
GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF NATIONAL REPORTS TO THE IOTC SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE IN 2017

The National Report is due to be submitted no later than 15 days prior to the start of the annual regular session of the Scientific Committee.

DEADLINE: 15 NOVEMBER 2017

Purpose: To provide relevant information to the Scientific Committee on fishing activities of Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties operating in the IOTC area of competence. The report should include all fishing activities for species under the IOTC mandate as well as sharks and other byproduct/ bycatch species as required by the IOTC Agreement and decisions by the Commission.

NOTE: The submission of a National Report is **Mandatory**, irrespective if a CPC intends on attending the annual meeting of the Scientific Committee.

Explanatory note

This report is intended to provide a summary of the main features of the tuna and billfish fisheries for Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties. As such, it does not replace the need for submission of data according to Resolution 15/02 *Mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs)*

Mandatory versus Desirable information

National Reports must include all headings as noted in the template below as [Mandatory]. Where data/information is not available for a given [Mandatory] heading, the reason why it is not available should be clearly stated. These mandatory fields for the *National Reports* were agreed to be the Scientific Committee in 2010.

Where available, CPCs are encouraged to provide additional information under the headings shown as [Desirable].

For clarification on minimum reporting requirements for the National Report, please contact the IOTC Secretariat (secretariat@iotc.org).

NOTE

Please use the template below when preparing your National Report. Simply delete this explanatory page and add your own cover page/preliminaries if needed.

Please also delete any text shown in **red** below before submitting your National Report.

Mauritius National Report to the Scientific Committee of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, 2017

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Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping

INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

<p>In accordance with IOTC Resolution 15/02, final scientific data for the previous year was provided to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 June of the current year, for all fleets other than longline [e.g. for a National Report submitted to the IOTC Secretariat in 2017, final data for the 2016 calendar year must be provided to the Secretariat by 30 June 2017)</p>	<p>YES 30/06/2017</p>
<p>In accordance with IOTC Resolution 15/02, provisional longline data for the previous year was provided to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 June of the current year [e.g. for a National Report submitted to the IOTC Secretariat in 2017, preliminary data for the 2016 calendar year was provided to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 June 2017).</p> <p>REMINDER: Final longline data for the previous year is due to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 Dec of the current year [e.g. for a National Report submitted to the IOTC Secretariat in 2017, final data for the 2016 calendar year must be provided to the Secretariat by 30 December 2017).</p>	<p>YES 30/06/2017</p>
<p>If no, please indicate the reason(s) and intended actions:</p>	

Executive Summary [Mandatory]

In 2016, five semi-industrial boats were added to the Mauritius fleet and are authorised to fish both within and outside the national EEZ targeting tuna species, each having a GT of 90t. Two of those vessels operated only within the EEZ while the other three boats operated exclusively outside the EEZ. The semi-industrial fleet operating inside the EEZ increased from 5 boats in 2015 to 8 boats in 2016. The total catch from the EEZ amounted to 192 tonnes with an effort of 439046 hooks. 215 tonnes of tuna and tuna-like species was reported for the fleet operating outside the EEZ, with a deployment of 322532 hooks. Hence, a total catch of 407 tonnes was recorded for the semi-industrial fleet for 2016 and 761578 hooks were deployed. Shortfin mako sharks (*Isurus oxyrinchus*), hammerhead sharks (*Sphyrnidae*) and blue sharks (*Prionace glauca*) were caught and release of live sharks and live rays was reported by the longliners.

As for the purse seine fleet, two vessels were registered under the Mauritius flag and their catch amounted to 11777 tonnes with 463 sets deployed within latitudes 0°N-5°N; 0°S-14°S and longitudes 50°E -69°E; 40°E-80°E respectively. The catch consisted mainly of yellowfin tuna (63%) followed by skipjack tuna (32%) and bigeye tuna (5%). Three observers were deployed on both purse seiners in 2016.

Sampling exercises were undertaken on the catch unloaded by the local flagged purse seiners and the fork lengths of 801 yellowfin tuna 243 skipjack tuna and 14 bigeye tuna were measured. For the semi-industrial fleet, fork lengths of 211 albacore tuna, 176 bigeye tuna and 240 yellowfin tuna were taken while the operculum to keel length of 534 swordfish was recorded as well as the whole length of 8 mako sharks.



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1. BACKGROUND/GENERAL FISHERY INFORMATION [MANDATORY]

The Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of Mauritius is found in the South West Indian Ocean and extends over an area of 1.9 million km² out and an extended continental shelf of approximately 400,000 km² jointly managed with Seychelles. There are two purse seiners flagged by Mauritius which are allowed to operate both within and beyond its EEZ. In 2016, the purse seiners operated in both Quadrat 1 and Quadrat 2 as follows: latitude 0°N-6°N /longitude 50°E-69°E and latitude 0°S-14°S/longitude 40°E-80°E. Those purse seiners fishing activities was mainly on log associated schools. The catch is preserved in the frozen state onboard. Mauritius has also its longline fleet consisting of 11 boats of less than 24M in length. 6 of these boats are licensed to operate only within the EEZ and 5 boats are licensed to operate both within and beyond the EEZ. The fishing positions of the boats operating outside the EEZ of Mauritius range between latitude 13°S-29°S and longitude 34°E-42°E. The positions of those operating within the EEZ ranged between latitude 10°S-21°S and longitude 56°E-62°E.

The catch of the boats from the EEZ is preserved in the chilled state while the catch from outside the EEZ is preserved both in the chilled and frozen state.

2. FLEET STRUCTURE

The Mauritian fleet is composed of both surface longliners and purse seiners. The longliner fleet increased from 5 boats in 2015 to 11 boats in 2016. Those boats are exclusively involved in the semi-industrial fishery and operate both within and outside the EEZ during fishing campaigns lasting around 10 days. Their overall lengths and the gross tonnage ranged from 14.3m-23.8m and 32t-97.4 respectively. As for the purse seine fleet, it consists of 2 large freezer vessels having an overall length of 90.0m and a gross tonnage of 2667t. Those purse seiners are licensed to operate within the EEZ and in the high seas as well.

Table 1: Number of vessels operating in the IOTC area of competence, by gear type and size

Year	Gear	Number of vessels	Number of fishing days	GT	LOA (m)	Preservation Methods
2012	Surface longline	5	238	38.4-90.4	13.50-22.80	Chilled
2013	Surface longline	3	196	38.4-90.4	13.50-22.80	Chilled
	Purse seine	1	81	2667	90	Frozen
2014	Surface longline	3	131	38.4-90.4	13.50-22.80	Chilled
	Purse seine	7	386	678-2667	49.56-90	Frozen
2015	Surface longline	5	191	32-97.4	13.50-22.80	Chilled
	Purse seine	7	357	678-2667	49.56-90	Frozen
2016	Surface longline	11	649	32-97.4	14.3-23.8	Chilled/Frozen
	Purse seine	2	475	2667	90.0	Frozen

3. CATCH AND EFFORT (BY SPECIES AND GEAR)

The semi industrial longliners licensed to operate within the EEZ undertook 53 fishing trips with a total of 264 fishing days with a deployment of 439046 hooks. Those boats target swordfish which are landed gilled and gutted with both the head and tail off. A total catch of 192 tonnes was recorded for those boats, out of which 33% was swordfish, 27% yellowfin, 11% bigeye, 15% albacore tuna, 2% sharks, 8% billfish and 4% miscellaneous species. The miscellaneous species consisted of fish such as wahoo, oilfish, common dolphinfish, butterfish, kingfish and the yellowtail.

The longliners licensed to operate both within and beyond the EEZ target tuna and related species. A total of 41 fishing trips were recorded for those boats amounting to 385 fishing days with a catch of 215 tonnes consisting of 41% swordfish, 23% bigeye tuna, 19% yellowfin tuna, 2% albacore tuna, 11% marlin species, 1 % of billfish and 2% miscellaneous species. The fishing logbooks recorded a small catch of 825kg of shark species as well. 322532 hooks were deployed during the fishing campaigns undertaken.

A total of 475 fishing days was recorded for the two super freezer purse seiners and 463 sets were deployed. The total catch amounted to 11777 tonnes with a catch composition of 63% yellowfin tuna, 32% skipjack tuna, 5% bigeye tuna and 0.5% of albacore tuna. 51% of the catch was made on log-associated schools while 49% of the catch was from free school. The majority of the log-associated catch originated from artificial logs (94%) and only 6% of the log-associated catch was made on natural logs.

All the fishing operations are regularly monitored by the vessel monitoring system (VMS). Moreover, the catch is verified through the fishing logbooks submitted by the vessels' masters. It is mandatory for the vessels to submit logbooks and if a vessel fails to submit its logbook, it is subjected to penalties. The catch of the vessels are also monitored during landing at port and this is done by the officers based at the Port State Control Unit.

Table 2 a. Annual catch and effort of semi industrial longliners fishing outside the EEZ and their primary species

Species	Catch (kg)
Yellowfin	40235
Bigeye	49763
Albacore	4772
Swordfish	88698
Marlins	23546
Other billfishes	2107
Sharks	825
NEI	4822
Effort (hooks)	322532
Total	214768

Table 2 b. Annual catch and effort of semi industrial longliners fishing inside the EEZ and their primary species

Species	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Yellowfin	16476	5715	11265	11265	28270	52702
Bigeye	10826	2960	17185	7955	13284	20481
Albacore	8415	5555	6215	6451	12075	28789
Swordfish	43999	17065	28320	14015	42175	64076
Other billfishes	3531	1810	2053	1055	3885	14709
Sharks	740	455	680	90	485	3339
NEI	5407	2561	2255	1789	2695	7956
Effort (hooks)	252480	182300	150560	105120	195850	439046
Total	89394	36121	67973	42620	102869	192052

Table 2 c. Annual catch and effort of purse seiners and the main species caught in the IOTC area of competence

Species	2013	2014	2015	2016
Yellowfin	352	4025	5417	7404.1
Bigeye	27	540	1421.5	529.7
Skipjack	476	3032	2832.4	3788.2
Effort (no. of sets)	53	482	490	463
Total	855	7597	9670.9	11722.0

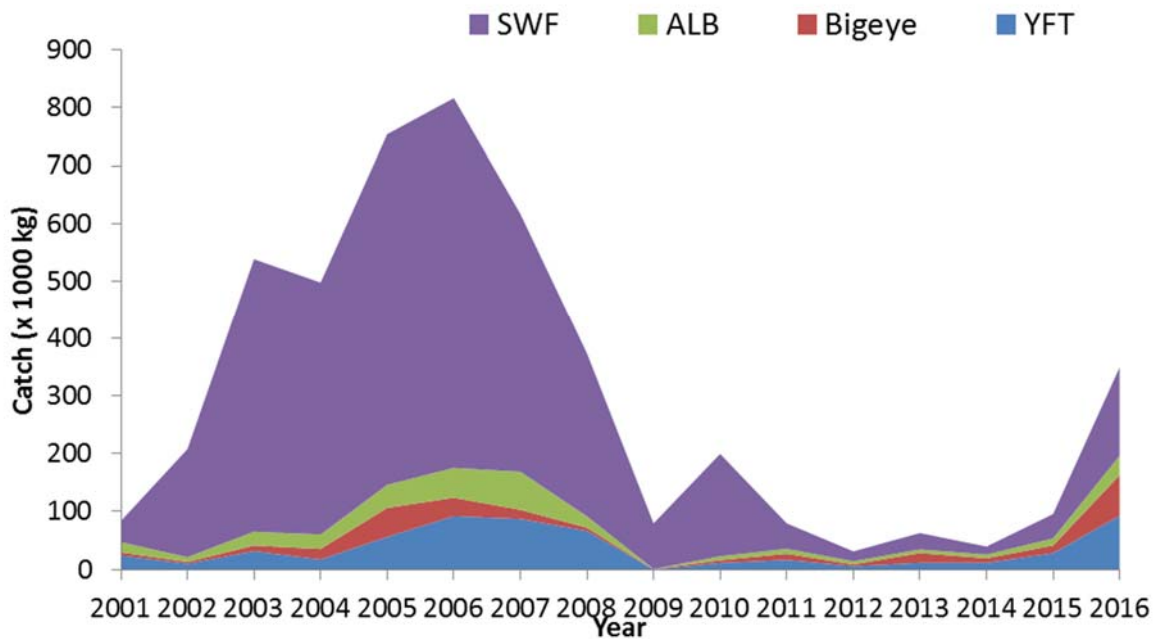


Figure 1a. Historical annual catch for the longliners for the IOTC area of competence for the entire history of the fishery/fleet

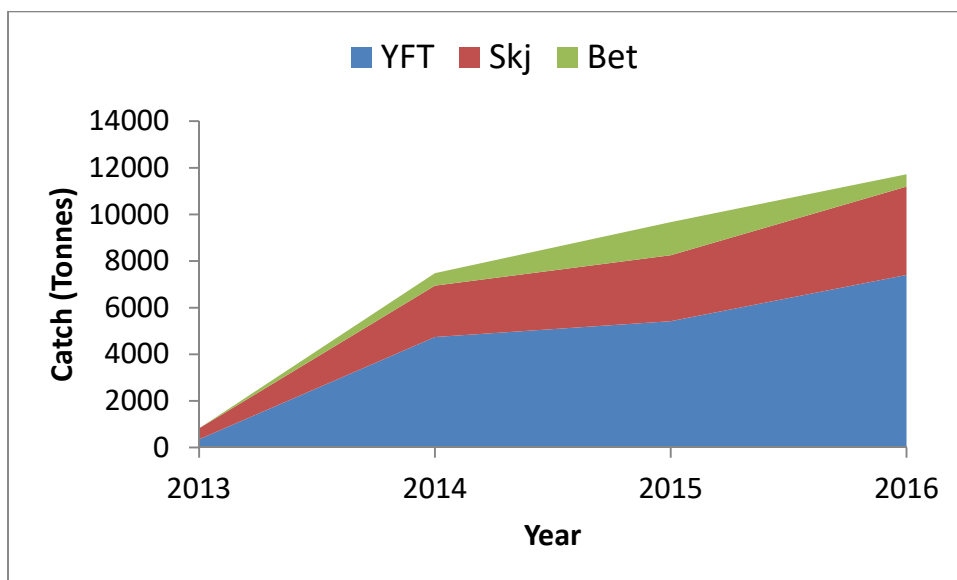


Figure 1b: Historical annual catch for the purse seiners for the IOTC area of competence for the entire history of the fishery/fleet

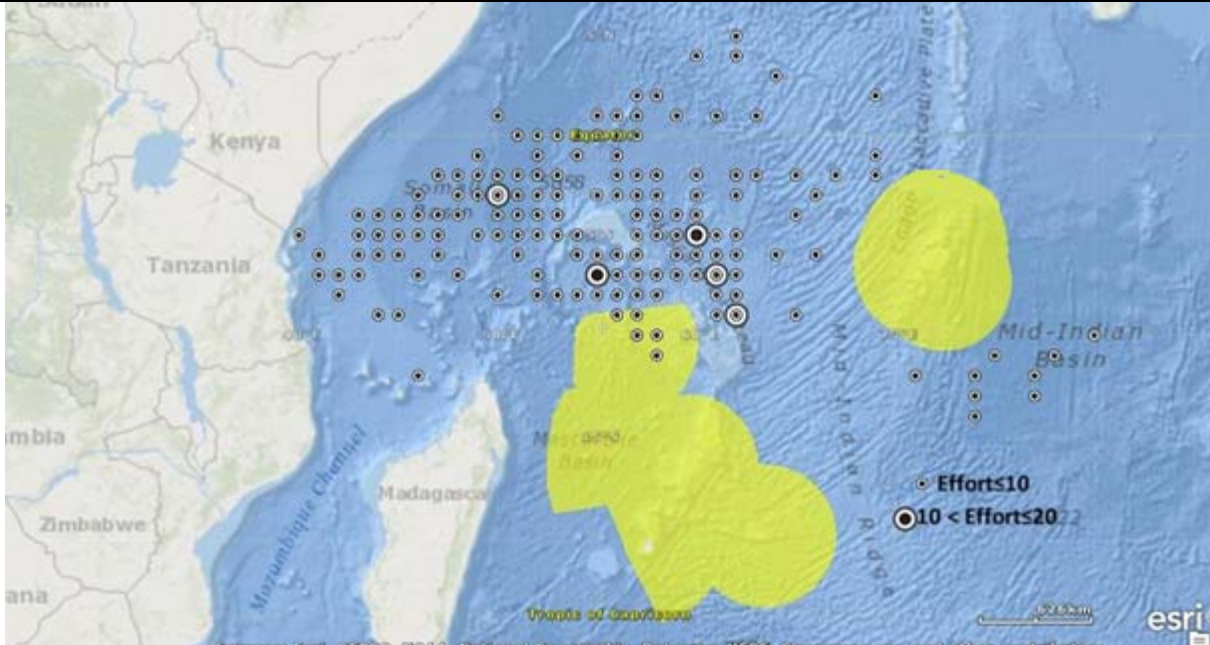


Figure 2a (i): Map of distribution of the fishing effort (no. of sets) for the Mauritius-flagged purse seiners (2016) in the IOTC area of competence

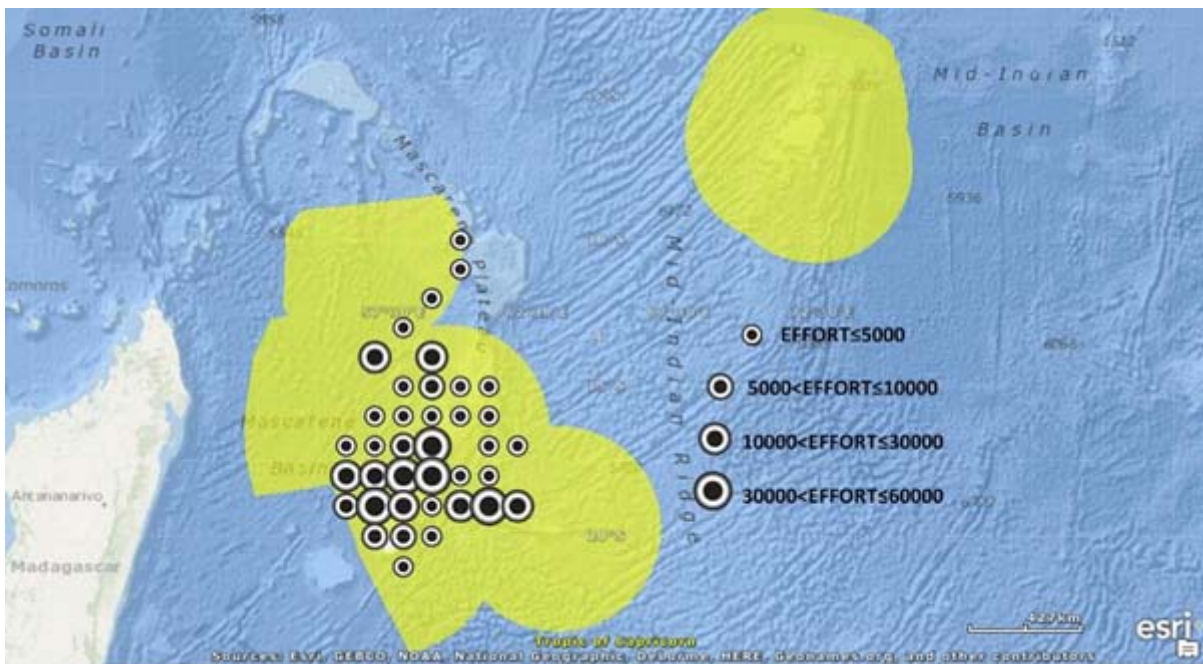


Figure 2a (ii): Map of distribution of the fishing effort (no. of sets) for the Mauritius-flagged longliners (2016) in the IOTC area of competence

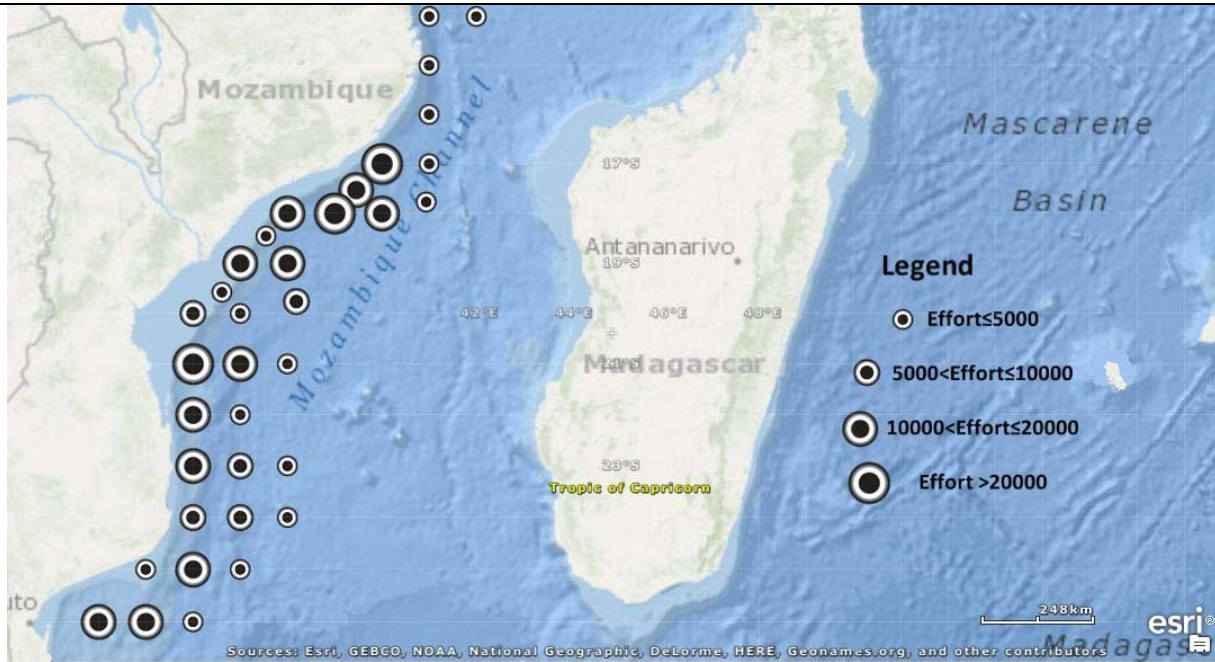


Figure 2a (iii): Map of distribution of the fishing effort (no. of hooks) for the Mauritius-flagged longliners (2016) operating outside the EEZ

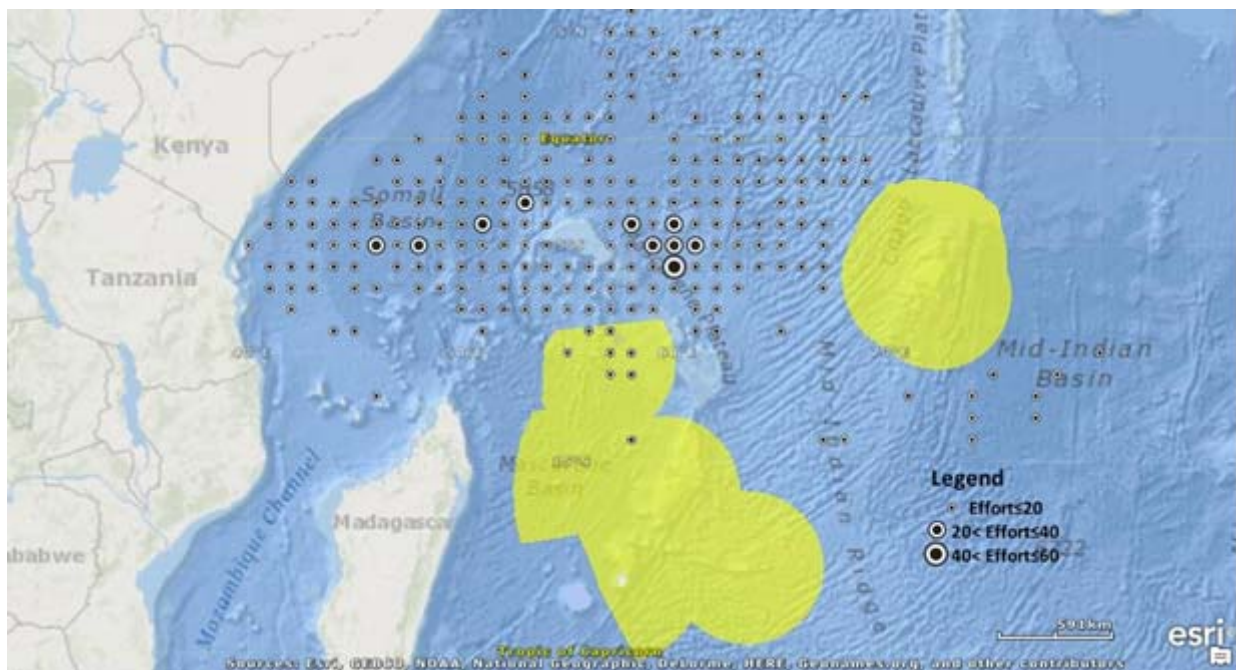


Figure 2b (i): Map of distribution of the fishing effort (no. of sets) for the Mauritius-flagged purse seiners (2014-2016) in the IOTC area of competence

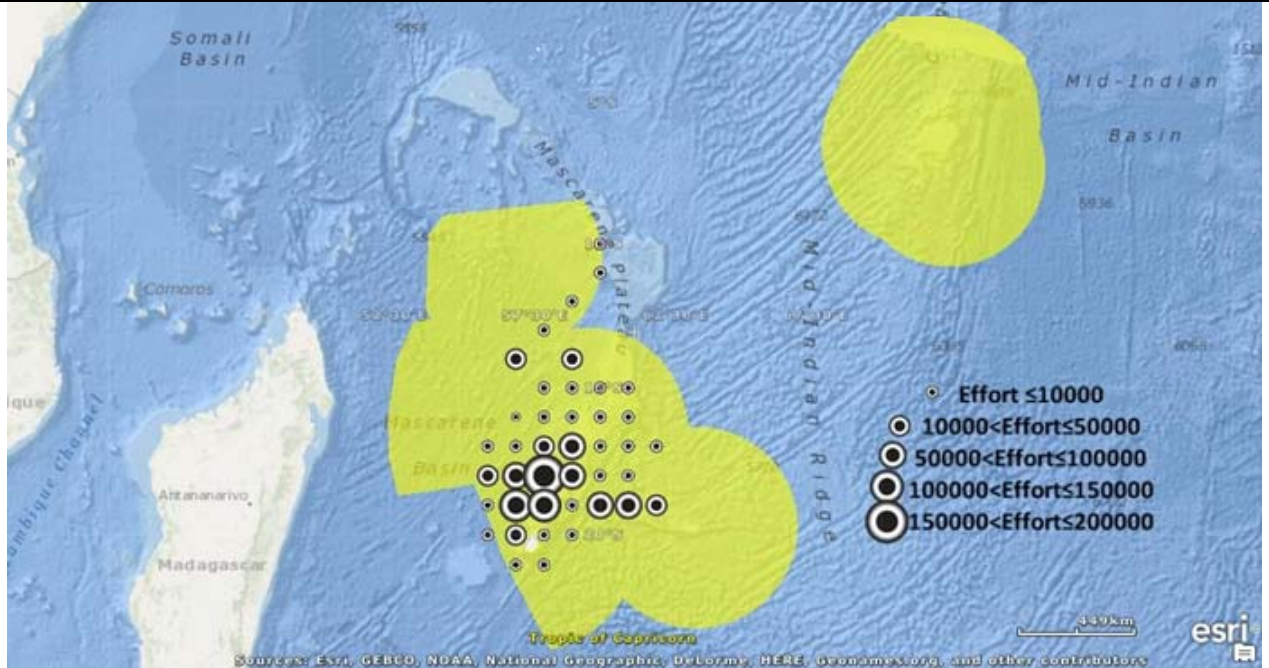


Figure 2b (ii): Map of distribution of the fishing effort (no. of hooks) for the Mauritius-flagged longliners (2014-2016) in the IOTC area of competence

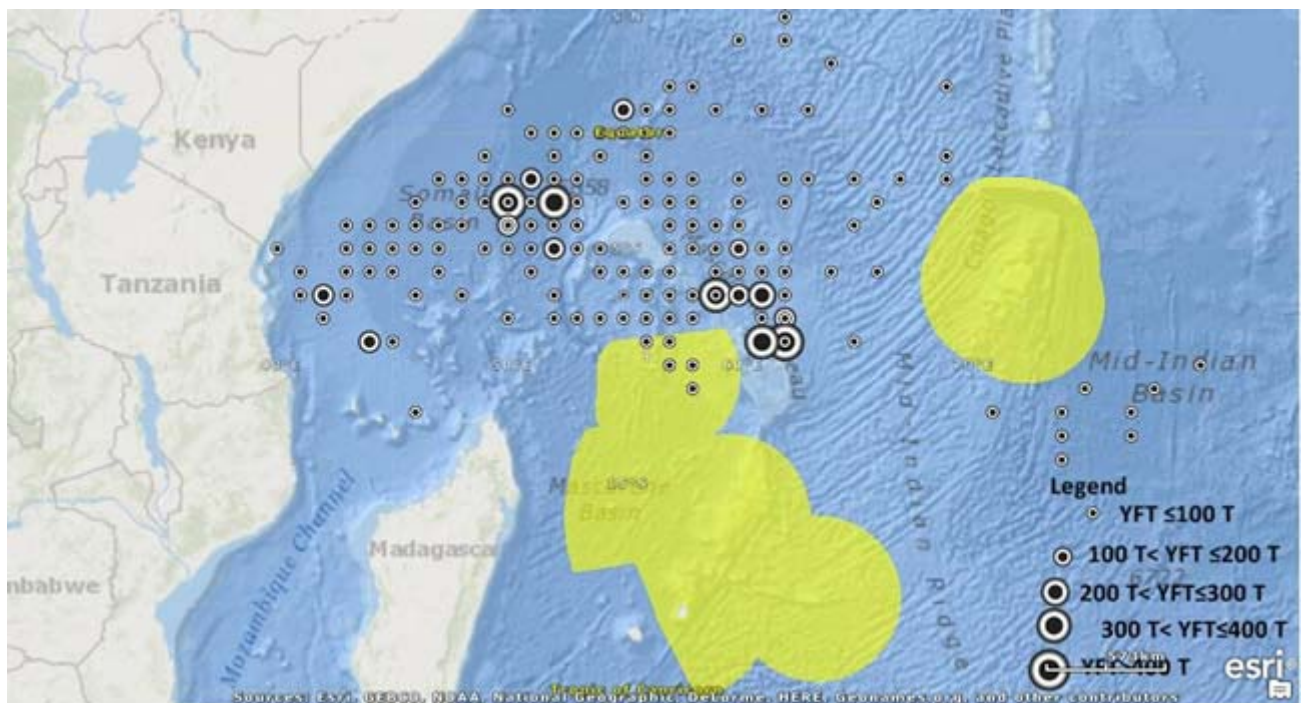


Figure 3a (i): Map of distribution of the catch (tonnes) of Yellowfin tuna for the Mauritius-flagged purse seiners (2016) in the IOTC area of competence

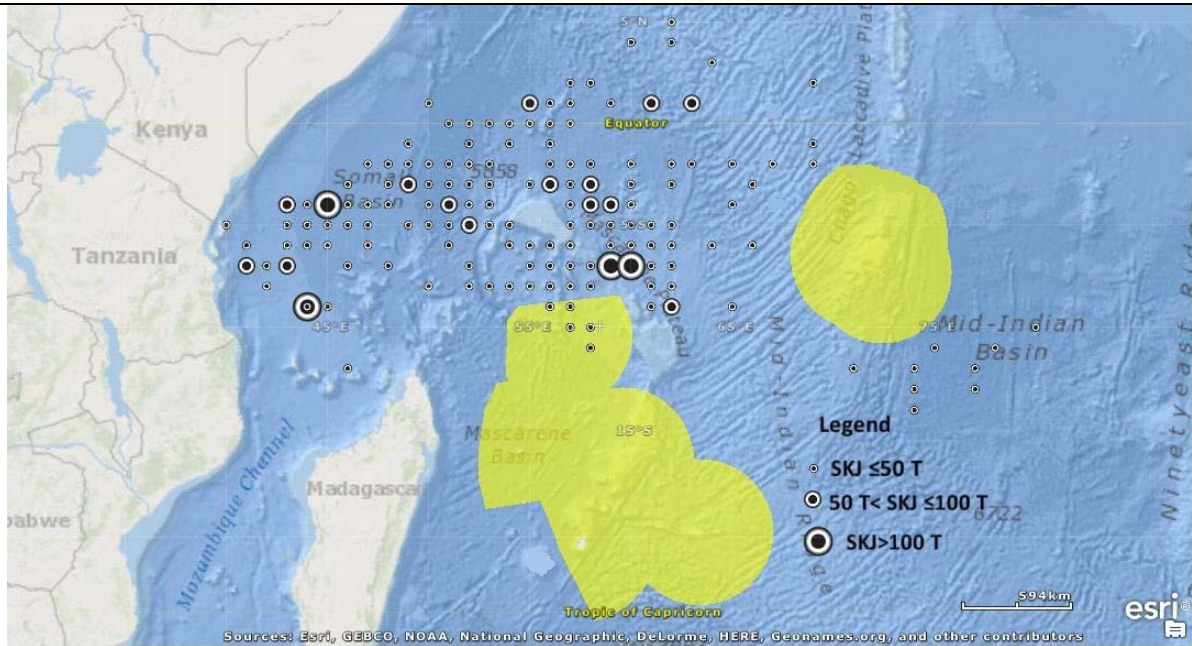


Figure 3a (ii): Map of distribution of the catch (tonnes) of Skipjack tuna for the Mauritius-flagged purse seiners (2016) in the IOTC area of competence

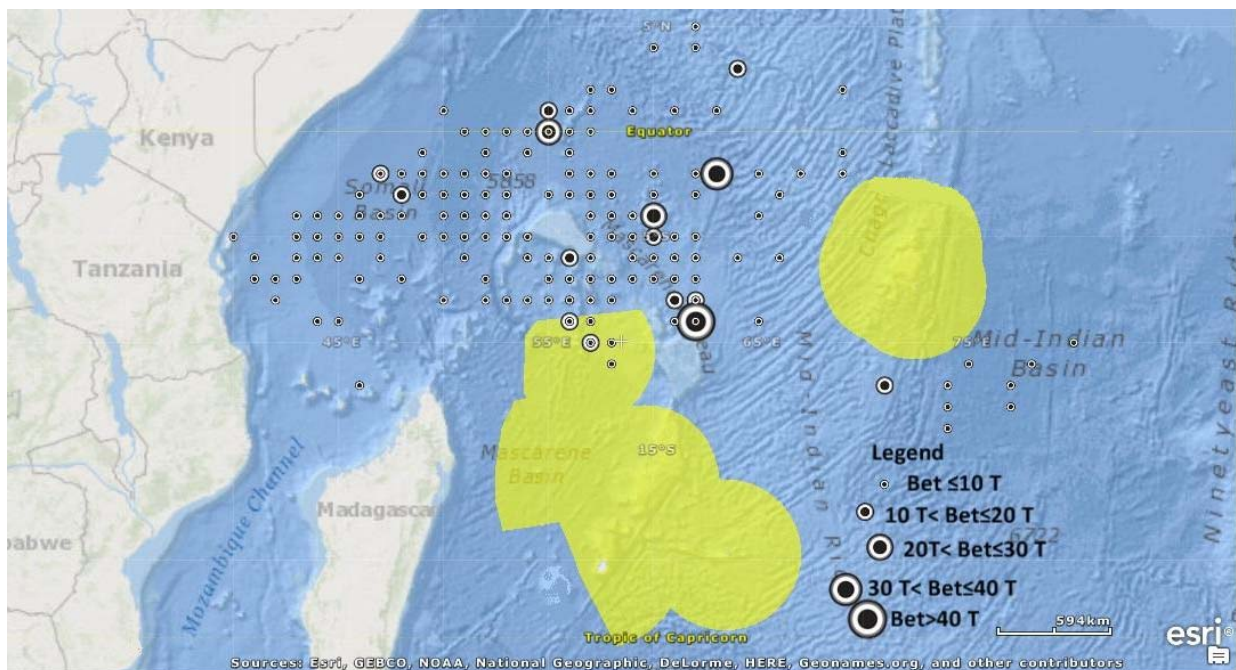


Figure 3a (iii): Map of distribution of the catch (tonnes) of Bigeye tuna for the Mauritius-flagged purse seiners (2016) in the IOTC area of competence

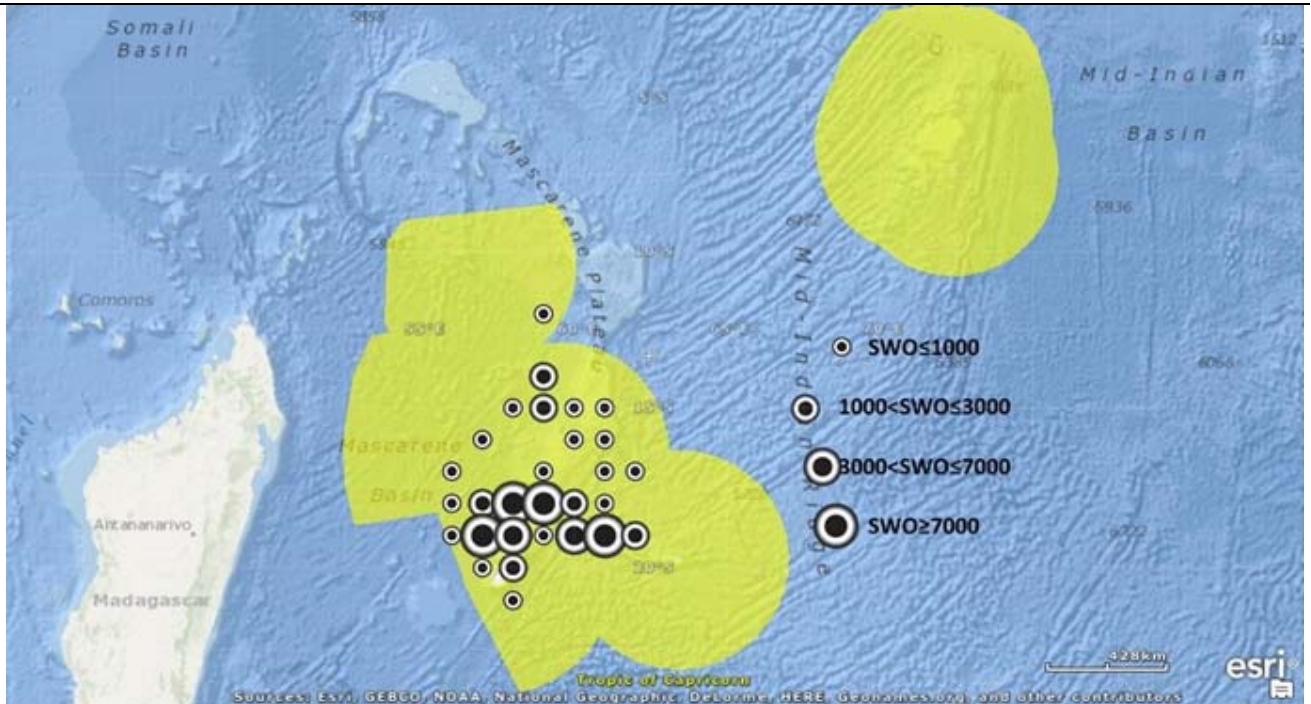


Figure 3a (iv): Map of distribution of the catch (kg) of Swordfish for the Mauritius-flagged longliners (2016) in the IOTC area of competence

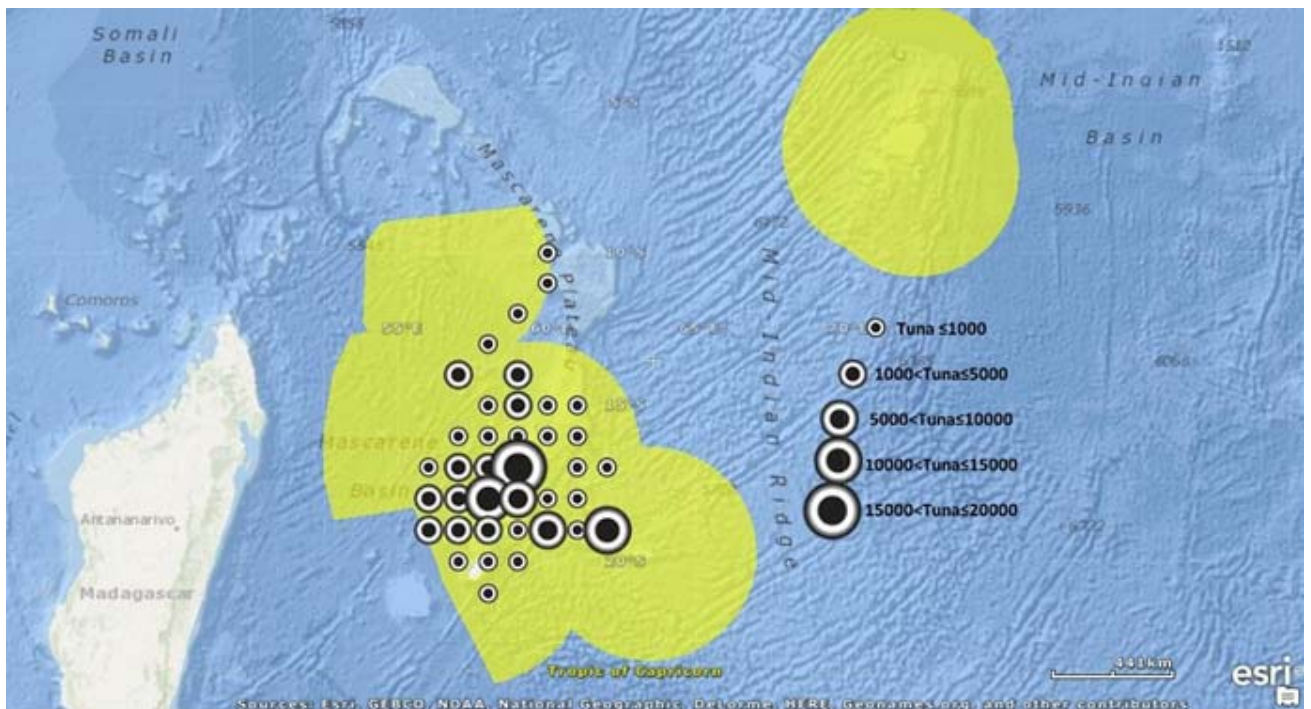


Figure 3a (v): Map of distribution of the catch (kg) of tuna for the Mauritius-flagged longliners (2016) in the IOTC area of competence

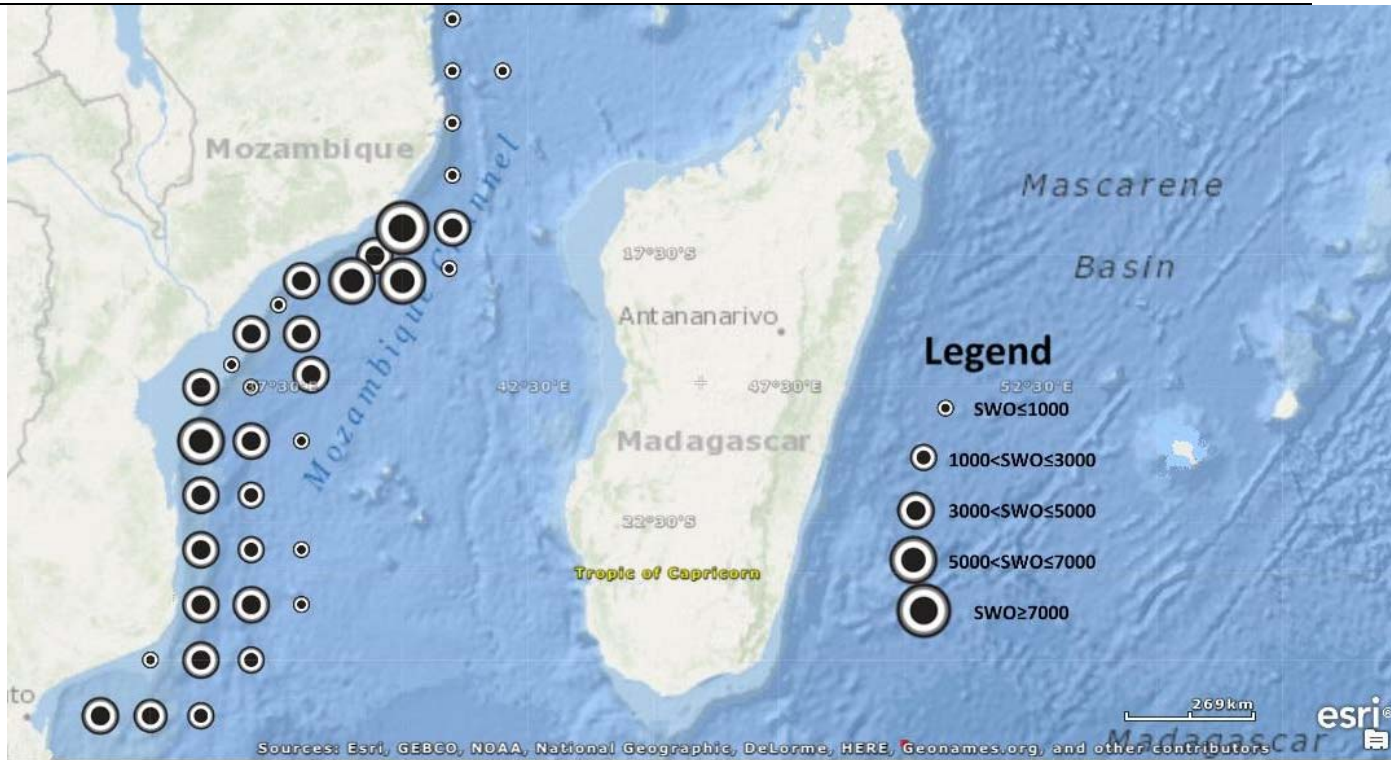


Figure 3a (vi): Map of distribution of the catch (kg) of Swordfish for the Mauritius-flagged longliners (2016) operating outside the EEZ

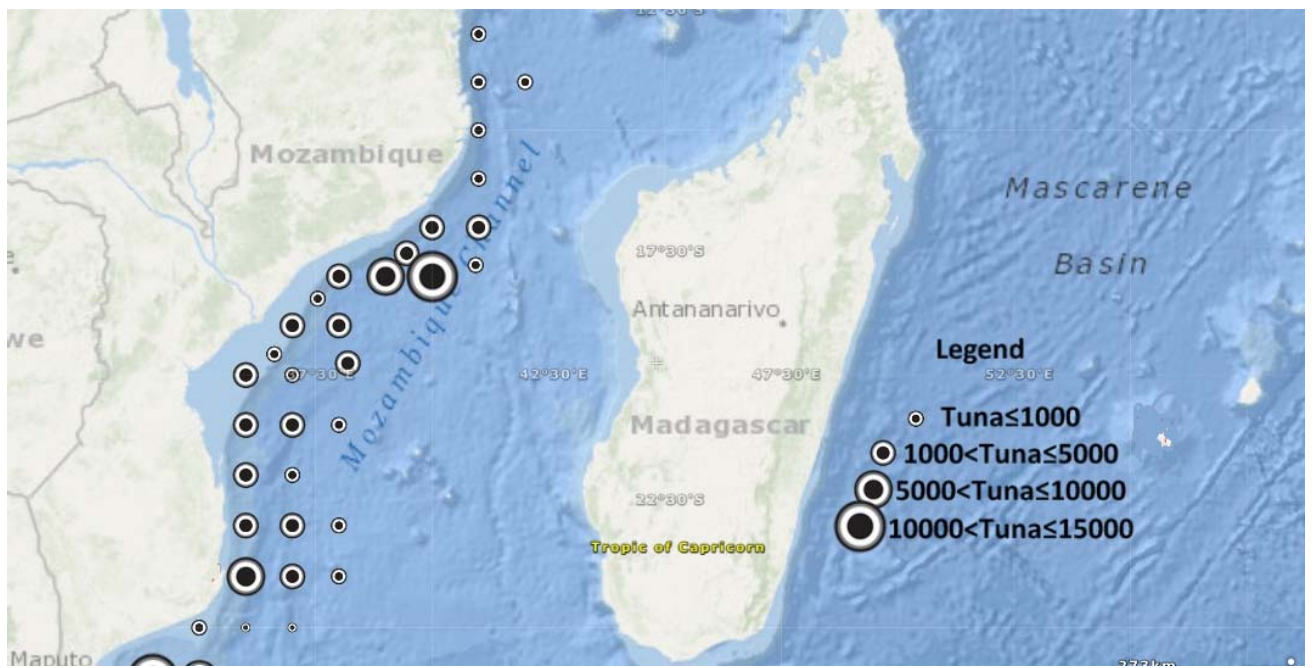


Figure 3a (vii): Map of distribution of the catch (kg) of Tuna for the Mauritius-flagged longliners (2016) operating outside the EEZ

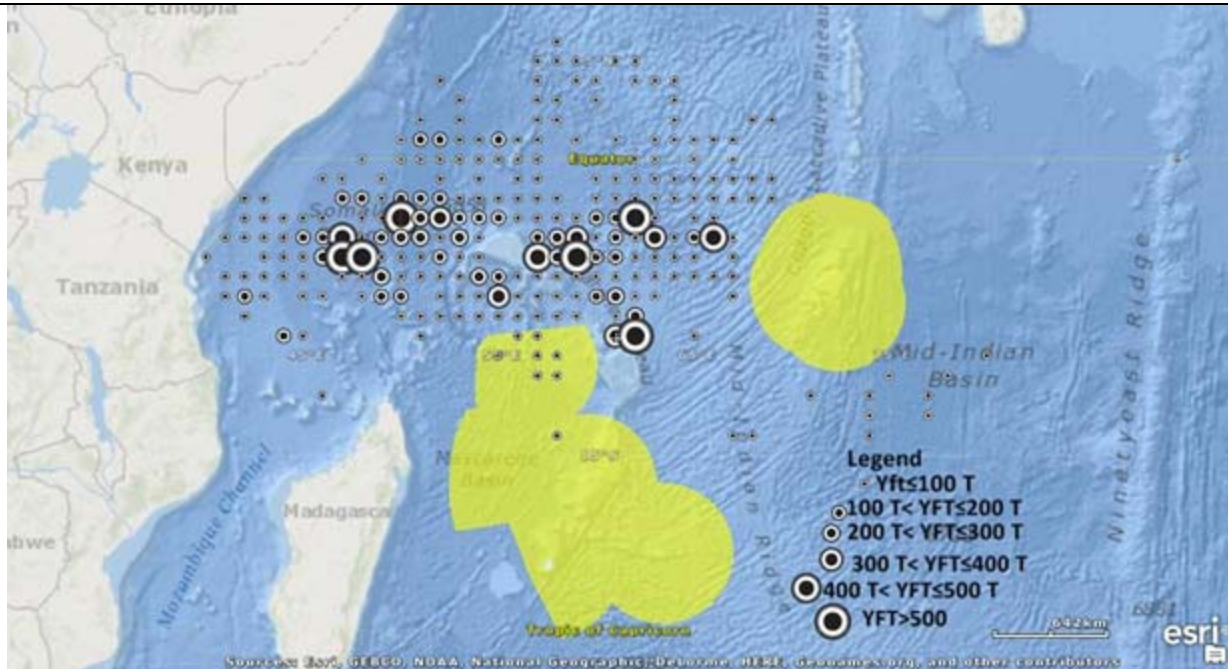


Figure 3b (i): Map of distribution of the catch (tonnes) of Yellowfin tuna for the Mauritius-flagged purse seiners (2014-2016) in the IOTC area of competence

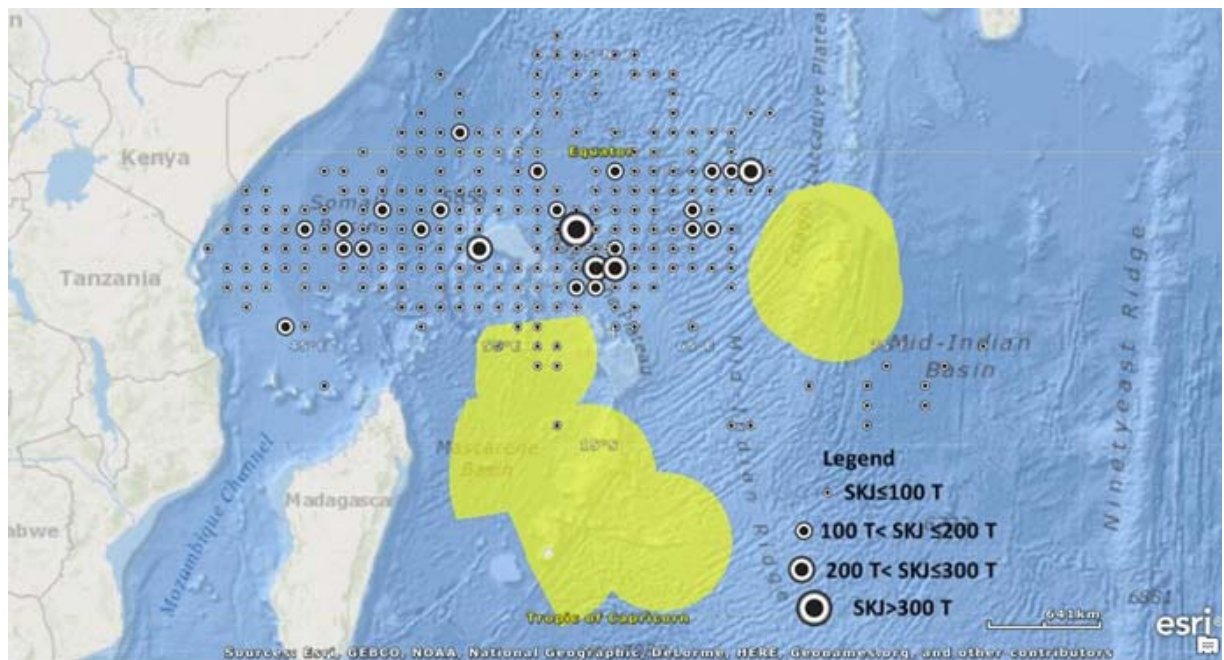


Figure 3b (ii): Map of distribution of the catch (tonnes) of Skipjack tuna for the Mauritius-flagged purse seiners (2014-2016) in the IOTC area of competence

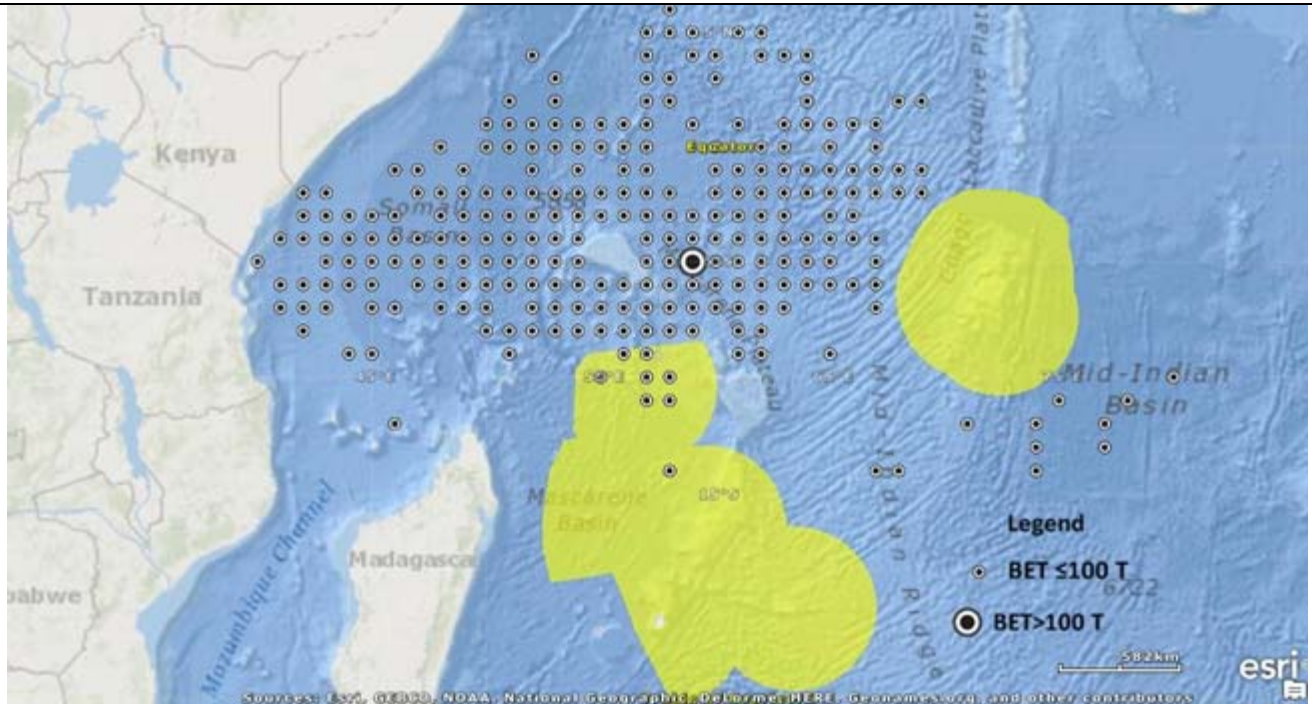


Figure 3b (iii): Map of distribution of the catch (tonnes) of Bigeye tuna for the Mauritius-flagged purse seiners (2014-2016) in the IOTC area of competence

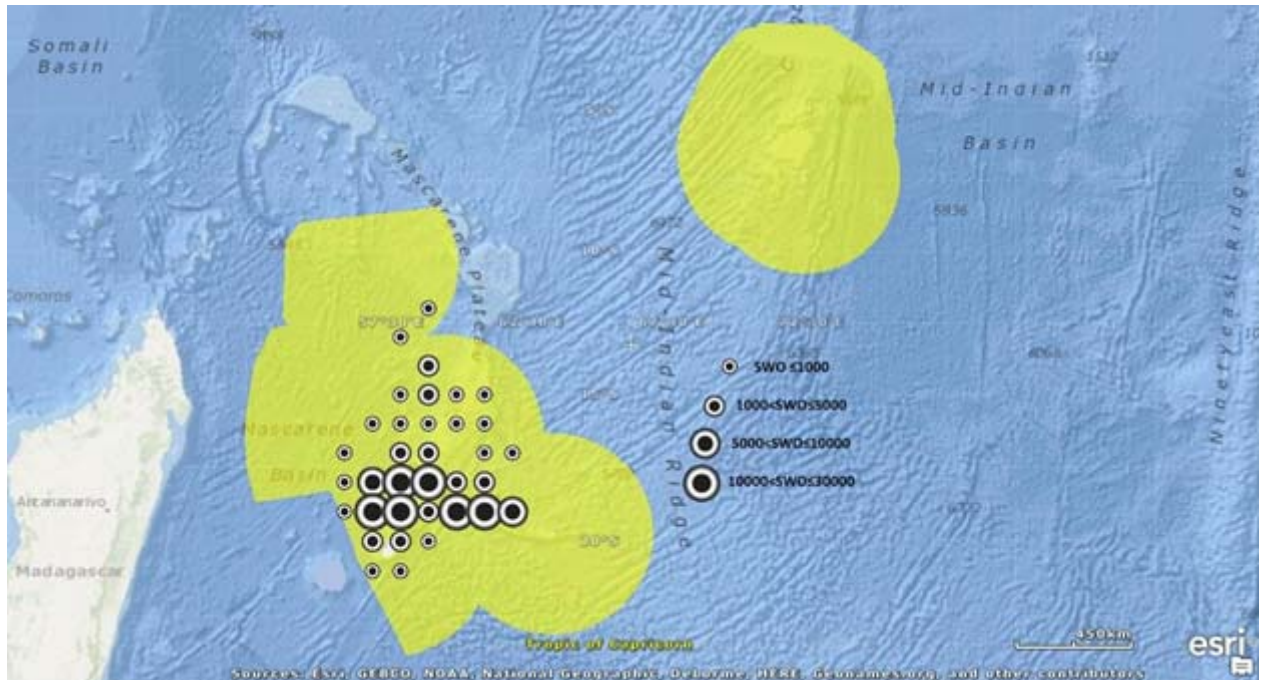


Figure 3b (iv): Map of distribution of the catch (kg) of Swordfish for the Mauritius-flagged longliners (2012-2016) in the IOTC area of competence

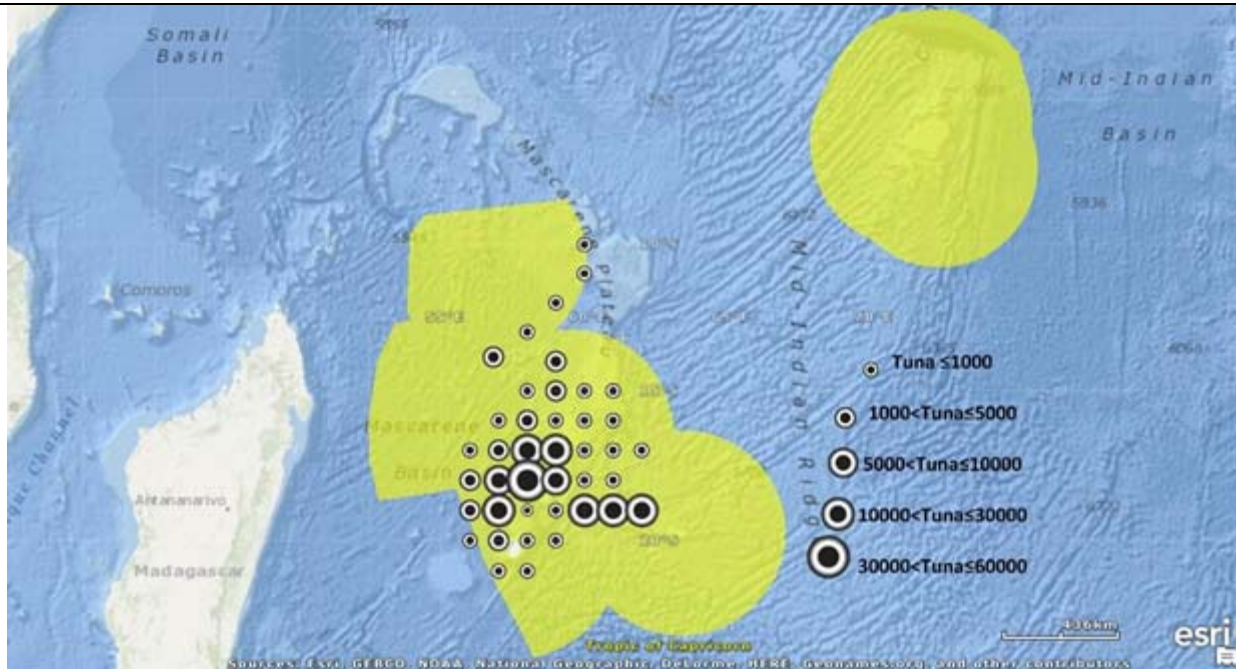


Figure 3b (v): Map of distribution of the catch (kg) of tuna for the Mauritius-flagged longliners (2012-2016) in the IOTC area of competence

4. RECREATIONAL FISHERY [Mandatory]

The sports/recreational fishing is an important activity for the tourism industry and local recreational fishermen. International big game fishing competitions are held annually. Around 60 sports/recreational fishing boats are involved in this fishery. The main fishing gear is trolling and the fishery supplies the local market with an ~~additional~~ estimated amount of about 350 tonnes. The main species comprises marlins, sailfish, tuna, common dolphinfish and wahoo. So as to enable the proper monitoring of the catch from the sports fishery, our data collection system is being revised.

During the course of the year, one mission was conducted by the African Billfish Foundation in collaboration with the IOTC so as to review the data collection system in the sports fishery and to conduct training into a new electronic reporting system.

5. ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH ISSUES [Mandatory]

5.1 Sharks [Mandatory]

Skippers, masters and agents of vessels have been sensitised on the conservations and management measures related to sharks; namely Resolutions 12/09, 13/05 and 13/06 and 17/05. Those resolutions have been included in the licence conditions as mandatory. Furthermore, identification guides on pelagic sharks have been distributed to the masters of the national-flagged vessels. Mauritius has

already implemented its NPOA-sharks and has conducted a shark identification workshop in 2014 and is currently planning a second shark identification workshop.

As reported in the fishing logbooks, longliners caught shortfin mako (*Isurus oxyrinchus*), hammerhead sharks (*Sphyrnidae*) and blue sharks (*Prionace glauca*). There was also the release of blue sharks during some of the fishing campaigns of the longliners.

Table 3: Total number and weight of sharks, by species, retained by the national fleet in the IOTC area of competence (for the most recent five years at a minimum, e.g. 2012–2016)

Year	No. of sharks	Species	Weight (Kg)
2013	17	<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>	680
2014	3	<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>	90
2015	12	<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>	485
2016	95	<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>	3519
	33	<i>Prionace glauca</i>	575
	2	<i>Sphyrnidae</i>	70

Table 4: Total number of sharks, by species, released/discarded by the national fleet in the IOTC area of competence (for the most recent five years at a minimum, e.g. 2012–2016). Where available, include life status upon released/discard.

Year	No. of sharks released	Species
2016	9	<i>Prionace glauca</i>

5.2 Seabirds [Mandatory]

No encounters with seabirds have been recorded during the fishing campaigns as per the fishing logbooks. All masters and agents of the licensed vessels have been provided with 'Seabirds Identification cards for fishing vessels operating in the Indian Ocean' whereby identification techniques and mitigation measures are described.

Observer seabird interaction data sheet for the IOTC longline fleet [Desirable]

Name of member state: _____;

Reporting period* or calendar year _____

Species _____

Fishery		Observed					Estimate
Area ¹	Total effort ²	Total observed effort ²	Observer coverage ³	Captures (number)	Mortalities (number)	Live releases (number)	Mortality estimate (number)
Total							

*This field can be used to specify a temporal stratification to the data e.g. season

¹Spatial stratification (5x5, 10x10 or other – to be determined)

²Number of hooks observed hauled

³Percentage of all hooks set that were observed hauled

1. How many vessels operated south of 25°S in the period covered by this report?
2. How many of those vessels used bird scaring lines (as a proportion of total effort)?
3. How many of those vessels used line weighting (as a proportion of total effort)?
4. How many of those vessels used night setting (as a proportion of total effort)?

5.3 Marine Turtles

The protection of marine turtles and eggs of marine turtles is ensured under Sections 16 (1) (c) and 17 (1) (c) of the Fisheries and Marine Resources Act 2007.

Furthermore, vessels' agents and masters have been provided with the 'Marine Turtle Identification Cards – for Indian Ocean Fisheries' depicting different species of turtles, techniques of releasing hooked turtles as well as some literature related to the ecology of marine turtles, threats of marine turtles; amongst others.

Also, the license conditions of Mauritius make provision for compliance to Resolution 12/04.

Other measures taken by Mauritius related to the conservation of marine turtles have been included in the 'Reporting of progress of implementation of the FAO Guideline to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operation and on the implementation of resolution 12/04 on marine turtles' already submitted to the Secretariat on the 17/03/17.

5.4 Other ecologically related species

The Fisheries and Marine Resources Act 2007 makes provision for the protection of marine mammals under Section 17 (1) (d) as stipulated: “*no person shall land or cause any person to land, sell or have in his possession in Mauritius or in the maritime zones any marine mammal*”.

Also, the longliners encountered a manta ray during a fishing campaign and the necessary was done to release the ray unharmed.

6. NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION AND PROCESSING SYSTEMS [Mandatory]

6.1. Logsheet data collection and verification

Catch data is being collected from the fishing logbooks as from 2001. The fishing licence conditions make it mandatory for all the fishing vessels to submit duly filled in logbooks to the Ministry upon arrival at port. All the fishing positions are verified against the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) and landing data from the Port State Control Unit (PSCU), Mauritius Ports Authority and fishing agents. 94 logbooks from longliners and 27 logbooks from purse seiners were processed.

6.2. Vessel Monitoring System

The Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) is located in the Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) which was set up in 2005. The VMS network consists of a server which holds five workstations, out of which three are located at the Fisheries Monitoring Centre and the remaining two at the National Coast Guard.

The VMS network regularly receives information such as geographical positions of vessels and their corresponding date and time. A set of regulations was prescribed to provide the legal framework to support the VMS. All licensed fishing vessels are required to be equipped with the VMS system and to report to the FMC every two hours on fishing positions, speed and directions. 236 vessels have been monitored during 2016.

6.3. Observer programme (including date commenced and status; number of observer, include percentage coverage by gear type)

Table 6. Annual observer coverage by operation for purse seiners (2015-2016)

Year	Gear	Period	Number of Days
2015	Purse seine	26/02/15 – 03/05/15	69
		06/04/15 – 17/06/15	71
		06/05/15 – 15/07/15	70
2016		23/03/16 – 01/06/16	78
		01/06/16 – 10/08/16	71
		08/09/16 – 17/11/16	71

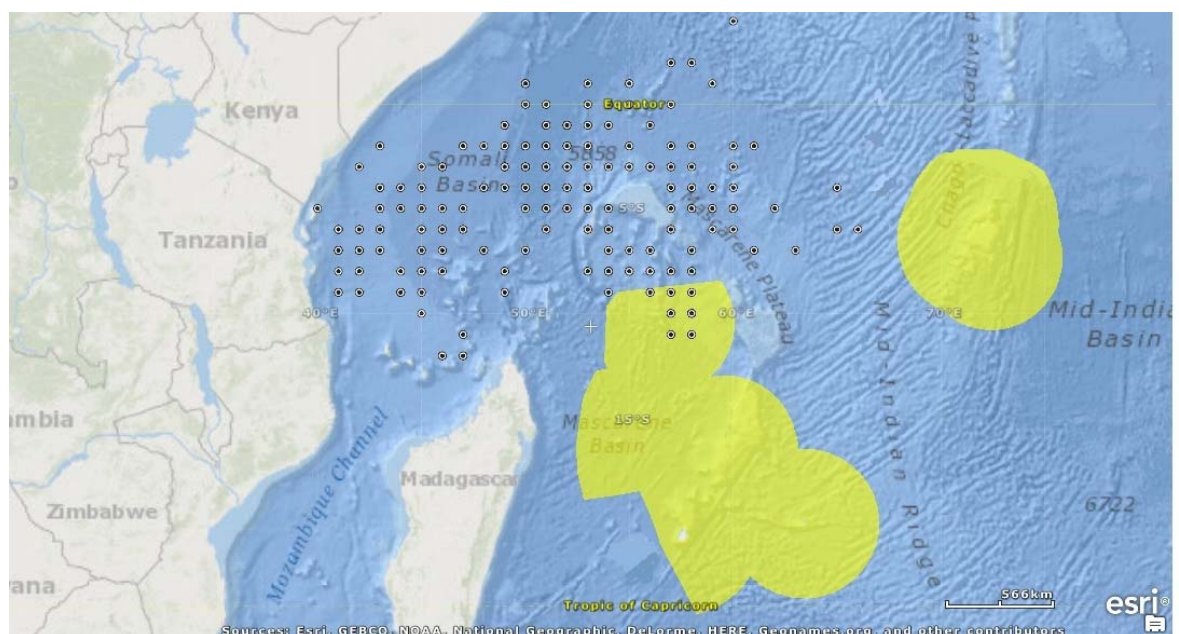


Figure 4. Map showing the spatial distribution of observer coverage on purse seiners

6.4. Port sampling programme

Sampling exercises are performed by the Ministry's officers upon unloading of the licensed vessels at the port. The lengths and weights of the fish sampled are recorded. A calliper is used to measure the length of the fish: the fork length/the predorsal lengths are taken for the tuna species while the operculum to keel length is taken for the swordfish. The whole lengths of sharks were also recorded as summarised in Table 7.

Table 7. Number of individuals measured, by species and gear

Species	Number of individual measured	
	Longline	Purse seine
Swordfish	534	-
Yellowfin tuna	240	449
Albacore tuna	211	-
Bigeye tuna	176	14
Skipjack tuna	-	243
Sharks	8	-

6.5. Unloading/Transshipment [including date commenced and status of implementation] [Mandatory]

Mauritius acquired its purse seine fleet in 2013 and transshipment activities were initially recorded in Victoria, Seychelles in October 2013. In 2016, the two Mauritius-flagged purse seiners transhipped a total of 5090 tonnes of tuna in Seychelles for various destinations such as Italy, Tunisia, Spain, Thailand and Mauritius.

7. NATIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS [Desirable]

No national research programme was implemented in 2016.

Table 8. Summary table of national research programs, including dates.

Project title	Period	Countries involved	Budget total	Funding source	Objectives	Short description
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

8. IMPLEMENTATION OF SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE IOTC RELEVANT TO THE SC. [Mandatory]

Table 9. Scientific requirements contained in Resolutions of the Commission, adopted between 2005 and 2017.

Res. No.	Resolution	Scientific requirement	CPC progress
15/01	On the recording of catch and effort by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence	Paragraphs 1–10	The logbook template is presently being reviewed to accommodate the requirements of the IOTC CMMs. Furthermore, as per the license conditions, it is mandatory for the vessels to keep on board a copy of the logbook.
15/02	Mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs)	Paragraphs 1–7	All the data pertaining to Resolution 15/02 was submitted to the IOTC Secretariat on the 30/06/17 in accordance with the reporting requirements. As for the longline fleet, the final catch data shall be submitted by 31/12/17.
15/05	On conservation measures for striped marlin, black marlin and blue marlin	Paragraph 4	Mauritius does not have any gillnet fishery.
13/04	On the conservation of cetaceans	Paragraphs 7–9	As per the logbooks of the fishing vessels, there has been no encirclement of cetaceans by the Mauritius-flagged purse seiners. Also, the Fisheries and Marine Resources Act 2007, Act No. 27 of 2007 has prohibited the fishing of marine mammals, under Section 17.
13/05	On the conservation of whale sharks (<i>Rhincodon typus</i>)	Paragraphs 7–9	All vessels have reported nil encounters with whale sharks. Also, the masters and agents of the Mauritius-flagged vessels have already been sensitised on the importance to comply with RES 13/05.
13/06	On a scientific and management framework on the conservation of shark species caught in association with IOTC managed fisheries	Paragraph 5–6	There has been no encounter with oceanic whitetip sharks during the year. Skippers have also been provided with identification guides All fishers have been informed on the need to comply with Resolution 13/06. Furthermore, the NPOA Sharks of Mauritius has made provisions for the conservation of the oceanic whitetip shark.
12/09	On the conservation of thresher sharks (family alopiidae) caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence	Paragraphs 4–8	Skippers of national flagged vessels have been trained in the identification of thresher sharks and have been informed to release live specimens of thresher sharks caught. They have also been provided with identification guides. No vessel has reported any encounter with thresher sharks.
12/06	On reducing the incidental bycatch of seabirds in longline fisheries.	Paragraphs 3–7	No encounter with seabirds has been reported in the fishing logbooks. All vessels have been advised on the application of the seabird mitigation measures. Furthermore, 'Seabird Identification Cards' provided by the IOTC, have been distributed to the agents of the Mauritius-flagged vessels.
12/04	On the conservation of marine turtles	Paragraphs 3, 4, 6–10	Licensed fishing vessels have been notified about the mitigation measures proposed under this resolution. Furthermore, marine turtles and their eggs are protected by the Mauritian law as specified in Sections 16 and 17 of the Fisheries and Marine Resources Act 2007, Act no. 27 of 2007. Also, information for Resolution 12/04 has already been submitted to the IOTC as per the FAO Guidelines on 17/03/17 together with the Implementation report.
11/04	On a regional observer scheme	Paragraph 9	3 observers have been deployed on board national-flagged and the observer coverage was 27% for 2016.
05/05	Concerning the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC	Paragraphs 1–12	Mauritius is not a shark-fishing nation and does not issue licenses to foreign vessels targeting sharks. However, guides related to the shark identification have been distributed among the agents of the Mauritius-flagged vessels to avoid the retention of endangered shark species under the IOTC mandate onboard. Moreover, the NPOA-sharks of Mauritius highlights the conservation of sharks caught as by catch. Hence, Mauritius has planned to hold a forthcoming workshop on the 'Identification of sharks and



Res. No.	Resolution	Scientific requirement	CPC progress
			sharks' fins with the aim to sensitise all relevant stakeholders.
16/06	On measures applicable in case of non-fulfilment of reporting obligations in the IOTC	Paragraph 1	The Implementation Report was submitted to the Secretariat on 16/03/16 and includes all measures taken for the reporting obligations regarding the mentioned resolutions in the different sections of the report.

9. LITERATURE CITED [Mandatory]

1. The Fisheries and Marine Resources Act 2007, Act No. 27 of 2007 (Mauritius).
2. FAO Guideline to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operation.