UPDATE ON PROGRESS REGARDING RESOLUTION 09/01 – *ON THE PERFORMANCE REVIEW FOLLOW–UP*

PREPARED BY: IOTC SECRETARIAT; 22 MARCH 2016

PURPOSE

To provide the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF) with an opportunity to update the current status of implementation for each of the recommendations arising from the Report of the 1st IOTC Performance Review Panel, relevant to the SCAF.

BACKGROUND

In response to calls from the international community for a review of the performance of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs), the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) agreed in 2007 to implement a process of Performance Review. The IOTC formed a Review Panel, consisting of an independent legal expert, an independent scientific expert, six IOTC Members and a non-governmental organisation observer, which concluded its report to the Commission in January 2009. The Panel's review was based on the criteria developed as a result of a joint meeting of tuna RFMOs, Kobe, Japan, 2007 and concentrated on the following issues:

- Adequacy of the Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC Agreement) relative to current principles of fisheries management,
- Consistency between scientific advice and conservation and management measures adopted,
- Effectiveness of control measures established by the IOTC; and
- Efficiency and transparency of financial and administrative management.

In 2009, the IOTC performance review panel published a report outlining 81 recommendations to improve the functioning of the IOTC (Anon 2009).

DISCUSSION

At the 19th Session of the Commission held in April-May 2015, Members noted the status of implementation of each of the recommendations arising from the report of the performance review panel. The Commission agreed that each of the Committees should carry out a comprehensive evaluation of the status and priority of each of the recommendations from the Performance Review, and for a revised document to be provided to the Commission at its next Session. The Recommendations relevant to the SCAF are provided at Appendix A for consideration.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance:

1) **NOTE** paper IOTC–2016–SCAF13–10 which details the status of each of the recommendations from the performance review, as agreed to by the Commission at its 19th Session, with updates for 2015 shown in tracked-changes in Appendix A.
2) **REVIEW** and further **UPDATE** the status table, including the work plan with proposed timelines and priorities for each recommendation relevant to the work of the SCAF, for the Commission's consideration.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: SCAF: Update on progress regarding Resolution 09/01 – On the performance review follow-up

APPENDIX A

SCAF: 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 CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT	RESPONSIBILITY	UPDATE/STATUS	WORKPLAN/TIMELINE	PRIORITY
Data collection and sharing				
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.	*Standing Committee on Administration and Finance*	**Ongoing**: In 2010 the Commission allocated USD$400,000 for a range of projects related to capacity building in data collection and reporting. The Commission now allocates an annual Capactiy Building budget line as part of its Regular Budget. Despite being 'saved' in 2015, in 2016 that amount has been increased and will be fully spent. 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. 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: http://iotc.org/about-iotc/capacity-building	Review annually at IOTC meetings.	High
15. The Secretariat's capacity for data dissemination and quality assurance be enhanced, including through the employment of a fisheries statistician.	*Standing Committee on Administration and Finance via Scientific Committee* *Commission*	**Partially Completed & Ongoing**: 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. 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

19. The Secretariat's capacity to provide support to developing States' Members should be enhanced.	*Commission and Standing Committee on Administration and Finance*	**Ongoing**: Former IOTC Resolution 10/05 (now contained within the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014)) provides a mechanism for financial support to facilitate scientists and representatives from developing 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, cCapacity building funds were are used annually (2015 exception) in the IOTC Regular Budget forin workshops to enhance understanding of the IOTC process among officials of member countries. 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.	Review annually at IOTC meetings.	High
Quality and provision of scientific advice				
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.	*Standing Committee on Administration and Finance on advice from Committees and the Commission*	**Ongoing**: The Secretariat, on the advice of the Committees and Commission, continue to propose additional staffing requirements while keeping in mind overall budget expectations by the Commission. recruited a Fisheries Officer (Science) in 2014, as requested by the Scientific Committee and Commission.	Review annually at IOTC meetings.	High

31. A special fund to support the participation of scientists from developing States should be established.	*Standing Committee on Administration and Finance*	**Completed**: 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. Originally set at US$200,000, t~~T~~he approved MPF budget for 2014 and 2015 was~~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 have agreed that contributions shall be funded through the IOTC R~~r~~egular B~~b~~udget. ~~contributions of membership.~~ In 2016 the Regular Budget incorporated US$150,000 for the MPF and US$200,000 in 2017. ~~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
ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION	RESPONSIBILITY	UPDATE/STATUS	WORKPLAN/TIMELINE	PRIORITY
Special requirements of developing States				
74. A specific fund to assist capacity building should be put in place.	*Standing Committee on Administration and Finance*	**Partially completed & Ongoing**. ~~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.~~ See also para. 11 above.	S19 will need to consider proposed budget lines for capacity building funds.	High.

Participation				
76. Financial support, in particular for attendance in the scientific activities to developing States, is needed.	*Standing Committee on Administration and Finance*	**Partially completed & Ongoing**: ~~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.~~ See also para. 11 above.	Annually for each IOTC meeting.	High
ON FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES		UPDATE/STATUS	WORKPLAN/TIMELINE	PRIORITY
Availability of resources for RFMO activities – efficiency and cost–effectiveness				
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.	*Standing Committee on Administration and Finance* *Commission and Members*	**Pending**. See Recommendations 1 and 2.		High
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.	*Standing Committee on Administration and Finance* *Commission*	**Pending**.		