



DESPACHO DE LA ADMINISTRACIÓN GENERAL

Panama, February 03, 2016.
0111-2-SAG-2016

RE: Request of Application under the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party by the Republic of Panama.

Honorable
Rondolph Payet
Executive Secretary
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
Seychelles-

Honorable Mr. Payet,

I have the honor to write in order to request the status of cooperating non-contracting party (CNCP) for the Republic of Panama for the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission. It is important to inform that Panama is Contracting Party of IATTC, ICCAT and Cooperating non Member of the WCPFC, SPRFMO and ratified the CCAMLR Convention.

The Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama (ARAP) and the Government of Panama are committed to prevent and eliminate the illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities. We believe that IUU fishing is one of the most serious threats facing the biodiversity of the world's oceans. Our regulations high light our role as an international partner in the fight against IUU activities.

We are committed to comply with the conditions established in IOTC regulations.

The reason to seek the status of cooperating non Contracting Party is because we have a fleet that has the intension to operate in the Convention Area.

We express our commitment to cooperate fully in the implementation of conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission and ensure that Panamanian fishing vessels and support fishing vessels comply with the provisions of the Convention, conservation and management ad opted by the Commission.

.../...

Honorable
Rondolph Payet
Executive Secretary
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
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Also we want to express that in case of being necessary the acceptance of high seas boarding and inspections; in accordance with the Commission's procedures on high seas boarding and inspection, to ensure compliance by Panamanian vessels of IOTC's conservation and management measures.

Any additional information requested, will be supplied to the IOTC Secretariat by ARAP.

For appropriate action, the contact persons between Panama and IOTC Secretariat are as follows:

Magister Ivan Flores
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Best Regards,



IVÁN E. FLORES MORALES
General Administrator - In Charge



IFM/ds

February 04, 2016
DGIVC/DD/0024/2016

Honorable
DAVID WILSON
Executive Secretariat
Seychelles

Dear Mr. Wilson

I have the honor to write following the formal request of the status of cooperating non member (CNCP) of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission in letter Ref. **0111-2-SAG-2016**, in order to comply with the requirements to be accepted for the Commission, taking in account the Resolution 03/02 criteria as support of our application.

Data on its historical fisheries in the IOTC Area, including nominal catches, number/type of vessels, name of fishing vessels, fishing effort and fishing áreas.

- Panama does not have fishing vessels (catch) doe now in the IOTC convention área but we have several reefer vessels (support) that plan to keep registered in the IOTC convention área for transshipment, loading or unloading fish.

All the data that Contracting Parties have to submit to IOTC based on the Resolutions adopted by IOTC.

- Panama will submit the data that IOTC require inclouding the reports that are necessary like the compliance report and any other report based on the IOTC Resolutions.

Details on current fishing presence in the IOTC Area, number of vessels and vessels characteristics.

- Panama had a number of reefer vessels in the IOTC as follows:

IOTC0014787	46403-14	IBUKI	Cargo Freezer	134.15m	6558GT	3ELC8
IOTC008462	25668-TJ	KURIKOMA	Cargo Freezer	114.82m	4177GT	3FTS6
IOTC008448	47255-15	LADY TUNA	Cargo Freezer	120.75m	4538GT	3EQX2
IOTC008627	26158-99-C	SHIN CHUN No. 106	Cargo Freezer	75.00m	1463GT	3FCR9
IOTC008447	46792-15	TUNA PRINCESS	Cargo Freezer	120.80m	4522GT	H3CN
IOTC008446	29233-03-C	TUNA QUEEN	Cargo Freezer	120.75m	4499GT	HPFK

- Panama has the intension to include other reefer vessel as support fishing vessels.

Information on any research programs may have conducted in the IOTC Area and the information of the results of this research.

- Panama has not conducted any research programs in the IOTC Convention Area. In case that we plan to include any research program, the result will be provided to the Secretariat.

Confirm its commitment to respect the Commission's Conservation and Management Measures (CMM).

- Panama is fully committed to cooperate in the measures that the Commission have adopted or will adopt and we will continue to ensure that our vessels comply with the provisions of the Convention and Commission's Conservation Measures.

Inform the IOTC of the measures to ensure compliance by registered vessels.

- Panama have some regulations that are mandatory to ensure compliance by vessels as follows:
Executive Decree No. 161 of 2013
Executive Decree No. 160 of 2013
Executive Decree No. 162 of 2013

Law No. 44 of 2006

- Panama has implemented measure like VMS in all international fishing vessels and support fishing vessels.

Also, Panama is fully committed to supporting the IOTC Convention in combatting illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing activities.

Any additional information, do not hesitate to contact us.

Best Regards,

