

IOTC Agreement – Article X

Report of Implementation for the year 2016

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE REPORT 17 MARCH 2017

Reporting CPC: MALDIVES

Date of submission: 20/4/2017

Please NOTE: this document is composed of 3 sections to report on the implementation of IOTC Resolutions

Part A. *Describe the actions taken, under national legislation, in the previous year to implement conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission at its Twentieth Session.*

- Resolution 16/01 On an Interim Plan for Rebuilding the Indian Ocean Yellowfin tuna Stock in the IOTC area of competence

A plan "On implementation of Indian Ocean Tuna Commission Resolution 16/01, On an Interim Plan for Rebuilding the Indian Ocean Yellowfin Tuna Stock in the IOTC Area of Competence" has been set forth by the Maldives. The reduction measures set forth in the plan will be based on combination of management measures. In addition to the management measures the government of Maldives will also actively monitor yellowfin tuna catches to ensure that the provisions of the resolution are met. The plan has been sent to the secretariat.

The report on methods for achieving the YFT catch reductions has already been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

Yes **Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY):** 15/02/2017
No

Additional information:

The report submitted by Maldives on yellowfin tuna catch reductions is based on a number of management measures detailed in the plan which was submitted to the secretariat.

- Resolution 16/02 On harvest control rules for Skipjack tuna in the IOTC area of competence.

A full fledged Fisheries Information System - (referred to as "Keyolhu") is live from September 2016. This system will enable ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture to monitor catches in a more robust and timely manner. This system will be useful in the event that the provisions of this Resolution come into force.

However, this Resolution does not require any management intervention as of yet.

- Resolution 16/03 On the second performance review follow-up

No action have been undertaken.

- Resolution 16/04 On the implementation of a Pilot project in view of promoting the Regional observer scheme of IOTC

No Actions have been undertaken. This Resolution does not require any intervention from the Maldives.

- Resolution 16/05 On vessels without nationality

No further interventions have been made in response to this Resolution. The procedures set in place by the Maldives in relation to re-registering vessels manufactured abroad were already strong to ensure provisions of this Resolution were met. Any local purchasing a foreign fishing vessel, the vessel owner has to provide deletion certificates obtained from the relevant authority of the previous flag state which are cross referenced with the flag state and also all the information published by the IOTC secretariat. Local registration of fishing vessels is also verified through the current procedure set for licensing fishing vessels.

Maldives do not license foreign fishing vessels as government policy.

Through Port State measures necessary measures have been taken to curb vessels without nationality in accessing and using ports.

- Resolution 16/06 On measures applicable in case of non fulfilment of reporting obligations in the IOTC

“NOTING that incomplete reporting or no data reporting and that, despite the adoption of numerous measures intended to address the matter, lack of compliance with reporting obligations is still a problem for the Scientific Committee and for the Commission;”

Actions taken to implement their reporting obligations for all IOTC fisheries (in terms of Resolutions 15/01 and 15/02), including shark species caught in association with IOTC fisheries, and in particular the steps taken to improve their data collection for direct and incidental catches.

Note: where applicable, please report actions separately for artisanal (coastal), and industrial IOTC fisheries:

- **Action(s) to improve data collection that facilitate improvements in compliance in terms of IOTC mandatory reporting obligations (e.g. development or improvements in the implementation of logbooks, port-based sampling or related fisheries surveys, national observer scheme, vessel registry, electronic data capture, VMS, or on-board electronic monitoring):**

Maldives have been providing catch and effort data to IOTC on a regular basis. Maldives lacks financial and human resources for the implementation of Observer programme. However, a full

time scientific observer is now employed to collect observer data and Maldives is also aiming to increase observer coverage over the next few years through the implementation of e-observer systems.

A VMS is already in place for all Maldivian fishing vessels, and the plan of implementation for VMS has been submitted to the secretariat. Furthermore, improvements to the VMS are being sought and licensed fishing vessels will be fully covered by VMS as per the plan submitted to the IOTC.

- **Action(s) to improve data processing and reporting systems that facilitate submission of data to the IOTC Secretariat (e.g., development of fisheries databases and data dissemination systems, development of automated routines to process and extract IOTC data submissions, steps to minimise data entry errors):**

Maldives have developed a web-based Fisheries Information System (FIS) – Keyolhu to computerize a number of key management processes such as issuing licenses, catch and effort data reporting, reporting fish purchase information by processors and exporters.

At present, all log-book data submitted by the fishing vessels are manually entered to the FIS system by data entry staff at the Ministry. However, Maldives is working on a mobile based app aiming to improve time of reporting by fishing vessels which would be piloted by the by the start of May 2017. It is hoped this would improve the data reporting further and also make it more timely.

- **Action(s) to improve the quality and accuracy of data submitted to the IOTC Secretariat (e.g., steps to improve data validation, improvements in sampling coverage, frame surveys, etc.; coherence of data with alternative fisheries datasets, comparability of data from previous years):**

Procedures were already in place to ensure and improve the accuracy of the data. As such catch log book information from fishermen were cross-referenced to fish purchase data provided by the processors or exporters and also vessel tracking data.

Additional information:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- Resolution 16/07 On the use of artificial lights to attract fish

FAD deployments are conducted by the Government of Maldives only and Maldives do not deploy drifting FADs. Artificial lights are not used in AFADs installed in the Maldives.

- Resolution 16/08 On the prohibition of the use of aircrafts and unmanned aerial vehicles as fishing aids
Aerial vehicles and aircrafts are not used in Maldivian fisheries.
- Resolution 16/09 On establishing a Technical Committee on Management Procedures
No action has been taken.
- Resolution 16/10 To promote implementation of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures
No action has been taken as a CPC.
- Resolution 16/11 On Port state measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
Maldives have ratified Port State measures agreement and the principles in the IOTC resolution are all fulfilled through the agreement.
- Resolution 16/12 Working Party on the Implementation of Conservation and Management Measures (WPICMM)
No action to be taken by Maldives as a CPC.

Note: ^a indicate that a template report exists for some of the requirements and can be downloaded at <http://www.iotc.org/compliance/reporting-templates>



Part B. *Describe the actions taken, under national legislation, to implement conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission in previous Sessions, and which have not been reported previously.*

The new fisheries bill have been finalised after several stakeholder workshops and meetings. The bill is a framework law which gives broader powers to manage and develop the fisheries sector in the Maldives.

The bill has provisions to enable all conservation management measures of IOTC to be enacted as regulations.

Part C. Data and information reporting requirements for CPCs to be included in this report (please refer to the section “Implementation Report due by 17 March 2016” of the *Guide on data and information reporting requirements for Members and Cooperating Non-contracting Parties*, available for download at <http://www.iotc.org/compliance/reporting-templates>).

- Resolution 01/06 Concerning the IOTC bigeye tuna statistical document programme

CPCs which export bigeye tuna shall examine export data upon receiving the import data from the Secretary, and report the results to the Commission annually [A template report exists].

Nil report, specify the reason: No large scale longline vessels on the IOTC RAV
 Do not export frozen big eye tuna

The report has already been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

Yes Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY): 14/02/2017
 No

The report is attached to the implementation report:

Yes No

Additional information:
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- Recommendation 05/07 Concerning a management standard for the tuna fishing vessels

The CPC flag States which issues licenses to their AFVs should report annually to the Commission all measures taken to meet the minimum management standards when they issue fishing licenses to their “authorised fishing vessels”.

a. Management in the fishing grounds (of flag vessels).

	<i>Scientific Observer boarding</i>	<i>Satellite-based vessel monitoring system</i>	<i>Daily or required periodic catch report</i>	<i>Entry/Exit report</i>
Yes, No?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Note	% Click here to enter text.	% or number of vessels 40%	Method Through catch logbook	Method Through VMS, emails and fax

b. Management of transshipment (from the fishing grounds to the landing ports; of flag vessels)

	<i>Transshipment report</i>	<i>Port inspection</i>	<i>Statistical document program</i>
Yes, No?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Note	Method	Method	

	Click here to enter text.	Compliance officer inspecting vessels at port	
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c. Management at landing ports (of flag vessels).

	Landing inspection	Landing reporting	Cooperation with other Parties
Yes, No?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Note	Method Random inspection at landing facilities by inspectors	Method Through landing reports from fish processors and landing facilities	Click here to enter text.

Additional information:

Click here to enter text.

- Resolution 10/10 Concerning market related measures

For CPCs that import tuna and tuna-like fish products, or in whose ports those products are landed or transhipped, should report a range of information (e.g. information on vessels / owners, product data (species, weight), point of export) annually. *[A template report exists].*

Nil report, specify the reason(s): **No landing from foreign vessels in national ports**
 No transhipment by foreign vessels in national ports
 Do not import tuna and tuna-like fish products

The report on import, landing or transhipment of tuna and tuna-like fish products landed or transhipped in port in 2016 have already been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

Yes **Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY):** 15/02/2017
 No

The report on import, landing or transhipment of tuna and tuna-like fish products landed or transhipped in port in 2016 is attached to the implementation report:

Yes No

Additional information:

Click here to enter text.

- Resolution 11/02 Prohibition of fishing on data buoys

CPCs are to notify the IOTC Secretariat of all reports of observations of damaged data buoys.

Nil Report

The report has already been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

Yes **Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY):** Click here to enter text.

No

The report is attached to the implementation report:

Yes

No

Additional information:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- Resolution 11/04 On a Regional observer scheme

CPCs shall provide to the Executive Secretary and the Scientific Committee annually a report of the number of vessels monitored and the coverage achieved by gear type in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution.

Type of gear	No of vessels monitored in 2015	Coverage in 2015 (%)
Purse seine	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Longline	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Gillnet	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Bait Boat	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Hand line	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Insert other gear type Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Insert other gear type Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Insert other gear type Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Insert other gear type Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

Additional information:

There is no observer programme.

- Resolution 12/04 On marine turtles

CPCs shall report to the Commission, in accordance with Article X of the IOTC Agreement, their progress of implementation of the FAO Guidelines and this Resolution.

Implemented. Interactions are reported.

- Resolution 12 /06 On Reducing the Incidental Bycatch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries

CPCs shall provide to the Commission, as part of their annual reports, information on how they are implementing this measure and all available information on interactions with seabirds, including

bycatch by fishing vessels carrying their flag or authorised to fish by them. This is to include details of species where available to enable the Scientific Committee to annually estimate seabird mortality in all fisheries within the IOTC Area of Competence.

Implemented. Interactions are reported.

- Resolution 12/12 To Prohibit the use of large-scale driftnets on the high seas in the IOTC Area

CPCs shall include in their Annual Report a summary of monitoring, control, and surveillance actions related to large-scale driftnet fishing on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence.

Banned in the Maldives.

- Resolution 13/04 On the conservation of cetaceans

CPCs shall report, in accordance with Article X of the IOTC Agreement, any instances in which cetaceans have been encircled by the purse seine nets of their flagged vessels.

Not applicable (No PS vessels on the IOTC RAV in 2016);

No encirclement reported by flag vessels in 2016,

Encirclement reported by flag vessels in 2016 (Complete the table below):

Name of the species	Number of instances of encirclement
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

Additional information:

Click here to enter text.

- Resolution 13/05 On the conservation of whale sharks (*Rhincodon typus*)

CPCs shall report, in accordance with Article X of the IOTC Agreement, any instances in which whale sharks have been encircled by the purse seine nets of their flagged vessels.

Not applicable (No PS vessels on the IOTC RAV in 2016);

No encirclement reported by flag vessels in 2016,

Encirclement reported by flag vessels in 2016 (Complete the table below):

Name of the species	Number of instances of encirclement
Whale sharks (<i>Rhincodon typus</i>)	Click here to enter text.

Additional information:

Click here to enter text.

- Resolution 14/05 Concerning A Record Of Licensed Foreign Vessels Fishing For IOTC Species In The IOTC Area Of Competence And Access Agreement Information

For Government to Government access agreement in existence prior to the entry into force of this resolution, where coastal CPCs allow foreign-flagged vessels to fish in waters in their EEZ in the IOTC Area for species managed by IOTC through a CPC-to-CPC agreement, CPCs involved in the referred agreement:

- Shall submit copy of the access agreement,
- Shall submit information concerning these agreements (paragraphs 3a, b, c, d, e, f, g),

A report template exists and can be requested at secretariat@iotc.org

Additional information:

Maldives do not issue license to foreign fishing vessels.

No foreign access agreements.

- Resolution 14/06 On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels
(Report of flag vessels transshipping in foreign ports)

Each flag CPC of the LSTV shall include in its annual report each year to IOTC the details on the transshipments in ports by its vessels (Name of LSTV, IOTC Number, name of carrier vessel, species and quantity transhipped, date and location of transshipment). *[A template report exists].*

Nil report, specify the reason(s): No LSTVs on the RAV

Flag LSTVs do not tranship in foreign ports

The details on transshipment in ports for 2016 have already been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

Yes

Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY): April 22, 2016

No

The details on transshipment in ports for 2016 are attached to the implementation report:

Yes

No

Additional information:

There has not been any transshipments in 2016

- Resolution 15/04 Concerning the IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC Area of Competence.

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.

The flag CPCs of the vessels on the record shall:

- take measures to ensure that their AFVs comply with all the relevant IOTC Conservation and Management Measures;
Describe the measures:
Periodic checks by the compliance unit staff to ensure that IOTC conservation and management measures are met by AFVs.
- take 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;
Describe the measures:
Processing companies are not allowed to purchase fish from vessels without vessel licenses and registration certificates. Periodic checks by the compliance unit ensures that this procedure is followed.
- 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;
Describe the measures:
Maldives cross references the documents with flag states, RFMOs and other MCS centers before authorising a license when a local purchase a foreign fishing vessel. Foreign vessels are not allowed to fish in Maldives waters.
- 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;
Describe the measures:
Under the licensing regulation all commercial fishing vessels have to obtain a fishing license. These are automatically sent to IOTC for it to be included in the record.
- take 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;
Describe the measures:



The vessel owners have to submit vessel registration certificates along with national identity documents. If its under a company, company registration details including shareholder information is submitted.

- 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

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.

Not applicable (No PS vessels on the IOTC RAV in 2016);

The report has already been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

Yes

Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY):

No

The report is attached to the implementation report:

Yes

No

Additional information:

[Click here to enter text.](#)