuna ( <i>Thunnus maccoyii</i> )                 | SBF      | <b>Optional species to be recorded</b>                    |          |
|   |          | Tiger shark ( <i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i> )                  | TIG      |
|   |          | Crocodile shark ( <i>Pseudocarcharias kamoharai</i> )     | PSK      |
|   |          | Mantas and devil rays (Mobulidae)                         | MAN      |
|   |          | Pelagic stingray ( <i>Pteroplatytrygon violacea</i> )     | PLS      |
|   |          | Other rays  |          |

**For Pole and Line:**

| Primary Species                              | FAO code | Other Species              | FAO code |
|--|----------|----------------------------|----------|
| Albacore ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )         | ALB      | Other bony fish            | MZZ      |
| Bigeye tuna ( <i>Thunnus obesus</i> )        | BET      | Sharks                     | SKH      |
| Yellowfin tuna ( <i>Thunnus albacares</i> )  | YFT      | Rays                       |          |
| Skipjack tuna ( <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> )  | SKJ      | Marine turtles (in number) | TTX      |
| Frigate and bullet tuna ( <i>Auxis</i> spp.) | FRZ      |                            |          |
| Kawakawa ( <i>Euthynnus affinis</i> )        | KAW      |                            |          |

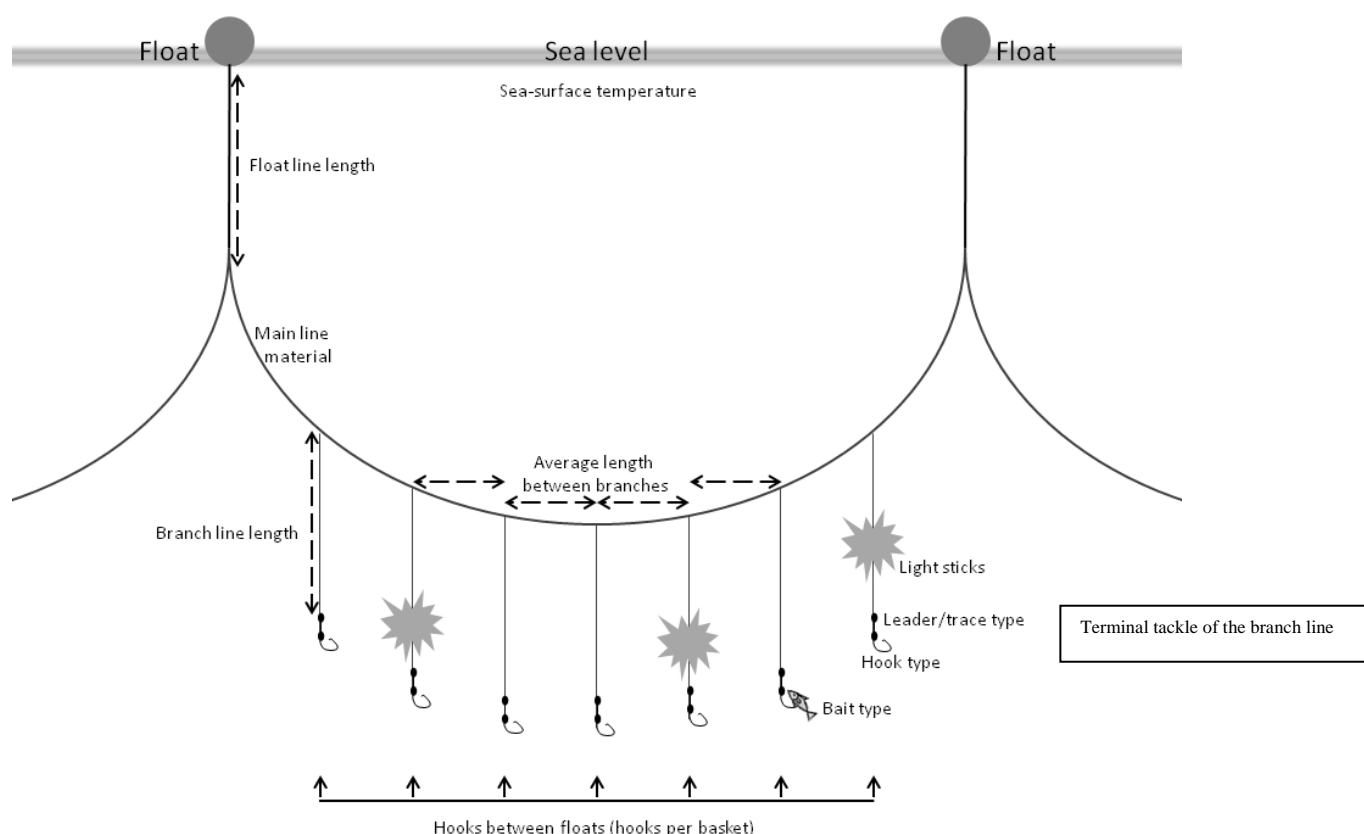
<sup>3</sup> When a CPC is fully implementing the observer program the provision of seabird data is optional

|   |     |  |  |
|---|-----|--|--|
| Longtail tuna ( <i>Thunnus tonggol</i> )                          | LOT |  |  |
| Narrow barred Spanish mackerel ( <i>Scomberomorus commerson</i> ) | COM |  |  |
| Other IOTC species  |     |  |  |

## 2.4 REMARKS

1. Discard of tuna, tuna-like fish and sharks to be recorded by species in weight (kg) or number for all gears should be recorded in the remarks<sup>4</sup>
2. Any interactions with whale sharks (*Rhincodon typus*), marine mammals, and seabirds should be recorded in the remarks
3. Other information is also written in the remarks

**Note:** The species included in the logbooks are regarded as minimum requirement. Optionally other frequently caught shark and/or fish species should be added as required across different areas and fisheries.



**Figure 1.** Longline (Gear Configuration): Average branch line length (meters): straight length in meters between snap and hook.

<sup>4</sup> Recall the Recommendation 10/13 *On the implementation of a ban on discards of skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna, bigeye tuna and non-target species caught by purse seiners* [superseded by Resolution 13/11; then by [Resolution 15/06](#)]

**ANNEX III**  
**Specifications for handline and trolling**

**Note: for all gears in this annex use the follow format for date and time**

**For date: when recording date of the set/shot/operation: record the YYYY/MM/DD**

**For time: record 24hr time as either the local time, GMT or national time and clearly specify which time has been used.**

**I - HANDLINE**

All logbook information shall be recorded by day; where more than one fishing event is recorded for the same day, it is advisable to record each fishing event separately

**Record once in one cruise, or month where daily operation**

**1.1 REPORT INFORMATION**

1. Fishing day (or Date of submission of the logbook, where multiple fishing days)
2. Name of reporting person

**1.2 VESSEL INFORMATION**

1. Vessel name and registration number and IMO number, where available
2. IOTC number, where available
3. Fishing License number
4. Vessel size: Gross tonnage and/or length overall (in metres)

**1.3 CRUISE INFORMATION**

1. Departure date and port
2. Arrival date and port

**2.1 OPERATION**

1. Date of fishing

Record the date of fishing. Each fishing day should be recorded separately

2. Number of fishermen

Record the number of fishermen on the boat by fishing day

3. Number of Fishing Gear

Record the number of fishing lines used during the fishing day. If the exact number is not available a range may be used i) 5 or less lines, ii) 6–10 lines; iii) 11 or more lines

4. Number and type of school (Anchored or drifting FAD, marine mammal, free, other) fished

Record the number and type of school fished (i.e. anchored FAD, drifting FAD, marine mammal associated or free) fished during the day

5. Position of the catch

Position in latitude and longitude: either position at noon or position of start of gear or area code of operation (e.g. Seychelles EEZ, High seas, etc.) may be optionally used. Record the latitude and longitude at noon for non-fishing days, where not in port

Where information is recorded by day, record the 1° x 1° area(s) where fishing took place

6. Bait

Record the type of bait used (e.g. fish, squid), where applicable

## 2.2 CATCH

Catch in number and/or weight (kg) by species

1. Catch number and/or Weight

For each species shown in section 2.3 caught and retained, record the number and estimated live weight (kg), per fishing day

2. Discard number and/or Weight

For each species shown in section 2.3 caught and not retained record the number and estimated live weight (kg) discarded, per fishing day

## 2.3 SPECIES

| Primary Species   | FAO code |
|---|----------|
| Yellowfin tuna ( <i>Thunnus albacares</i> )                       | YFT      |
| Bigeye tuna ( <i>Thunnus obesus</i> )                             | BET      |
| Skipjack tuna ( <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> )                       | SKJ      |
| Indo-Pacific sailfish ( <i>Istiophorus platypterus</i> )          | SFA      |
| Black marlin ( <i>Makaira indica</i> )                            | BLM      |
| Other billfish  |          |
| Longtail tuna ( <i>Thunnus tonggol</i> )                          | LOT      |
| Kawakawa ( <i>Euthynnus affinis</i> )                             | KAW      |
| Frigate tuna/Bullet tuna ( <i>Auxis</i> spp.)                     | FRZ      |
| Narrow barred Spanish mackerel ( <i>Scomberomorus commerson</i> ) | COM      |
| Indo-Pacific king mackerel ( <i>Scomberomorus guttatus</i> )      | GUT      |
| Sharks  |          |
| Other fishes  |          |
| Rays  |          |
| Marine turtles (by number)  |          |

## 2.4 REMARKS

1. Other relevant information is also written in the remarks

**Note:** These species included in the logbook are regarded as minimum requirement. Optionally other species should be added as species may differ depending on the area fished and type of fishery

## II - TROLLING VESSELS

All logbook information shall be recorded by day; where more than one fishing event is recorded for the same day, it is advisable to record each fishing event separately

### Record once in one cruise

#### 1.1 REPORT INFORMATION

1. Fishing day (or Date of submission of the logbook, where multiple fishing days)
2. Name of reporting person

#### 1.2 VESSEL INFORMATION

1. Vessel name and registration number and IMO number, where available
2. IOTC number, where available
3. Fishing License number
4. Vessel size: Gross tonnage and/or length overall (in metres)

#### 1.3 CRUISE INFORMATION

1. Departure date and port
2. Arrival date and port

#### 2.1 OPERATION

1. Date of fishing

Record the date of fishing. Each fishing day should be recorded separately

2. Number of fishermen

Record the number of fishermen on the vessel by fishing day

3. Number of Fishing Gear

Record the number of lines used during the fishing day. If the exact number is not available a range may be used i) 3 or less lines, ii) more than 3 lines

4. Number and type of school (Anchored or drifting FAD, marine mammal, free, other) fished

Record the number and type of school fished (i.e. anchored FAD, drifting FAD, marine mammal associated or free) fished during the day

5. Position of the catch



Position in latitude and longitude: either position at noon or position of start of gear or area code of operation (e.g. Seychelles EEZ, High seas, etc.) may be optionally used. Record the latitude and longitude at noon for non-fishing days, where not in port

Where information is recorded by day, record the 1° x 1° area(s) where fishing took place

6. Bait

Record the type of bait or indicate if lures are used

## 2.2 CATCH

Catch in number and/or weight (kg) by species

1. Number and/or Weight of fish retained

For each species shown in section 2–3 caught and retained, record the number or estimated live weight (kg), per fishing day

2. Discard number and/or Weight

For each species shown in section 2–3 caught and not retained record the number and estimated live weight (kg) discarded, per fishing day

## 2.3 SPECIES

| Primary Species   | FAO code |
|---|----------|
| Yellowfin tuna ( <i>Thunnus albacares</i> )                       | YFT      |
| Bigeye tuna ( <i>Thunnus obesus</i> )                             | BET      |
| Skipjack tuna ( <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> )                       | SKJ      |
| Albacore ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )                              | ALB      |
| Swordfish ( <i>Xiphias gladius</i> )                              | SWO      |
| Blue marlin ( <i>Makaira nigricans</i> )                          | BUM      |
| Black marlin ( <i>Makaira indica</i> )                            | BLM      |
| Striped marlin ( <i>Tetrapturus audax</i> )                       | MLS      |
| Indo-Pacific sailfish ( <i>Istiophorus platypterus</i> )          | SFA      |
| Other billfish  |          |
| Longtail tuna ( <i>Thunnus tonggol</i> )                          | LOT      |
| Kawakawa ( <i>Euthynnus affinis</i> )                             | KAW      |
| Frigate tuna/Bullet tuna ( <i>Auxis</i> spp.)                     | FRZ      |
| Narrow barred Spanish mackerel ( <i>Scomberomorus commerson</i> ) | COM      |
| Indo-Pacific king mackerel ( <i>Scomberomorus guttatus</i> )      | GUT      |
| Sharks  |          |

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Other fishes   |  |
| Rays           |  |
| Marine turtles |  |

## 2.4 REMARKS

1. Other relevant information is also written in the remarks

**Note:** These species included in the logbook are regarded as minimum requirement. Optionally other species should be added as species may differ depending on the area fished and type of fishery.

**APPENDIX XVII**  
**RESOLUTION 15/02**

***MANDATORY STATISTICAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR IOTC CONTRACTING PARTIES  
AND COOPERATING NON-CONTRACTING PARTIES (CPCs)***

**Keywords:** Data reporting; total catch; catch and effort; size data; fish aggregating devices (FAD); surface fisheries; longline fisheries; coastal fisheries

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)**

GIVEN that the Agreement for the implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (UNFSA) encourages coastal States and fishing States on the high seas to collect and share, in a timely manner, complete and accurate data concerning fishing activities on, inter alia, vessel position, catch of target and non-target species and fishing effort;

NOTING that the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing provides that States should compile fishery-related and other supporting scientific data relating to fish stocks covered by subregional or regional fisheries management organisations and provide them in a timely manner to the organisation;

RECALLING the commitment made by Contracting Parties under Article V of the IOTC Agreement to keep under review the conditions and trends of the stocks and to gather, analyse and disseminate scientific information, catch and effort statistics and other data relevant to the conservation and management of the stocks and to fisheries based on the stocks covered by the Agreement;

COGNISANT that the above commitment can only be achieved when Contracting Parties meet the requirements of Article XI of the IOTC Agreement i.e. to provide statistical and other data and information to minimum specifications and in a timely manner;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the IOTC Scientific Committee has repeatedly stressed the importance of the timeliness of data submissions;

GIVEN that the activities of support vessels and the use of Fish Aggregating Devices (FAD) are an integral part of the fishing effort exerted by the purse seine fleet;

CONSIDERING the provisions set forth in [Resolution 15/02](#) on *mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs)*, adopted by the Commission in 2015;

NOTING the Scientific Committee's concern that the lack of data from CPC fisheries under the mandate of the IOTC on the mortality of marine turtles and marine mammals undermines the ability to estimate levels of marine turtle and marine mammals bycatch and consequently the IOTC's capacity to respond and prevent adverse effects of fishing on these marine species;

FURTHER NOTING the Scientific Committee's concern about the impossibility to undertake assessments on the status of seabirds in the Indian Ocean, while acknowledging that some species are currently critically endangered, and that the lack of reporting of seabird interactions by CPCs seriously undermines the ability of IOTC to respond and prevent adverse effects of fishing on seabirds;

CONSIDERING the recommendations of the 17<sup>th</sup> Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the call upon States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organisations and arrangements included in the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 67/79 on sustainable fisheries to collect the necessary data in order to evaluate and closely monitor the use of fish aggregating

devices and their effects on tuna resources and tuna behaviour and associated and dependent species, to improve management procedures to monitor the number, type and use of such devices and to mitigate possible negative effects on the ecosystem, including on juveniles and the incidental bycatch of non-target species, particularly sharks and turtles;

ADOPTS, in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, paragraph 1 of the IOTC Agreement, the following:

1. Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs) shall provide the following information to the IOTC Secretariat according to the timelines specified in paragraph 7:
2. **Total catch data:**  
  
Estimates of the total catch by species and gear, if possible quarterly, that shall be submitted annually as referred in paragraph 7 (separated, whenever possible, by retained catches in live weight and by discards in live weight or numbers) for all species under the IOTC mandate as well as the most commonly caught elasmobranch species-according to records of catches and incidents as established in [Resolution 15/01 on the recording of catch and effort data by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence](#) (or any subsequent superseding Resolution).
3. Concerning cetaceans, seabirds and marine turtles data should be provided as stated in [Resolutions 13/04 on Conservation of Cetaceans](#), [Resolution 12/06 on reduction the incidental bycatch of seabirds in longline fisheries](#) and [Resolution 12/04 on the conservation of marine turtles](#) (or any subsequent superseding resolutions).
4. **Catch and effort data<sup>5</sup>:**
  - a) **For surface fisheries:** catch weight by species and fishing effort shall be provided by 1° grid area and month strata. Purse seine and pole and line fisheries data shall be stratified by fishing mode (e.g. free swimming schools or schools in association with floating objects). The data shall be extrapolated to the total national monthly catches for each gear. Documents describing the extrapolation procedures (including raising factors corresponding to the logbook coverage) shall also be submitted routinely. Effort units reported should be consistent with those effort requirements of [Resolution 15/01](#) (or any subsequent superseding revision).
  - b) **Longline fisheries:** catch by species, in numbers or weight, and effort as the number of hooks deployed shall be provided by 5° grid area and month strata. Documents describing the extrapolation procedures (including raising factors corresponding to the logbook coverage) shall also be submitted routinely. For the work of relevant working parties under the IOTC Scientific Committee, longline data should be of a resolution of 1° grid area and month or finer. These data would be for the exclusive use of IOTC Scientific Committee and its Working Parties, subject to the approval of the data owners and IOTC [Resolution 12/02 Data confidentiality policy and procedures](#), and should be provided for scientific use only in a timely fashion. Effort units reported should be consistent with those effort requirements of [Resolution 15/01](#) or any subsequent revision of such resolution.

<sup>5</sup> Longline fisheries: Fisheries undertaken by vessels in the IOTC Record of Authorized Vessels that use longline gear.

Surface fisheries: All fisheries undertaken by vessels in the IOTC Record of Authorized Vessels other than longline fisheries; in particular purse seine, pole-and-line, gillnet fisheries, handline and trolling vessels.

Coastal fisheries: Fisheries other than longline or surface, as defined above, also called artisanal fisheries.

- c) **For coastal fisheries:** catches by species that shall be submitted annually as referred in paragraph 7, fishing gear and fishing effort shall be submitted frequently and may be provided using an alternative geographical area if it better represents the fishery concerned. Effort units reported should be consistent with those effort requirements of [Resolution 15/01](#) (or any subsequent superseding revision).

Provisions on catch and effort data, applicable to tuna and tuna-like species, shall also be applicable to the most commonly caught elasmobranch species according to records of catches and incidents as established in [Resolution 15/01](#) on the recording of catch and effort by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence (or any subsequent superseding Resolution).

5. **Size data:**

Size data shall be provided for all gears and for all species according to paragraph 4 and following the guidelines set out by the procedures described in the *Guidelines for the reporting of fisheries statistics to the IOTC*. Size sampling shall be run under strict and well described random sampling schemes which are necessary to provide unbiased figures of the sizes taken. Sampling coverage shall be set to at least one fish measured by ton caught, by species and type of fishery, with samples being representative of all the periods and areas fished. Alternatively, size data for longline fleets may be provided as part of the Regional Observer Scheme where such fleets have at least 5% observer coverage of all fishing operations. Length data by species, including the total number of fish measured, shall be submitted by a 5° grid area by month, by gear and fishing mode (e.g. free swimming schools or schools in association with floating objects for the purse seiners). Documents covering sampling and raising procedures shall also be provided, by species and type of fishery.

6. Given that the activities of purse seine supply vessels and the use of **Fish Aggregating Devices** (FAD) are an integral part of the fishing effort exerted by the purse seine fleet, the following data shall be provided by CPCs:
- a) The number and characteristics of purse seine supply vessels: (i) operating under their flag, (ii) assisting purse seine vessels operating under their flag, or (iii) licensed to operate in their exclusive economic zones, and that have been present in the IOTC area of competence;
  - b) Number of days at sea by purse seine and purse seine supply vessels by 1° grid area and month to be reported by the flag state of the supply vessel;
  - c) The total number set by the purse seine and purse seine supply vessels per quarter, as well as:
    - i. The positions, dates at the time of setting, FAD identifier and FAD type (i.e. drifting log or debris, drifting raft or FAD with a net, drifting raft or FAD without a net, anchored FADs and other FADs e.g. Payao, dead animal etc.);
    - ii. The FAD design characteristics of each FAD (consistent with Annex 1 to [Resolution 15/08](#) *Procedures on a fishing aggregating devices (FADs) management Plan, including a limitation on the number of FADS, more detailed specifications of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species*).

These data would be for the exclusive use of IOTC Scientific Committee and its Working Parties, subject to the approval of the data owners and in accordance with [Resolution 12/02](#) *Data confidentiality policy and procedures*, and should be provided in a timely fashion.

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7. **Timeliness of data submission to the IOTC Secretariat:**
- a) Longline fleets operating in the high seas shall provide provisional data for the previous year no later than 30 June. Final data shall be submitted no later than 30 December;
  - b) All other fleets (including supply vessels) shall submit their final data for the previous year no later than 30 June;
  - c) In case where the final statistics cannot be submitted by that date, at least preliminary statistics should be provided. Beyond a delay of two years, all revisions of historical data should be formally reported and duly justified. These reports should be made on forms provided by the IOTC Secretariat and reviewed by the IOTC Scientific Committee. The IOTC Scientific Committee will advise the IOTC Secretariat if revisions are then accepted for scientific use.
8. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 10/02 on *mandatory statistical requirements for IOTC Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs)*.

**APPENDIX XVIII**  
**RESOLUTION 15/03**  
***ON THE VESSEL MONITORING SYSTEM (VMS) PROGRAMME***

**Keywords:** Vessel Monitoring System (VMS).

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

TAKING NOTE of the results of the Intersessional Meeting on an Integrated Control and inspection scheme, held in Yaizu, Japan, from 27 to 29 March, 2001;

RECOGNISING the value of satellite-based Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) for the Commission's conservation and management programmes, including compliance;

RECOGNISING IOTC Resolution 02/02 [\[superseded by Resolution 06/03 and subsequently by Resolution 15/03\]](#) which called for the adoption of a pilot satellite-based vessel monitoring system (VMS) by 1<sup>st</sup> January 2004;

TAKING NOTE that the Resolution 02/02 [\[superseded by Resolution 06/03 and subsequently by Resolution 15/03\]](#) has allowed the progressive incorporation of these systems to accommodate Contracting Parties that lack sufficient capacity for immediate implementation at a national level;

RECOGNISING that this Resolution 02/02 [\[superseded by Resolution 06/03 and subsequently by Resolution 15/03\]](#) provides a process for developing States of the region to build the capacity to implement this Resolution;

AWARE that many Parties have established VMS systems and programmes for their fleets and that their experience may be very helpful in supporting the conservation and management programmes of the Commission;

ADOPTS in accordance with the provisions of Article IX paragraph 1 of the IOTC Agreement, that:

1. Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (CPC) shall adopt a satellite-based vessel monitoring system (VMS) for all vessels flying its flag 24 metres in length overall or above or in case of vessels less than 24 meters, those operating in waters outside the Economic Exclusive Zone of the Flag State fishing for species covered by the IOTC Agreement within the IOTC area of competence.
2. Those CPCs currently without a VMS for any additional vessel now meeting the criteria for inclusion in the VMS obligation since Resolution 06/03 was superseded, as defined in paragraph 1 above, shall submit an implementation plan to the Compliance Committee in April 2016 that sets out a phased approach to full implementation of their national VMS obligation within a maximum of 3 years, i.e. by April 2019, with at least 50% of all qualifying vessels compliant by September 2017.
3. Any CPC with vessels not yet equipped with VMS as already required under Resolution 06/03 (or any subsequent superseding Resolution; [Resolution 15/03](#)) shall be required to fully implement its national VMS obligation within a maximum of 1 year, i.e. by April 2016 in respect of those vessels.
4. The Commission may establish guidelines for the registration, implementation and operation of VMS in the IOTC area of competence with a view to standardising VMS adopted by CPCs.
5. Information collected shall include:
  - a) the vessel identification;
  - b) the current geographical position of the vessel (longitude, latitude) with a position error which shall be less than 500 metres, at a confidence level of 99%; and



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- c) the date and time (expressed in UTC) of the fixing of the said position of the vessel.
6. Each CPC shall take the necessary measures to ensure that their land-based national Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) receives through the VMS the information required in paragraph 5, and that the FMC is equipped with computer hardware and software enabling automatic data processing and electronic data transmission. Each CPC shall provide for backup and recovery procedures in case of system failures.
7. Each CPC shall ensure that the information in paragraph 5 is transmitted to the FMC at least once every 4 hours. Each CPC shall ensure the masters of fishing vessels flying its flag ensure that the satellite tracking device(s) are at all times fully operational.
8. Each CPC as a Flag State shall ensure that the vessel monitoring device(s) on board its vessels are tamper resistant, that is, are of a type and configuration that prevent the input or output of false positions, and that they are not capable of being over-ridden, whether manually, electronically or otherwise. To this end, the on-board satellite monitoring device must:
- a) be located within a sealed unit; and
  - b) be protected by official seals (or mechanisms) of a type that will indicate whether the unit has been accessed or tampered with.
9. The responsibilities concerning the satellite-tracking devices and requirements in case of technical failure or non-functioning of the satellite-tracking devices are established in **Annex I**.
10. Fishing vessels referred to in paragraph 1 which are not yet equipped with VMS shall report to their FMC at least daily by email, facsimile, telex, telephone message or radio. Such reports must include, inter alia, information required in paragraph 5 when transmitting the report, to their competent authorities, as well as:
- a) the geographic position at the beginning of the fishing operation;
  - b) the geographic position at the end of the fishing operation.
11. CPCs that cannot fulfil the obligations as outlined in this Resolution shall report to the IOTC Secretariat (i) the systems and infrastructure and capabilities existing with respect to the implementation this Resolution, and (ii) the hindrances for implementation of such a system and (iii) requirements for implementation.
12. Each CPC shall provide to the IOTC Secretariat, by 30 June each year, a report on the progress and implementation of its VMS programme in accordance with this Resolution. The IOTC Secretariat shall compile reports prior to the annual Session of the Commission and present a report to the IOTC Compliance Committee. Based on these reports, the Commission will discuss how best to proceed with future consideration of VMS to support its Conservation and Management Measures.
13. CPCs are encouraged to extend the application of this Resolution to their fishing vessels not provided for in paragraph 1 if they consider this to be appropriate to ensure the effectiveness of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures.
14. Resolution 06/03 *On establishing a Vessel Monitoring System Programme* is superseded by this Resolution.
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## ANNEX I

### RESPONSIBILITIES CONCERNING THE SATELLITE-TRACKING DEVICES AND REQUIREMENTS IN CASE OF TECHNICAL FAILURE OR NON-FUNCTIONING OF THE SATELLITE-TRACKING DEVICES

- A) In the event that a CPC has information to suspect that on-board vessel monitoring device(s) do not meet the requirements of paragraph 4, or have been tampered with, it shall immediately notify the IOTC Executive Secretary and the vessel's Flag State.
- B) Masters and owners/licensees of fishing vessels subject to VMS shall ensure that the vessel monitoring device(s) on board their vessels within the IOTC area of competence are at all times fully operational. Masters and owners/licensees shall in particular ensure that:
  - a) VMS reports and messages are not altered in any way;
  - b) the antennae connected to the satellite monitoring device(s) are not obstructed in any way;
  - c) the power supply of the satellite monitoring device(s) is not interrupted in any way; and
  - d) the vessel monitoring device(s) are not removed from the vessel.
- C) A vessel monitoring device shall be active within the IOTC area of competence. It may, however, be switched off when the fishing vessel is in port for a period of more than one week, subject to prior notification to, and approval of, the Flag State, and if the Flag State so desires also to the IOTC Secretariat, provided that the first position report generated following the re-powering (activating) shows that the fishing vessel has not changed position compared to the last report.
- D) In the event of a technical failure or non-operation of the satellite tracking device fitted on board a fishing vessel, the device shall be repaired or replaced within one month. After this period, the master of a fishing vessel is not authorised to commence a fishing trip with a defective satellite tracking device. Furthermore, when a device stops functioning or has a technical failure during a fishing trip lasting more than one month, the repair or the replacement has to take place as soon as the vessel enters a port; the fishing vessel shall not be authorised to commence a fishing trip without the satellite tracking device having been repaired or replaced.
- E) In the event of a technical failure or non-functioning of the vessel monitoring device on board the fishing vessel, the master or the owner of the vessel, or their representative, shall communicate immediately to the FMC of the Flag State, and if the Flag State so desires also to the IOTC Secretariat, stating the time that the failure or the non-functioning was detected or notified in accordance with paragraph F of this Annex. In the event of a technical failure or non-functioning of the vessel monitoring device on board the fishing vessel, the master or the owner of the vessel, or their representative, shall also communicate to the FMC of the Flag State the information required in paragraph 5 of the Resolution every four hours, by email, facsimile, telex, telephone message or radio.
- F) When the Flag State has not received for 12 hours data transmissions referred to in paragraphs 7 of the Resolution and E of this Annex, or has reasons to doubt the correctness of the data transmissions under paragraphs 7 of the Resolution and E of this Annex, it shall as soon as possible notify the master or the owner or the representative thereof. If this situation occurs more than two times within a period of one year in respect of a particular vessel, the Flag State of the vessel shall investigate the matter, including having an authorised official check the device in question, in order to establish whether the equipment has been tampered with. The outcome of this investigation shall be forwarded to the IOTC Secretariat within 30 days of its completion.
- G) With regard to paragraphs E and F of this Annex, each CPC shall, as soon as possible but no later than two working days following detection or notification of technical failure or non-functioning of the vessel monitoring device on board the fishing vessel, forward the geographical positions of the vessel to the IOTC Secretariat, or shall ensure that these positions are forwarded to the IOTC Secretariat by the master or the owner of the vessel, or their representative.

**APPENDIX XIX**  
**RESOLUTION 15/04**

***CONCERNING THE IOTC RECORD OF VESSELS AUTHORISED TO OPERATE IN THE IOTC  
AREA OF COMPETENCE***

**Keywords:** Authorised vessels; active vessels; auxiliary, supply and support vessels; IMO number; IUU fishing vessels.

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

RECALLING that IOTC has been taking various measures to prevent, deter and eliminate the IUU fisheries conducted by large-scale tuna fishing vessels;

FURTHER RECALLING that IOTC adopted the [Resolution 01/06](#) *Concerning the IOTC Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document Programme* at its 2001 meeting;

FURTHER RECALLING that IOTC adopted the Resolution 01/02 [superseded by Resolution 13/02, then [Resolution 14/04](#)] *Relating to control of fishing activities* at its 2001 meeting;

NOTING that large-scale fishing vessels are highly mobile and easily change fishing grounds from one ocean to another, and have high potential to operate in the IOTC area of competence without timely registration with the Commission;

NOTING that supply or support vessels can increase the fishing capacity of purse seine vessels in an uncontrolled manner by setting fish aggregating devices [in areas closed to fishing];

RECALLING that the FAO Council adopted on 23 June 2001 an International Plan of Action aiming to prevent, to deter and to eliminate illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing (IPOA), that this plan stipulates that the regional fisheries management organisations should take action to strengthen and develop innovative ways, in conformity with international law, to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing and in particular to establish records of vessels authorised and records of vessels engaged in IUU fishing;

RECALLING that the IOTC Record of Active Vessels was established by the Commission on 1 July 2003, via Resolution 02/05 *Concerning the establishment of an IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC area of competence* [superseded by Resolution 05/02, then Resolution 07/02, then Resolution 13/02, then [Resolution 14/04](#)];

RECOGNISING the need to take further measures to effectively eliminate the IUU large scale tuna fishing vessels;

ADOPTS, in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article IX of the IOTC Agreement, that:

1. The Commission shall maintain an IOTC Record of fishing vessels that are:
  - a) 24 metres in length overall or above; or
  - b) in case of vessels less than 24 meters, those operating in waters outside the Economic Exclusive Zone of the Flag State; and that are authorised to fish for tuna and tuna-like species in the IOTC area of competence (hereinafter referred to as 'authorised fishing vessels', or AFVs).

For the purpose of this Resolution, fishing vessels including auxiliary, supply and support vessels that are not entered in the IOTC Record are deemed not to be authorised to fish for, retain on board, tranship or land tuna and tuna-like species or supporting any fishing activity or set drifting fish aggregation devices (DFADs) in the IOTC area of competence. This provision shall not apply to vessels less than 24 m in length overall operating inside the EEZ of the flag state.

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2. Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (hereinafter referred to as "CPC") shall submit electronically, where possible, to the IOTC Executive Secretary for those vessels referred to 1.a) and for those vessels referred to 1.b), the list of its AFVs that are authorised to operate in the IOTC area of competence. This list shall include the following information:

- a) Name of vessel(s), register number(s);
- b) IMO number (if eligible);

To allow the necessary time for CPCs to obtain an IMO number for eligible vessels that do not already have one, paragraph 2.b on IMO number is effective as of 1 January 2016. As of this date, CPCs shall ensure that all their fishing vessels that are registered on the IOTC Record of fishing vessels have IMO numbers issued to them. Paragraph 2.b on IMO number does not apply to vessels which are not eligible to receive IMO numbers.

- c) Previous name(s) (if any);
- d) Previous flag(s) (if any);
- e) Previous details of deletion from other registries (if any);
- f) International radio call sign(s) (if any);
- g) Port of Registration;
- h) Type of vessel(s), length and gross tonnage (GT);
- i) Name and address of owner(s) and operator(s);
- j) Gear(s) used;
- k) Time period(s) authorised for fishing and/or transshipping.

In assessing compliance with the paragraph above, the Commission shall take into account exceptional circumstances in which a vessel owner is not able to obtain an IMO number despite following the appropriate procedures. Flag CPCs shall report any such exceptional situations to the IOTC Secretariat.

3. All CPCs which issue authorisations to fish to their flag vessels to fish for species managed by the IOTC shall submit to the IOTC Executive Secretary, an updated template of the official authorisation to fish outside National Jurisdictions, and update this information whenever this information changes. This information includes:

- a) name of the Competent Authority;
- b) name and contact of personnel of the Competent Authority;
- c) signature of the personnel of the Competent Authority;
- d) official stamp of the Competent Authority.

The IOTC Executive Secretary shall publish the above information in a secure part on the IOTC website for MCS purpose.

4. The template in paragraph 3 shall be used exclusively for monitoring, control and surveillance purposes and a difference between the template and the authorisation carried onboard the vessel does not constitute an

infraction, but will prompt the controlling State to clarify the issue with the identified Competent Authority of the flag State of the vessel in question.

5. Each CPC shall promptly notify, after the establishment of their initial IOTC Record, the IOTC Executive Secretary of any addition to, any deletion from and/or any modification of the IOTC Record at any time such changes occur.
6. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall maintain the IOTC Record, and take any measure to ensure publicity of the Record through electronic means, including placing it on the IOTC website, in a manner consistent with confidentiality requirements noted by CPCs.
7. The flag CPCs of the vessels on the record shall:
  - a) authorise their vessels to operate in the IOTC area of competence only if they are able to fulfil in respect of these vessels the requirements and responsibilities under the IOTC Agreement and its Conservation and Management Measures;
  - b) take necessary measures to ensure that their AFVs comply with all the relevant IOTC Conservation and Management Measures;
  - c) take necessary measures to ensure that their AFVs on the IOTC Record keep on board valid certificates of vessel registration and valid authorisation to fish and/or tranship;
  - d) ensure that their AFVs on the IOTC Record have no history of IUU fishing activities or that, if those vessels have such a history, the new owners have provided sufficient evidence demonstrating that the previous owners and operators have no legal, beneficial or financial interest in, or control over those vessels; the parties of the IUU incident have officially resolved the matter and sanctions have been completed; or that having taken into account all relevant facts, their AFVs are not engaged in or associated with IUU fishing;
  - e) ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners and operators of their AFVs on the IOTC Record are not engaged in or associated with tuna fishing activities conducted by vessels not entered into the IOTC Record in the IOTC area of competence;
  - f) take necessary measures to ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners of the AFVs on the IOTC Record are citizens or legal entities within the flag CPCs so that any control or punitive actions can be effectively taken against them.
8. CPCs shall review their own internal actions and measures taken pursuant to paragraph 7, including punitive actions and sanctions and, in a manner consistent with domestic law as regards disclosure, report the results of the review to the Commission annually. In consideration of the results of such review, the Commission shall, if appropriate, request the flag CPCs of AFVs on the IOTC Record to take further action to enhance compliance by those vessels with IOTC Conservation and Management Measures.
9.
  - a) CPCs shall take measures, under their applicable legislation, to prohibit the fishing for, the retaining on board, the transhipment and landing of tuna and tuna-like species by the vessels which are not entered into the IOTC Record.
  - b) To ensure the effectiveness of the IOTC Conservation and Management Measures pertaining to species covered by Statistical Document Programs:
    - i. Flag CPCs shall validate statistical documents only for the vessels on the IOTC Record;

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- ii. CPCs shall require that the species covered by Statistical Document Programs caught by AFVs in the IOTC area of competence, when imported into the territory of a Contracting Party, be accompanied by statistical documents validated for the vessels on the IOTC Record; and
    - iii. CPCs importing species covered by Statistical Document Programs and the flag States of vessels shall cooperate to ensure that statistical documents are not forged or do not contain misinformation.
  - 10. Each CPC shall notify the IOTC Executive Secretary of any factual information showing that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting vessels not on the IOTC Record to be engaged in fishing for and/or transshipment of tuna and tuna-like species in the IOTC area of competence.
  - 11.
    - a) If a vessel mentioned in paragraph 10 is flying the flag of a CPC, the IOTC Executive Secretary shall request that Party to take measures necessary to prevent the vessel from fishing for tuna and tuna-like species in the IOTC area of competence;
    - b) If the flag of a vessel mentioned in paragraph 10 cannot be determined or is of a non-Contracting Party without cooperating status, the IOTC Executive Secretary shall compile and circulate such information to all CPCs, without delay.
  - 12. The Commission and the CPCs concerned shall communicate with each other, and make the best effort with FAO and other relevant regional fishery management bodies to develop and implement appropriate measures, where feasible, including the establishment of records of a similar nature in a timely manner so as to avoid adverse effects upon tuna resources in other oceans. Such adverse effects might consist of excessive fishing pressure resulting from a shift of the IUU fishing vessels from the Indian Ocean to other oceans.
  - 13. Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with the IOTC shall:
    - a) Ensure that each of its fishing vessels carry on board documents issued and certified by the competent authority of that Contracting Party or of that Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with IOTC, including, at a minimum, the following:
      - i. License, permit or authorisation to fish and terms and conditions attached to the licence, permit of authorisation;
      - ii. Vessel name;
      - iii. Port in which registered and the number(s) under which registered;
      - iv. International call sign;
      - v. Names and addresses of owner(s) and where relevant, the charterer;
      - vi. Overall length;
      - vii. Engine power, in KW/horsepower, where appropriate.
    - b) Verify above documents on a regular basis and at least every year;
    - c) Ensure that any modification to the documents and to the information referred to in 13.a) is certified by the competent authority of that Contracting Party or of that Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with the IOTC.



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14. Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with the IOTC shall ensure that its fishing vessels authorised to fish in the IOTC area of competence are marked in such a way that they can be readily identified with generally accepted standards such as the FAO Standard Specification for the Marking and Identification of Fishing vessels.
15.
  - a) Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with the IOTC shall ensure that each gear used by its fishing vessels authorised to fish in the IOTC area of competence is marked appropriately, e.g., the ends of nets, lines and gear in the sea, shall be fitted with flag or radar reflector buoys by day and light buoys by night sufficient to indicate their position and extent;
  - b) Marker buoys and similar objects floating and on the surface, and intended to indicate the location of fixed fishing gear, shall be clearly marked at all time with the letter(s) and/or number(s) of the vessel to which they belong;
  - c) Fish aggregating devices shall be clearly marked at all time with the letter(s) and / or number(s) of the vessel to which they belong.
16. Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with the IOTC shall ensure that all their respective fishing vessels of 24 meters or above and vessels less than 24 meters if fishing outside their EEZ, and are registered on the IOTC Record of fishing vessels and authorised to fish in the IOTC area of competence, keep a bound fishing national logbook with consecutively numbered pages. The original recordings contained in the fishing logbooks shall be kept on board the fishing vessel for a period of at least 12 months.
17. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 14/04 *Concerning the establishment of an IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC area.*



**APPENDIX XX**  
**RESOLUTION 15/05**

***ON CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR STRIPED MARLIN, BLACK MARLIN AND BLUE MARLIN***

**Keywords:** striped marlin; black marlin; blue marlin; catch trends; bycatch; discards

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

RECOGNISING [Resolution 12/01](#) *On the implementation of the precautionary approach* calls on IOTC Contracting Parties (Members) and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (collectively CPCs) to apply the precautionary approach in accordance with Article V of the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement;

CONCERNED by the continued failure of IOTC CPCs to submit complete, accurate and timely catch records in accordance with existing IOTC Resolutions;

CONSIDERING scientific advice provided by the IOTC Scientific Committee as the cornerstone for establishing an effective management framework for stocks and fisheries under the purview of the IOTC;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the recommendations made in the 2014 sessions of Working Party on Billfish and the Scientific Committee on the status of some billfish stocks indicating that fishing pressure or catches should decrease;

RECALLING the recommendations adopted in accordance with the KOBE II workshop on bycatch in 2010 that regional fisheries management organisations should consider adopting binding measures or strengthen existing mitigation measures, including the development of mandatory reporting requirements;

ADOPTS, in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, paragraph 1 of the IOTC Agreement, the following:

1. Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs) are encouraged to make any possible effort to reduce in 2016 the level of catches of their vessels for the following species: striped marlin (*Tetrapturus audax*), black marlin (*Makaira indica*), and blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*). The baseline of the reduction of catches shall be the average catches for the period between 2009 and 2014. For the calculation of average catches, only the years for which data is available will be taken into consideration.
2. CPCs are encouraged to request their operators/fishing vessels to release any billfish which belongs to any of the three above mentioned marlin species brought alive onboard or alongside for taking onboard the vessel.
3. The IOTC Scientific Committee shall request that the Working Party on Billfish continue their work on assessing and monitoring the status of the above mentioned species until such time as comprehensive assessments are possible. The IOTC Scientific Committee shall also evaluate the catch trends of the mentioned species and recommend Conservation and Management Measures as appropriate.
4. CPCs, in particular those employing gillnet fisheries, for which very few data exists on catch and effort, length frequencies and bycatch/discard, shall collect and report such data to the IOTC Secretariat.
5. The Scientific Committee shall annually review the information reported by CPCs on these species and, as necessary, provide recommendations to the Commission on ways to strengthen the conservation and management of these species.
6. The Commission shall consider appropriate assistance to developing CPCs for the collection of data on the above mentioned species.

**APPENDIX XXI**  
**RESOLUTION 15/06**

***ON A BAN ON DISCARDS OF BIGEYE TUNA, SKIPJACK TUNA, YELLOWFIN TUNA, AND A  
RECOMMENDATION FOR NON-TARGETED SPECIES CAUGHT BY PURSE SEINE VESSELS IN THE  
IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE***

**Keywords:** Discards; bigeye tuna; yellowfin tuna; skipjack tuna; non-targeted species; purse seine; storage capacity.

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

RECOGNISING the need for action to ensure the achievement of IOTC objectives to conserve and manage bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna and yellowfin tuna in the IOTC area of competence;

RECOGNISING that the international community has recognised both ethical concerns and policy regarding discards of species in several international instruments and statements, including United Nations General Assembly resolutions (A/RES/49/118 (1994); A/RES/50/25 (1996); A/RES/51/36 (1996); A/RES/52/29 (1997); A/RES/53/33 (1998); A/RES/55/8 (2000); and A/RES/57/142 (2002)), United Nations Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement); The Rome Consensus on World Fisheries adopted by the FAO Ministerial Conference on Fisheries, Rome, 14–15 March 1995; the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, the FAO International Plan of Action (IPOA) on sharks; the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);

RECALLING that the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement has underlined the importance of ensuring the conservation and optimum utilisation of highly migratory species through the action of regional fishery bodies such as the IOTC, and provides that “*States should minimize ... discards, ..., catch of non target species, both fish and non-fish species, and impacts on associated or dependent species, in particular endangered species ...*”;

RECALLING that The Rome Consensus on World Fisheries adopted by the FAO Ministerial Conference on Fisheries, Rome, 14–15 March 1995, provides that “*States should...reduce bycatches, fish discards...*”;

RECALLING that the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries provides that “*States should take appropriate measures to minimize waste, discards...collect information on discards ...; ... take account of discards (in the precautionary approach) ...; develop technologies that minimize discards ...; use of selective gear to minimize discards*”;

RECALLING that the Commission adopted [Resolution 12/01](#) on the implementation of the precautionary approach;

CONCERNED about the morally unacceptable waste and the impact of unsustainable fishing practices upon the oceanic environment, represented by the discarding of tunas and non-target species in the purse seine fishery for tunas in the Indian Ocean;

CONSIDERING the important volume of tuna and non-targeted species discarded in the purse seine fishery for tunas in the Indian Ocean;

ADOPTS, in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article IX of the IOTC Agreement, that:

**RETENTION OF TUNA SPECIES**

1. Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties shall require all purse seine vessels to retain on board and then land all bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, and yellowfin tuna caught, except fish considered unfit for human consumption.
2. Procedures for the implementation of full retention requirements include:

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- a) No bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, and/or yellowfin tuna caught by purse seine vessels may be discarded after the point in the set when the net is fully pursed and more than one half of the net has been retrieved. If equipment malfunctions affect the process of pursing and retrieving the net in such a way that this rule cannot be complied with, the crew must make efforts to release the tuna as soon as possible.
- b) The following two exceptions to the above rule shall apply:
  - i. Where it is determined by the captain of the vessel that tuna (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna or yellowfin tuna) caught are unfit for human consumption, the following definitions shall be applied:
    - "unfit for human consumption" are fish that:
      - is meshed or crushed in the purse seine; or
      - is damaged due to depredation; or
      - has died and spoiled in the net where a gear failure has prevented both the normal retrieval of the net and catch, and efforts to release the fish alive;
    - "unfit for human consumption" does not include fish that:
      - is considered undesirable in terms of size, marketability, or species composition; or
      - is spoiled or contaminated as the result of an act or omission of the crew of the fishing vessel.
  - ii. Where the captain of a vessel determines that tuna (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna or yellowfin tuna) was caught during the final set of a trip and there is insufficient storage capacity to accommodate all tuna (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna or yellowfin tuna) caught in that set. This fish may only be discarded if:
    - the captain and crew attempt to release the tuna (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna or yellowfin tuna) alive as soon as possible; and
    - no further fishing is undertaken after the discard until the tuna (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, and/or yellowfin tuna) on board the vessel has been landed or transhipped.

### RETENTION OF SPECIES OTHER THAN THOSE SPECIFIED UNDER PARA 2, A)

3. Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties should encourage all purse seine vessels to retain on board and then land all non-targeted species as far as the vessel can ensure appropriate fishing operation (including but not limited to other tunas, rainbow runner, dolphinfish, triggerfish, billfish, wahoo, and barracuda) except fish considered unfit for human consumption (as defined in paragraph 2 b) i). A single exception shall be the final set of a trip, when there may be insufficient storage capacity remaining to accommodate all the non-targeted fish caught in that set.

### IMPLEMENTATION

4. The IOTC Scientific Committee, the IOTC Working Party on Tropical Tunas, and the IOTC Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch shall annually:

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- 
- a) review the information available on bycatch (retained and discarded) by purse seine vessels; and
  - b) provide advice to the Commission on options to sustainably manage discards in purse seine fisheries.
5. This Resolution shall enter into force on 1 November 2015 and will be revised, according to the advice of the IOTC Scientific Committee resulting from the review of the IOTC Working Party on Tropical Tunas (for bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna and yellowfin tuna) and of the IOTC Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (for non-target species).
6. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 13/11 *On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna and a recommendation for non-targeted species caught by purse seine vessels in the IOTC area of competence.*

**APPENDIX XXII**  
**RESOLUTION 15/07**

***ON THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL LIGHTS TO ATTRACT FISH TO DRIFTING FISH AGGREGATING DEVICES***

**Keywords:** DFADs; purse seine; supply vessel; lights; non-target, associated or dependent species (NTADs).

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

AWARE that the Commission is committed to adopt Conservation and Management Measures to reduce juvenile bigeye tuna and yellowfin tuna mortalities from fishing effort on Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs);

RECALLING that the objective of the IOTC Agreement is to ensure, through appropriate management, the conservation and optimum utilisation of stocks covered by the mentioned Agreement and encouraging sustainable development of fisheries based on such stocks and minimising the level of bycatch;

RECOGNISING that all gears deployed to target resources under the competence of IOTC should be managed to ensure the sustainability of fishing operations;

MINDFUL of the call upon States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organisations and arrangements in the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 67/79 on Sustainable fisheries to collect the necessary data in order to evaluate and closely monitor the use of large-scale fish aggregating devices and others, as appropriate, and their effects on tuna resources and tuna behaviour and associated and dependent species, to improve management procedures to monitor the number, type and use of such devices and to mitigate possible negative effects on the ecosystem, including on juveniles and the incidental bycatch of non-target species, particularly sharks and marine turtles;

RECALLING that The Rome Consensus on World Fisheries adopted by the FAO Ministerial Conference on Fisheries, Rome, 14–15 March 1995, provides that “States should...reduce bycatches, fish discards...”;

ADOPTS, in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article IX of the IOTC Agreement, that:

1. Fishing Vessels including support and supply vessels flying the flag of an IOTC Contracting Parties or Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (collectively CPCs) are prohibited from installing or operating surface or submerged artificial lights for the purpose of aggregating tuna and tuna-like species or non-target, associated or dependent species on drifting Fish Aggregating Devices (DFADs).
2. CPCs shall prohibit their flagged vessels from intentionally setting a purse seine net around a DFAD equipped with artificial light for the purpose of attracting fish under the mandate of IOTC and in the IOTC area of competence.
3. DFADs equipped with artificial lights, which are encountered by fishing vessels operating in the IOTC area of competence, should as far as possible be removed and brought back to port.

**APPENDIX XXIII**  
**RESOLUTION 15/08**

***PROCEDURES ON A FISH AGGREGATING DEVICES (FADs) MANAGEMENT PLAN, INCLUDING A  
LIMITATION ON THE NUMBER OF FADs, MORE DETAILED SPECIFICATIONS OF CATCH  
REPORTING FROM FAD SETS, AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF IMPROVED FAD DESIGNS TO  
REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF ENTANGLEMENT OF NON-TARGET SPECIES***

**Keywords:** Fish aggregating device (FAD); Non-target species.

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

BEARING IN MIND that the Agreement for the implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (UNFSA) encourages coastal States and fishing States on the high seas to collect and share, in a timely manner, complete and accurate data concerning fishing activities on, *inter alia*, vessel position, catch of target and non-target species and fishing effort;

MINDFUL of the call upon States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organisations and arrangements in the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 67/79 on Sustainable fisheries to collect the necessary data in order to evaluate and closely monitor the use of large-scale fish aggregating devices and others, as appropriate, and their effects on tuna resources and tuna behaviour and associated and dependent species, to improve management procedures to monitor the number, type and use of such devices and to mitigate possible negative effects on the ecosystem, including on juveniles and the incidental bycatch of non-target species, particularly sharks and marine turtles;

NOTING that the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing provides that States should compile fishery-related and other supporting scientific data relating to fish stocks covered by sub-regional or regional fisheries management organisations and provide them in a timely manner to the organisation;

RECOGNISING that all gears deployed to target resources under the competence of IOTC should be managed to ensure the sustainability of fishing operations;

GIVEN that the activities of supply vessels and the use of Fish Aggregating Devices (FAD) are an integral part of the fishing effort exerted by the purse seine fleet;

AWARE that the Commission is committed to adopt Conservation and Management Measures to reduce juvenile bigeye tuna and yellowfin tuna mortalities from fishing effort on Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs);

RECALLING that [Resolution 12/04](#) established that the Commission at its annual session in 2013 should consider the recommendations of the IOTC Scientific Committee as regards the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of marine turtles, including the use of biodegradable materials, together with socio-economic considerations, with a view to adopting further measures to mitigate interactions with marine turtles in fisheries covered by the IOTC Agreement;

RECALLING that Resolution 13/08 [superseded by [Resolution 15/08](#)] established procedures on a fish aggregating device (FAD) management plan, including more detailed specifications of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species;

NOTING that the IOTC Scientific Committee advised the Commission that only non-entangling FADs, both drifting and anchored, should be designed and deployed to prevent the entanglement of sharks, marine turtles and other species;



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NOTING that the IOTC Scientific Committee advised the Commission to conduct an investigation of the feasibility and impacts of a temporary FAD closure as well as other measures in the context of Indian Ocean fisheries and stocks;

RECALLING that the objective of the IOTC Agreement is to ensure, through appropriate management, the conservation and optimum utilisation of stocks covered by the mentioned Agreement and encouraging sustainable development of fisheries based on such stocks and minimising the level of bycatch;

ADOPTS, in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, paragraph 1 of the IOTC Agreement, the following:

1. This Resolution shall apply to CPCs having purse seine vessels and fishing on Drifting Fish Aggregating Devices (DFADs), equipped with instrumented buoys for the purpose of aggregating tuna target species, in the IOTC area of competence.
2. This Resolution defines an instrumented buoy as a buoy with a clearly marked reference number allowing its identification and equipped with a satellite tracking system to monitor its position. Other buoys, such as radio buoys used on DFADs, not meeting this definition, shall be gradually phased out by the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017.
3. This Resolution sets the maximum number of instrumented buoys active and followed by any purse seine vessels at 550 instrumented buoys at any one time, the active number being calculated as the number of active buoys operated by a purse seine vessel. The number of instrumented buoys that shall be acquired annually for each purse seine vessel is set at no more than 1100.
4. A CPC may adopt a lower limit than the one set out in paragraph 3 for vessels flying its flag. Further, any CPC may adopt a lower limit for DFADs deployed in its EEZ than that stated in paragraph 3. The CPC shall review the adopted limit to ensure that such limit is not more than the limit fixed by the Commission.
5. CPCs shall ensure that as from the effective date of this Resolution, each of its purse seiners already in operation does not exceed the maximum number of instrumented buoys set in paragraph 3.
6. Notwithstanding the completion of any study undertaken at the request of the Commission including the study to be undertaken by the Working Group adopted at Resolution 15/09 in relation to FADs, the Commission may review the maximum number of instrumented buoys set out in paragraph 3.
7. The flag State shall ensure that no more than:
  - a) 550 instrumented buoys are active at sea at any one time in relation to each of its vessels through such measures as for example the verification of telecommunication bills; and
  - b) 1100 instrumented buoys may be acquired annually by each of its fishing vessel.
8. CPCs shall require vessels flying their flag and fishing on DFADs to submit by 1 January 2016, the provisional purchase order for 2016 of instrumented buoys for their purse seine vessels under the confidentiality rules set by [Resolution 12/02](#) (or any subsequent superseding Resolution).
9. CPCs shall require vessels flying their flag and fishing on DFADs to submit, by the end of 2016 the number of instrumented buoys activated, deactivated and active on each quarter during 2016 its purse seine vessel under the confidentiality rules set by [Resolution 12/02](#) (or any subsequent superseding Resolution).
10. All CPCs shall ensure that all fishing vessels as referred to in paragraph 1 shall record fishing activities in association with FADs using the specific data elements found in **Annex I** (DFAD) and **Annex II** (AFAD) in the section of the “FAD-logbook”.



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11. CPCs having vessels fishing on FADs shall submit, to the Commission, on an annual basis, Management Plans for the use of FADs by each of their purse seine vessels covered at paragraph 1. Due to their specificity in terms of users, number deployed, type of boat/vessel involved, fishing method and gear used and materials used in their construction, the Management Plans and Reporting Requirements for Drifting FADs (DFAD) and Anchored FADs (AFAD) shall be addressed separately for the purposes of this Resolution. The Plans shall at a minimum meet the Suggested Guidelines for Preparation for FAD Management Plans by each CPC as provided for DFADs in **Annex I** and AFADs in **Annex II**. For the purpose of this Resolution, the term Fish Aggregating Device means drifting (DFAD) or anchored floating or submerged objects (AFAD) deployed for the purpose of aggregating target tuna species.
12. The Management Plans shall be analysed by the IOTC Compliance Committee.
13. All CPCs shall ensure that all fishing vessels as referred to in paragraph 1 shall record fishing activities in association with FADs using the specific data elements found in **Annex I** (DFAD) and **Annex II** (AFAD) in the section of the “FAD-logbook”.
14. The Management Plans shall include initiatives or surveys to investigate, and to the extent possible minimise the capture of small bigeye tuna and yellowfin tuna and non-target species associated with fishing on FADs. Management Plans shall also include guidelines to prevent, to the extent possible, the loss or abandonment of FADs. To reduce the entanglement of sharks, marine turtles or any other species, the design and deployment of FADs shall be based on the principles set out in **Annex III**, which will be applied gradually from 2014. From 2015 on, CPCs shall submit to the Commission, 60 days before the Annual Meeting, a report on the progress of the management plans of FADs, including reviews of the initially submitted Management Plans, and including reviews of the application of the principles set out in **Annex III**.
15. Starting in 2016, CPCs shall submit the data elements prescribed in **Annex I** and **Annex II** to the Commission, consistent with the IOTC standards for the provision of catch and effort data, and these data shall be made available for analysis to the IOTC Scientific Committee on the aggregation level set by [Resolution 15/02](#) (or any subsequent superseding Resolution), and under the confidentiality rules set by [Resolution 12/02](#) (or any subsequent superseding Resolution). The IOTC Scientific Committee will analyse the information, when available, and provide scientific advice on additional FAD management options for consideration by the Commission in 2016, including recommendations on the number of FADs to be operated, the use of biodegradable materials in new and improved FADs and the phasing out of FAD designs that do not prevent the entanglement of sharks, marine turtles and other species. When assessing the impact of FADs on the dynamic and distribution of targeted fish stocks and associated species and on the ecosystem, the IOTC Scientific Committee will, where relevant, use all available data on abandoned FADs (i.e. FADs without a beacon or which have drifted outside the fishing zone).
16. From January 2016, CPCs shall require all artificial FADs deployed or modified by their flagged fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence to be marked in accordance with a detailed marking scheme, e.g. including FAD marking or beacon ID. The marking scheme shall be developed and considered for adoption by the Commission at its regular annual session in 2016, based on recommendations from the IOTC Scientific Committee as requested by the Commission. The marking scheme should take into account, as a minimum, the following:
  - d) All artificial FADs shall be marked with a unique identification number, based on a specific numbering system and format to be adopted by the Commission;
  - e) The marking should be easy to read before the vessel operator engages in any artificial FAD related

activity (e.g. setting on the artificial FAD, retrieving the artificial FAD, servicing the artificial FAD, fishing on the artificial FAD), but if not visible for any reason, (time of day, weather, etc.), the vessel operator shall ensure to obtain the unique artificial FAD identifier as soon as feasible;

- f) The marking should be easy to apply to the artificial FAD, but should be applied in such a manner that it will not become unreadable or disassociated with the artificial FAD.

17. Resolution 13/08 *Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan, including more detailed specification of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species* is superseded by this Resolution.

## ANNEX I

### GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION OF DRIFTING FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE (DFAD) MANAGEMENT PLANS

To support obligations in respect of the DFAD Management Plan (DFAD–MP) to be submitted to the IOTC Secretariat by CPCs with fleets fishing in the IOTC area of competence, associated to DFADs, DFAD–MP should include:

1. An objective
2. Scope:  
Description of its application with respect to:
  - vessel-types and support and tender vessels
  - DFAD numbers and DFADs beacon numbers to be deployed
  - reporting procedures for DFAD deployment
  - incidental bycatch reduction and utilisation policy
  - consideration of interaction with other gear types
  - plans for monitoring and retrieval of lost DFADs
  - statement or policy on “DFAD ownership”
3. Institutional arrangements for management of the DFAD Management Plans:
  - Institutional responsibilities
  - application processes for DFAD and /or DFAD beacons deployment approval
  - Obligations of vessel owners and masters in respect of DFAD and /or DFAD beacons deployment and use
  - DFAD and/or DFADs beacons replacement policy
  - reporting obligations
4. DFAD construction specifications and requirements
  - DFAD design characteristics (a description)

- 
- DFAD markings and identifiers, including DFADs beacons
  - Lighting requirements
  - radar reflectors
  - visible distance
  - radio buoys (requirement for serial numbers)
  - satellite transceivers (requirement for serial numbers)
5. Applicable areas
- Details of any closed areas or periods e.g. territorial waters, shipping lanes, proximity to artisanal fisheries, etc
6. Applicable period for the DFAD–MP
7. Means for monitoring and reviewing implementation of the DFAD–MP
8. DFAD logbook
- catch reporting from DFAD sets (consistent with the Standards for the provision of Catch and Effort Data) set out in [Resolution 15/03](#)), including:
    - a) Any visit on a DFAD\*.
    - b) For each visit on a DFAD, whether followed or not by a set,
      - i. position,
      - ii. date,
      - iii. DFAD identifier (i.e., DFAD Marking or beacon ID or any information allowing to identify the owner),
      - iv. DFAD type (drifting natural FAD, drifting artificial FAD),
      - v. DFAD design characteristics (dimension and material of the floating part and of the underwater hanging structure),
      - vi. type of the visit (deployment, hauling, retrieving, loss, intervention on electronic equipment).
    - c) If the visit is followed by a set, the results of the set in terms of catch and bycatch.
- \* Other FADs encountered at–sea should be monitored in accordance with each CPCs' domestic regulations.

**ANNEX II**

**GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION OF ANCHORED FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE  
(AFAD) MANAGEMENT PLANS**

To support obligations in respect of the AFAD Management Plan (AFAD-MP) to be submitted to the IOTC Secretariat by CPCs with fleets fishing in the IOTC area of competence, associated to AFADs, AFAD-MP should include:

1. An objective
2. Scope:
 

Description of its application with respect to:

  - a) Vessel types
  - b) AFAD numbers and/or AFADs beacons numbers to be deployed (per AFAD type)
  - c) reporting procedures for AFAD deployment
  - d) distances between AFADs
  - e) incidental bycatch reduction and utilisation policy
  - f) consideration of interaction with other gear types
  - g) the establishment of inventories of the AFADs deployed, detailing AFAD identifiers, characteristics and equipment of each AFAD as laid down in point 4 of the present Annex, coordinates of the AFAD's mooring sites, date of set, lost and reset
  - h) plans for monitoring and retrieval of lost AFADs
  - i) statement or policy on "AFAD ownership"
3. Institutional arrangements for management of the AFAD Management Plans:
  - a) Institutional responsibilities
  - b) Regulations applicable to the setting and use of AFADs
  - c) AFAD repairs, maintenance rules and replacement policy
  - d) Data collection system
  - e) reporting obligations
4. AFAD construction specifications and requirements:
  - a) AFAD design characteristics (a description of both the floating structure and the underwater structure, with special emphasis on any netting materials used)
  - b) Anchorage used for mooring
  - c) AFAD markings and identifiers, including AFAD beacons if any
  - d) Lighting requirements if any

- 
- e) radar reflectors
  - f) visible distance
  - g) radio buoys if any (requirement for serial numbers)
  - h) satellite transceivers (requirement for serial numbers)
  - i) echo sounder
5. Applicable areas
- a) Coordinates of mooring sites, if applicable
  - b) Details of any closed areas e.g., shipping lanes, Marine Protected Areas, reserves etc.
6. Means for monitoring and reviewing implementation of the AFAD-MP
- AFAD logbook
- Catch reporting from AFAD sets (consistent with the Standards for the provision of Catch and Effort Data) set out in [Resolution 15/03](#)), including:
    - a) Any visit in a AFAD.
    - b) For each visit on a AFAD, whether followed or not by a set or other fishing activities, the,
      - i. position;
      - ii. date;
      - iii. AFAD identifier (i.e., FAD Marking or beacon ID or any information allowing to identify the owner).
    - c) If the visit is followed by a set or other fishing activities, the results of the set in terms of catch and bycatch.

### ANNEX III

#### PRINCIPLES FOR DESIGN AND DEPLOYMENT OF FADS

1. The surface structure of the FAD should not be covered, or only covered with non-meshed material.
2. If a sub-surface component is used, it should not be made from netting but from non-meshed materials such as ropes or canvas sheets.
3. To reduce the amount of synthetic marine debris, the use of natural or biodegradable materials (such as hessian canvas, hemp ropes, etc.) for drifting FADs should be promoted.

**APPENDIX XXIV**  
**RESOLUTION 15/09**

***ON A FISH AGGREGATING DEVICES (FADs) WORKING GROUP***

**Keywords:** Fish aggregating device (FAD); working group on FADs; drifting FADs; anchored FADs; purse seine.

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

BEARING IN MIND that the Agreement for the implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (UNFSA) encourages coastal States and fishing States on the high seas to collect and share, in a timely manner, complete and accurate data concerning fishing activities on, inter alia, vessel position, catch of target and non-target species and fishing effort;

MINDFUL of the call upon States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 67/79 on Sustainable fisheries to collect the necessary data in order to evaluate and closely monitor the use of large-scale fish aggregating devices and others, as appropriate, and their effects on tuna resources and tuna behaviour and associated and dependent species, to improve management procedures to monitor the number, type and use of such devices and to mitigate possible negative effects on the ecosystem, including on juveniles and the incidental bycatch of non-target species, particularly sharks and marine turtles;

NOTING that the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing provides that States should compile fishery-related and other supporting scientific data relating to fish stocks covered by subregional or regional fisheries management organisations and provide them in a timely manner to the organisation;

RECOGNISING that all gears deployed to target resources under the competence of IOTC should be managed to ensure the sustainability of fishing operations;

AWARE that the Commission is committed to adopt conservation measures to reduce juvenile bigeye tuna and yellowfin tuna mortalities from fishing effort on Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs);

AWARE that the availability of adequate information is fundamental to carrying out the objectives of the IOTC Agreement laid down in its Article V;

NOTING that the IOTC Scientific Committee advised the Commission to conduct an investigation of the feasibility and impacts of a temporary FAD closure as well as other measures in the context of Indian Ocean fisheries and stocks;

NOTING that the IOTC Scientific Committee recommended that an ad hoc working group on FADs, drifting and anchored, be created to assess the consequences of the increasing number and technological developments of FADs in tuna fisheries and their ecosystems, in order to inform and advise on future FAD-related management options;

NOTING that ICCAT and WCPFC have already approved at their 2014 sessions the establishment of FAD working groups, and that the SC agreed that at least the ICCAT and IOTC working groups on FADs work jointly whenever possible.

ADOPTS, in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, paragraph 1 of the IOTC Agreement, the following:

1. An ad hoc working group on FADs (**Annex I**), drifting and anchored, is created to assess the consequences of the increasing number and technological developments of FADs in tuna fisheries and their ecosystems, in order to inform and advise on future FAD-related management options. This ad hoc working group would be of multi-sectorial nature, involving various stakeholders such as scientists, fishery managers, fishing industry representatives, administrators and fishers. The working group shall deliver its findings in time for the 2017 IOTC Scientific Committee to examine them.

2. The IOTC S Secretariat should liaise with the ICCAT Secretariat to determine if their FAD working group could work in conjunction with the IOTC working group.

## Annex I

### Terms of reference for an ad hoc working group on fish aggregating devices (FADs)

- 1) The objectives of the ad hoc working group on Fish Aggregating devices (FADs) would be the following:
  - To collect and compile information about past and present numbers of buoys and FADs, changes in FAD-related technology and activities of supply vessels;
  - To review the requirements of collection of data on FADs established in [Resolution 15/08](#) in order to assess the necessity for revision;
  - To assess the effect of FAD's density and spatial distribution on the behaviour, distribution and species composition of the tuna schools;
  - To assess the developments in FAD-related technology notably with regards to:
    - changes in catchability due to technological improvement;
    - using FAD and buoys marking and identification as a tool for monitoring, tracking and control of FADs;
    - reducing FAD's ecological impacts through improved design, such as non-entangling FADs and biodegradable material.
  - To evaluate ways to improve the use of information related to FADs in the process of stock assessment, particularly in the standardisation of catch per unit effort, and in ecological risk assessment for non-target species;
  - Through an active exchange of views, to identify management options, including the regulation of deployment limits and characteristics of FADs, and activities of support vessels;
  - To assess the consequences of these management options, in conjunction with other fleets fishing mortality components, on IOTC-managed species and on the pelagic ecosystems.
- 2) All types of FADs, anchored or drifting, would be considered in the ad hoc working group.
- 3) As several coastal states with limited capacities are primarily concerned by anchored FADs, the IOTC Secretariat should ensure that special provisions be made for those countries in terms of compiling and assimilating the data as required for the ad hoc working group. This support could be included in the data collection tasks of the IOTC Secretariat.
- 4) The IOTC Secretariat should consider using the meeting participation fund (MPF) to facilitate the participation of scientists from IOTC coastal states who would contribute significantly in the FAD working group.
- 5) The access to data used for the FAD working group will follow the confidentiality policy and procedures presented in [Resolution 12/02](#) (or any subsequent superseding Resolution).
- 6) The ad hoc Working Group should be composed by scientists, fisheries managers, fishing industry Representatives, administrators and other interested stakeholders.





- 7) The ad hoc Working Group on FAD would not happen more than once a year, and shall report on its work to the WPTT and WPEB annual sessions.
- 8) The IOTC, at its annual session, will review the progress and outcomes of the FAD working group and will decide on the necessity for its continuation.

**APPENDIX XXV**  
**RESOLUTION 15/10**

***ON TARGET AND LIMIT REFERENCE POINTS AND A DECISION FRAMEWORK***

**Keywords:** Limit reference points, management strategy evaluation, kobe plot, maximum sustainable yield

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

CONSIDERING the objectives of the Commission are to maintain stocks in perpetuity and with high probability, at levels not less than those capable of producing their maximum sustainable yield as qualified by relevant environmental and economic factors including the special requirements of developing States in the IOTC area of competence;

BEING MINDFUL of Article XVI of the IOTC Agreement regarding the rights of Coastal States and of Article 87 and 116 of the UN Convention of the Law of the Sea regarding the right to fish on the high seas;

RECALLING that Article 6, paragraph 3, of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea of December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (UNFSA), establishes the application of precautionary reference points as a general principle for sound fisheries management;

FURTHER RECALLING that Annex II of UNFSA provides guidelines for the application of precautionary reference points in the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, including the adoption of provisional reference points when information for establishing reference points is absent or poor;

NOTING that the Scientific Committee noted that the interim limit reference points contained in Resolution 13/10 (superseded by Resolution 15/10) are not consistent with FAO and UNFSA guidelines;

NOTING that Article 7.5.3 of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries also recommends the implementation of stock specific target and limit reference points, *inter alia*, on the basis of the precautionary approach;

NOTING that recommendations 37 and 38 of the Performance Review Panel, adopted by the Commission as [Resolution 09/01](#), indicate that pending the amendment or replacement of the IOTC Agreement to incorporate modern fisheries management principles, the Commission should implement the precautionary approach including, *inter alia*, precautionary reference points, as set forth in the UNFSA;

NOTING [Resolution 12/01](#) *On the implementation of the precautionary approach* that recommends adoption of provisional reference points, and that the IOTC Scientific Committee proposed provisional values at its 14<sup>th</sup> Session;

RECALLING ALSO that the IOTC Scientific Committee commenced a process leading to a management strategy evaluation (MSE) process to improve upon the provision of scientific advice on Harvest Control Rules (HCRs);

HIGHLIGHTING that the IOTC Scientific Committee is now in a position to provide advice on stock status relative to reference points for several stocks of tropical, temperate or neritic tunas and billfish;

FURTHER NOTING that the IOTC Scientific Committee at its 17<sup>th</sup> Session made recommendations on possible alternates to limit and target reference points derived from  $B_{MSY}$  and  $F_{MSY}$ , when those are considered as insufficiently robust, that are derived from proportions of  $B_0$ , being the estimated virgin biomass;

FURTHER NOTING the Scientific Committee also recommended that in cases where MSY-based reference points cannot be robustly estimated, biomass limit reference points be set at 20 % of the virgin biomass ( $B_{LIM}=0.2 B_0$ ).

ACKNOWLEDGING that continuing dialog between scientists and managers is necessary to define appropriate HCRs for the IOTC tuna and tuna-like stocks;

ADOPTS in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article IX of the IOTC Agreement, that:

### Interim Target and Limit Reference Points (TRPs and LRPs)

- When assessing stock status and providing recommendations to the Commission, the IOTC Scientific Committee should, where possible, apply MSY-based target and limit reference points for tuna and tuna-like species and in particular the interim reference points agreed by the Commission in 2013 for albacore, swordfish and the three (3) tropical tunas (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna) (per Resolution 13/10 *On interim target and limit reference points and a decision framework*) (superseded by [Resolution 15/10](#)), as listed in **Table 1**.  $B_{MSY}$  refers to the biomass level for the stock that would produce the Maximum Sustainable Yield;  $F_{MSY}$  refers to the level of fishing mortality that produces the Maximum Sustainable Yield.

**Table 1.** Interim target and limit reference points.

| Stock                                   | Target Reference Point                             | Limit Reference Point                                |
|---|--|--|
| Albacore<br>Yellowfin tuna<br>Swordfish | $B_{TARGET} = B_{MSY}$ ;<br>$F_{TARGET} = F_{MSY}$ | $B_{LIM} = 0.40 B_{MSY}$<br>$F_{LIM} = 1.40 F_{MSY}$ |
| Bigeye tuna                             | $B_{TARGET} = B_{MSY}$<br>$F_{TARGET} = F_{MSY}$   | $B_{LIM} = 0.50 B_{MSY}$<br>$F_{LIM} = 1.30 F_{MSY}$ |
| Skipjack tuna                           | $B_{TARGET} = B_{MSY}$<br>$F_{TARGET} = F_{MSY}$   | $B_{LIM} = 0.40 B_{MSY}$<br>$F_{LIM} = 1.50 F_{MSY}$ |

### Alternate interim Target and Limit Reference Points

- Where the IOTC Scientific Committee considers that MSY-based reference points cannot be robustly estimated, biomass limit reference points will be set at a rate of  $B_0$ . Unless the IOTC Scientific Committee advises the Commission of more suitable limit reference point for a particular species, by default, the interim  $B_{LIM}$  will be set at  $0.2 B_0$  and fishing mortality rate limit reference point at  $F_{0.2 B_0}$  (the value corresponding to this biomass limit reference point). These interim limit reference points will be reviewed no later than 2018.
- Where the IOTC Scientific Committee considers that MSY-based reference points cannot be robustly estimated, target reference points based on the depletion proportion (i.e. reference points with respect to the ratio of current biomass to  $B_0$ ,  $B_0$  being the virgin biomass estimate) should be used as a basis for  $B_{TARGET}$  and  $F_{TARGET}$ , as follows:
  - the interim biomass target reference point  $B_{TARGET}$  could be set at a ratio of  $B_0$ , the virgin biomass;
  - the interim fishing mortality rate target reference point  $F_{TARGET}$  could be set at a level consistent with the target biomass reference point, the fishing mortality rate corresponding then to the adopted ratio of  $B_0$ , the virgin biomass).
- These target and limit reference points, referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, shall be further reviewed by the IOTC Scientific Committee according to the program of work at **Annex 1** and in accordance with paragraph 6. The results shall be presented to the Commission for adoption of species-specific reference points.
- The IOTC Scientific Committee shall continue to provide advice on the status of stocks and on recommendations for management measures in relation to the reference points referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, where available, until the Commission adopts other reference points that achieve the IOTC's conservation and management objectives and are consistent with paragraph 6.
- The IOTC Scientific Committee shall recommend to the Commission for its consideration options for harvest control rules for IOTC species in relation to agreed reference points and, in doing so, shall take into account:

- 
- a) the provisions set forth in the UNFSA and in Article V of the IOTC Agreement;
  - b) the following objectives and any other objective identified through the Science and Management Dialogue process designed in [Resolution 14/03](#) (or any revision thereof) and agreed thereafter by the Commission:
    - i. Maintain the biomass at or above levels required to produce MSY or its proxy and maintain the fishing mortality rate at or below  $F_{MSY}$  or its proxy;
    - ii. Avoid the biomass being below  $B_{LIM}$  and the fishing mortality rate being above  $F_{LIM}$ ;
  - c) the following guidelines:
    - i. For a stock where the assessed status places it within the lower right (green) quadrant of the Kobe Plot, aim to maintain the stock with a high probability within this quadrant;
    - ii. For a stock where the assessed status places it within the upper right (orange) quadrant of the Kobe Plot, aim to end overfishing with a high probability in as short a period as possible;
    - iii. For a stock where the assessed status places it within the lower left (yellow) quadrant of the Kobe plot, aim to rebuild these stocks in as short a period as possible;
    - iv. For a stock where the assessed status places it within the upper left quadrant (red), aim to end overfishing with a high probability and to rebuild the biomass of the stock in as short a period as possible.

## Final Clauses

- 7. Bearing in mind Article 64 of UNCLOS and Article 8 of UNFSA, the entirety of this Resolution is subject to Article XVI (Coastal States' Rights) of the IOTC Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, and Articles 87 and 116 of the UN Convention of the Law of the Sea regarding the right to fish on the high seas;
- 8. The IOTC Scientific Committee is requested to evaluate the performance of any harvest control rules with respect to the species specific target and limit reference points adopted for IOTC species, but not later than 10 years following their adoption, and the Commission will consider, as appropriate and consistent with the scientific advice, these harvest control rules.
- 9. As soon as advice from the IOTC Scientific Committee regarding the appropriateness of TRPs and LRPs, as required under **Annex 1**, is available to the Commission, and where possible no later than at the IOTC Commission meeting in 2020, this Resolution will be reviewed with the view to adopting revised TRPs and LRPs.
- 10. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 13/10 *On interim target and limit reference points and a decision framework*.

**Annex 1**

**Development and Assessment of Target (TRPs) and Limit Reference Points (LRPs), Harvest Control Rules (HCRs) through Management Strategies Evaluation (MSE) – Program of Work**

1. The IOTC Scientific Committee is requested to assess the appropriateness of the limit reference points (LRP) and target reference points (TRP) referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of the Resolution 15/10, where relevant, and other reference points based on the guidelines of UNFSA taking into account:
  - a) the nature of these reference points – target or limits,
  - b) the best scientific knowledge on population dynamics and on life-history parameters,
  - c) all fisheries exploiting the stock, and
  - d) major sources of uncertainty.
2. The IOTC Scientific Committee is requested to develop and assess, through the management strategy evaluation (MSE) process, the performance of Harvest Control Rules (HCRs), to achieve Target Reference Points (TRPs) on average and avoid the Limit Reference Points (LRPs) with a high probability taking into account the levels of uncertainty in the stock assessments for the priority species listed in point 4. To that end the following activities shall be carried out:
  - a) The IOTC Scientific Committee is requested to assess the robustness and the performance of the HCRs in relation to:
    - i. the TRPs and LRPs specified in Resolution 15/10; and
    - ii. alternative candidate TRPs and LRPs, as identified through Science and Management Dialogue processes as laid down in Resolution 14/03.
  - b) The IOTC Scientific Committee is requested to provide a range of potential performance statistics to allow the Commission to evaluate the alternative candidate HCRs and alternative LRPs/TRPs.
3. When evaluating candidate HCRs for species identified in point 4a and 4b, the IOTC Scientific Committee will be requested to provide advice regarding the probability of the biomass being:
  - a) at or below the biomass LRP;
  - b) at or above the biomass TRP.
4. The initial assessment described in points 2 and 3 shall be completed, where possible, for:
  - a) Albacore and skipjack tuna by the Scientific Committee in 2015 for presentation to the Commission meeting in 2016.
  - b) Assessments for yellowfin tuna, bigeye tuna and swordfish to be completed by 2017 and presented to the Commission meeting in 2018.

**APPENDIX XXVI**  
**RESOLUTION 15/11**

***ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A LIMITATION OF FISHING CAPACITY OF CONTRACTING PARTIES AND COOPERATING NON-CONTRACTING PARTIES***

**Keywords:** Fishing capacity; tropical tunas, swordfish; albacore.

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

RECALLING the adoption by IOTC in 2003 of the [Resolution 03/01](#) *on the limitation of fishing capacity of IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties*; the adoption in 2006 of Resolution 06/05 [superseded by Resolution 09/02, then Resolution 12/11, then [Resolution 15/11](#)] on limitation of fishing capacity, in terms of number of vessels, of IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, and the adoption in 2007 of Resolution 07/05 [superseded by Resolution 09/02, then Resolution 12/11, then [Resolution 15/11](#)] *on limitation of fishing capacity of IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties in terms of number of vessels targeting swordfish and albacore*;

RECOGNISING that FAO International Plan of Action for the Management of the Fishing Capacity (IPOA) provides, in its Objectives and Principles that "States and Regional Fisheries Organisations confronted with an overcapacity problem, where capacity is undermining achievement of long-term sustainability outcomes, should endeavour initially to limit at present level and progressively reduce the fishing capacity applied to affected fisheries";

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the need to have due regard for the interests of all Members concerned, in conformity with the rights and obligations of those Members under international law and in particular, to the rights and obligations of developing countries of the Indian Ocean rim with respect to entry into the high-seas fisheries in the IOTC area of competence;

RECOGNISING the need to ensure the proper implementation of the [Resolutions 03/01](#) and [Resolution 15/11](#), in order to allow the stabilisation of the level of fishing capacity active on the stocks of high commercial value under the IOTC responsibility, and to facilitate the work of the IOTC Scientific Committee to be able to provide the Commission with sound scientific advice;

ADOPTS in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article IX of the IOTC Agreement, that:

1. Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs) shall notify to the IOTC Secretariat, by 31 December 2009, the lists of vessels, by gear type, over 24 meters overall length and over, and under 24 meters if they fished outside their Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), and corresponding overall capacity in GT, which have actively fished in accordance with the provision of IOTC [Resolution 10/08](#) and [Resolution 14/05](#):
  - for tropical tunas during the year 2006<sup>6</sup>
  - for swordfish and albacore during the year 2007

Both lists shall include the vessel at that time considered under administrative process of construction.

2. In notifying their vessels fishing for tropical tunas in the area in 2006, and for swordfish and albacore in 2007, the CPCs shall confirm that they have verified the effective presence and fishing activities of their vessels in

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<sup>6</sup> Acknowledging that the catch levels and vessels presence in 2006 of certain Members is not representative of their historical presence, and consequently that these Members may increase the number of vessels present during the period of application of the Resolution to a maximum level operating in a season or year since 2000. These Members shall provide the Commission the identified number of vessels and corresponding capacity in GT by 31 December 2009.



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the IOTC area of competence in 2006 and in 2007, through their VMS records, catch reports, port calls, or other means. The IOTC Secretariat shall have access to such information upon request.

3. This provision does not apply to those vessels included in the lists, but considered under administrative process of construction in 2006 and in 2007.
4. Within the period of application of this Resolution, CPCs may change the number of their vessels, by gear type, provided that they can either demonstrate to the Commission, under the advice of the IOTC Scientific Committee that the change in the number of vessels, by gear type, does not lead to an increase of fishing effort on the fish stocks involved or where they are directly limiting catches using individual transferable quotas under a comprehensive national management plan which has been provided to the Commission.
5. CPCs shall ensure that where there is a proposed transfer of capacity to their fleet that the vessels to be transferred are on the IOTC Record of Vessels or on the Record of Vessels of other tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organisations. No vessels on the List of IUU Vessels of any Regional Fisheries Management Organisation may be transferred.
6. The other CPCs which had the objective of developing their fleets following the provisions of IOTC [Resolution 03/01](#), through the introduction to the IOTC of a fleet development plan, shall confirm, by 31 December 2009, *inter alia*, the type, size, gear and origin of the vessels included in the Fleet Development Plans and the programming (precise calendar for the forthcoming 10 years) of their introduction into the fisheries). All future fishing efforts shall be in accordance with such development Plans of the concerned CPCs.
7. The CPCs which have introduced a Fleet Development Plan, and have confirmed the information on the vessels included in those plans according to the provision of paragraph 3, shall implement their Plans according to their programming. Regarding CPCs which fail to introduce vessels in accordance with their Fleet Development Plans, the IOTC Compliance Committee and the Commission will give annual consideration to the problems related to the implementation of Fleet Development Plans.
8. The IOTC Compliance Committee shall verify, at any IOTC Plenary Session, the compliance of CPCs with the provisions of this Resolution, including the implementation, according to the notified programming, of the Fleet Development Plans.
9. In relation to the foregoing, the Commission will give due consideration to the interests of the developing coastal States, in particular small islands developing States and territories within the IOTC area of competence.
10. This Resolution is applicable during the years 2015 and 2016. The Commission shall review its implementation at the 2016 IOTC Session.
11. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 12/11 *on the implementation of a limitation of fishing capacity of Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties*.





**APPENDIX XXVII**  
**SCHEDULE OF SUBSIDIARY BODY MEETINGS FOR 2015, 2016 AND TENTATIVELY FOR 2017**

|   | 2015             |                       |                      | 2016             |                             |                         | 2017             |                             |                      |
|---|------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Meeting   | No.              | Date                  | Location             | No.              | Date                        | Location                | No.              | Date                        | Location             |
| Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria (TCAC)       | 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | TBD                   | TBD                  | 4 <sup>th</sup>  | TBD                         | TBD                     | 5 <sup>th</sup>  | TBD                         | TBD                  |
| Compliance Committee (CoC)                              | 12 <sup>th</sup> | 20–22 April (3d)      | Busan, Rep. of Korea | 13 <sup>th</sup> | TBD in May (3d)             | La Reunion, France (EU) | 14 <sup>th</sup> | TBD in April (3d)           | Bali, Indonesia      |
| Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF) | 12 <sup>th</sup> | 23–24 April (2d)      | Busan, Rep. of Korea | 13 <sup>th</sup> | TBD in May (2d)             | La Reunion, France (EU) | 14 <sup>th</sup> | TBD in April (2d)           | Bali, Indonesia      |
| Commission  | 19 <sup>th</sup> | 27 April – 1 May (5d) | Busan, Rep. of Korea | 20 <sup>th</sup> | TBD in May (5d)             | La Reunion, France (EU) | 21 <sup>th</sup> | TBD in April (5d)           | Bali, Indonesia      |
| Working Party on Neritic Tunas (WPNT)                   | 5 <sup>th</sup>  | 26–29 May (4d)        | Tanzania             | 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 24–27 May (4d)              | Nairobi, Kenya          | 7 <sup>th</sup>  | 22–25 May (4d)              | TBD                  |
| Working Party on Temperate Tunas (WPTT)                 | Nil              | Nil                   | Nil                  | 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 25–28 July (4d)             | TBD                     | Nil              | Nil                         | Nil                  |
| Working Party on Billfish (WPB)                         | 13 <sup>th</sup> | 1–5 September (5d)    | Algarve, Portugal    | 14 <sup>th</sup> | 1–5 September (5d)          | TBD                     | 15 <sup>th</sup> | 1–5 September (5d)          | TBD                  |
| Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB)          | 11 <sup>th</sup> | 7–11 September (5d)   | Algarve, Portugal    | 12 <sup>th</sup> | 7–11 September (5d)         | TBD                     | 13 <sup>th</sup> | 7–11 September (5d)         | TBD                  |
| Working Party on Methods (WPM)                          | 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 19–21 October (3d)    | Montpellier, France  | 7 <sup>th</sup>  | 15–17 October (3d)          | TBD                     | 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 13–15 October (3d)          | TBD                  |
| Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics (WPDCS) | 11 <sup>th</sup> | 22 October (1d)       | Montpellier, France  | 12 <sup>th</sup> | 18–20 October (3d)          | TBD                     | 13 <sup>th</sup> | 19–21 May (3d)              | TBD                  |
| Working Party on Tropical Tunas (WPTT)                  | 17 <sup>th</sup> | 23–28 October (6d)    | Montpellier, France  | 18 <sup>th</sup> | 22–26 October (5d)          | TBD                     | 19 <sup>th</sup> | 17–20 October (5d)          | TBD                  |
| Scientific Committee (SC)                               | 18 <sup>th</sup> | 23–27 November (5d)   | Bali, Indonesia      | 19 <sup>th</sup> | 28 November–2 December (5d) | Cebu, Philippines       | 20 <sup>th</sup> | 27 November–1 December (5d) | Victoria, Seychelles |

## APPENDIX XXVIII

### SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE DIALOGUE (MPD02)

#### Summary of outcomes the 2<sup>nd</sup> Management Procedure Dialogue (MPD02)

26 and 28 April 2015  
Busan, Rep. of Korea



#### Background

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Management Procedures Dialogue (MPD02) was held in Busan, Rep. of Korea on 26 and 28 April 2015 support by IOTC and ABNJ project (GEF-FAO)
- The MPD is mandated under Resolution 14/03 *on enhancing the dialogue between fisheries scientists and managers*. Concepts of what the IOTC is developing to ensure the long term sustainability of the resource and the fishery were discussed, and put in the context of the Precautionary Approach to fisheries.

#### Summary of discussions

- The discussions were aimed at providing clarification of the various elements of a Management Procedure, and how the process of Management Strategy Evaluation is utilised to assess the performance of candidate Management Procedures in fulfilling the management objectives identified in consultation with CPC's.
- The roles of the managers and scientists in this process were also discussed.

#### Summary of discussions

- The current status of the Management Strategy Evaluation process for albacore and skipjack tuna, supported by a practical exercise (excel simulation) to illustrate how a Management Procedure can be tuned on the basis of performance measures that evaluate the degree how the different objectives are met was presented.

## ROAD MAP

- At its 18<sup>th</sup> Session to be held in November 2015, it was suggested that the Scientific Committee review the simulation models to be used as the basis for the evaluation of management procedures for albacore and skipjack tuna.
- Develop a set of initial candidate management procedures, endorsed by the Scientific Committee, ranging from more conservative to less conservative, and considering both catch and effort based management measures, should be presented for consideration at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Management Procedures Dialogue (MPD03) to be held prior to the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission in 2016.
- Subsequent to the MPD03, it was suggested that a series of smaller dialogue sessions may occur to be attended by scientists and managers. The aim of the smaller groups is to promote greater discussion, understanding and engagement on the technical level.
- It was suggested that the Sessions of the MPD continue to be held annually, to advance the process until such a time that a Management Procedure is identified and adopted that best meets the management objectives to be agreed upon by the Commission for all relevant IOTC stocks.

- The Workshop suggested that the Scientific Committee, and its relevant subsidiary bodies, use the statistics in Table 1 as a first approximation to measure status, yield, safety, and stability in the evaluation of an initial set of candidate management procedures.

TABLE 1

| Possible management objectives and associated performance statistics                   | Performance measure/s | Summary statistic                                      |
|--|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Status: maximise probability of maintaining stock in the Kobe green zone</b>        |                       |  |
| Mean spawner biomass relative to unfished  | B/B <sub>0</sub>      | Geometric mean over years                              |
| Minimum spawner biomass relative to unfished   | B/B <sub>0</sub>      | Minimum over years                                     |
| Mean spawner biomass relative to B <sub>msy</sub>                                      | B/B <sub>msy</sub>    | Geometric mean over years                              |
| Mean fishing mortality relative to target  | F/F <sub>tar</sub>    | Geometric mean over years                              |
| Mean fishing mortality relative to F <sub>msy</sub>                                    | F/F <sub>msy</sub>    | Geometric mean over years                              |
| Probability of being in Kobe green quadrant  | B,F                   | Proportion of years that $B > B_{tar}$ & $F < F_{tar}$ |
| Probability of being in Kobe red quadrant  | B,F                   | Proportion of years that $B < B_{tar}$ & $F > F_{tar}$ |
| <b>Safety: maximise the probability of the stock remaining above the biomass limit</b> |                       |  |
| Probability that spawner biomass is above Blim   | B                     | Proportion of years that $B > B_{lim}$                 |
| <b>Yield: maximise catches across regions and gears</b>                                |                       |  |
| Mean catch   | C                     | Mean over years  |
| Mean catch by region and/or gear   | C                     | Mean over years  |
| <b>Abundance: maximise catch rates to enhance fishery profitability</b>                |                       |  |
| Mean catch rates by region and gear  | A                     | Geometric mean over years                              |
| <b>Stability: maximise stability in catches to reduce commercial uncertainty</b>       |                       |  |
| Mean absolute proportional change (MAPC) in catch                                      | C                     | Mean over years of $abs(C_t/C_{t-1}-1)$                |
| Variance in catch  | C                     | Variance over years                                    |
| Probability of shutdown  | C                     | Proportion of years that $C=0$                         |

## CONCLUSION

- Commission to note the outcomes of the meeting;
- the suggested road map to advance the Management Procedure Dialogue;
- Scientific committee consider the Statistics in table 1 as a first approximation to measure status, yield, safety, and stability in the evaluation of an initial set of candidate management procedures.