

Report of the 15th Session of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance

Bangkok, Thailand, 16–17 May 2018

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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
Commission des Thons de l'Océan Indien

ACRONYMS

ABNJ	Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction
CLAV	Consolidated List of Active Vessels
CMM	Conservation and Management Measure (of the IOTC; Resolutions and Recommendations)
CNCP	Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties
CoC	Compliance Committee, of the IOTC
CPCs	Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties
CSM	Compliance Support Mission
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
ICRU	Improved Cost Recovery Uplift
IOTC	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
MPF	Meeting Participation Fund
MSE	Management Strategy Evaluation
PSC	Project Servicing Costs
SC	Scientific Committee of the IOTC
SCAF	Standing Committee on Administration and Finance, of the IOTC

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The 15th Session of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF) of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) was held in Bangkok, Thailand 16-17 May 2018. A total of 61 individuals attended the Session, comprised of delegates from 21 Contracting Parties (Members), 1 delegate from 2 Cooperating Non-Contracting Party, and 3 Observers, including 3 Invited Experts. The list of participants is provided in [Appendix I](#). The meeting was conducted by the SCAF Vice-Chairperson, Mr Hussain Sinan (Maldives).

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION

2. The SCAF added agenda item 9.2 election of Vice-Chair and Chair of the SCAF to the draft agenda.
3. The SCAF **ADOPTED** the Agenda as provided in [Appendix II](#). The documents presented to the SCAF are listed in [Appendix III](#).

3. ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS

4. The SCAF **RECALLED** the agreement made by the Commission 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 (2014).
 5. Pursuant to Article VII of the Agreement establishing the IOTC, the SCAF admitted the following observers, as defined in Rule XIV of the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014):
 - a. 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.*
 - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
 - b. 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.*
 - United States of America
 - c. 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.*
 - d. 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.*
 - International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF)
 - Stop Illegal Fishing
- Invited experts*
- e. 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.*
 - Taiwan, Province of China

4. REPORT OF THE IOTC SECRETARIAT: 2017

6. The SCAF **NOTED** paper IOTC–2018–SCAF15–03 which outlined the activities of the Secretariat in 2017.

4.1 Support to data activities

7. The SCAF **NOTED** that the work carried out by the IOTC Secretariat in support of the IOTC data processes including activities to strengthen data collection storage and provision of data; capacity development in countries; coordinating the global Consolidated List of Authorized Vessels (CLAV), and rolling out the E-Maris – the integrated electronic data reporting system.

4.2 Support to scientific activities

8. The SCAF **NOTED** that the work carried out by the IOTC Secretariat in support of the IOTC science processes included assistance to CPCs to improve the level of participation and engagement of national scientists in Working Parties, improve both the quality of data being provided to the IOTC Secretariat, and the quality and rigor of stock assessments for IOTC species. In 2017, seven Working Party meetings were organised and facilitated by the IOTC Secretariat in addition to the annual meeting of the Scientific Committee.

4.3 Support to compliance activities

9. The SCAF **NOTED** that the Secretariat continued to coordinate the implementation of the Regional Observer Programme (ROP) to monitor transshipment at sea for large-scale tuna longline vessels, and undertake compliance support missions and activities in support of the implementation of the Port State Measures. A new ROP contract was developed and put out to tender in 2017.

4.4 Communications and public information

10. The SCAF **NOTED** that in the Secretariat will be undertaking an increasing number of communications activities in 2018 as a result of its implementation of new projects and FAOs staff requirements.

4.5 General

11. The SCAF **NOTED** that the Secretariat continued to provide support in the facilitation of all IOTC meetings in the form of logistical support and preparation of reports and documents. TCPR meetings are now included in the annual schedule of ongoing meetings.
12. The SCAF **NOTED** the increase in project management and project development activities undertaken in 2017 by the Secretariat.
13. The SCAF also **NOTED** the considerable interaction and collaboration the Secretariat has with other organizations and acknowledged the contributions such collaborations make to the work of the Commission.

5. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

5.1 Financial statement: Fiscal year 2017

14. The SCAF **NOTED** paper IOTC–2018–SCAF15–04 which provided the financial statement for the Commission for the period 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017.
15. The SCAF **RECALLED** that the total budget for 2017 was US\$ 3,767,528 but the contributions received amounted to US\$ 3,274,874 and this constituted a short fall of US\$ 492,654 as the Commission expenditures amounted to US\$ 3,303,875, the Commission ended up spending US\$ 29,001 more than it received in contributions.
16. The SCAF **NOTED** that, at the level of the overall 2017 budget, there was an under-expenditure of approximately US\$ 463,653(a -12% variance). This under-expenditure was mainly due to under-spending in staff costs due to: the Science Manager post remaining vacant, the P1 Data Expert post not being filled and some General Service posts remaining vacant. There was also an overall saving of 10% in operating expenses.
17. The SCAF **NOTED** that extra-budgetary funds continue to be an important part of the overall budget. The extra-budgetary contributions utilised in 2017 totalled US\$ 1,583,780.
18. The SCAF **NOTED** that the overall balance of IOTC funds, as of 31 December 2017, was positive, at US\$ 895,535.

5.2 IOTC Meeting Participation Fund (MPF)

19. The SCAF **NOTED** Appendix II of paper IOTC–2018–SCAF15–05 which provides historical, present and future details of the MPF to assist the annual budget decision making processes of the SCAF and Commission. A total of 74 participants were supported by the MPF in 2017 with the total expenditure amounting to US\$ 202,945.
20. The SCAF **AGREED** that the annual budget of the Commission should include an amount of US\$200,000 for the MPF and that the IOTC Secretariat should continue to seek additional extra-budgetary contributions to the MPF.
21. The SCAF also **NOTED** the importance of extra-budgetary contributions in meeting the current MPF demand.
22. The SCAF acknowledged the US\$ 20,000 extra contribution received from China in 2017 and **WELCOMED** China's proposal to make a similar contribution in 2018.
23. The SCAF also **NOTED** that the European Union is providing funds for participants to attend meetings and workshops through the IOTC projects it is funding.

5.3 Contributions Outstanding

24. The SCAF **NOTED** the information presented in papers IOTC–2018–SCAF15–06_Rev1 which listed the Contributions Outstanding and described the associated issues challenging IOTC.
25. The SCAF **NOTED** that as of 31 December 2017, the cumulative total of outstanding contribution payments was US\$ 2,822,094 and this constituted an increase of 21% from the previous year. The SCAF also **NOTED** that as of this date 10 Members and 4 ex Members had contributions in arrears.
26. The SCAF **NOTED** that as of the reporting date (4 May 2018), ten members had contributions that were in arrears by two years or more: Comoros, Eritrea, I.R. Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan and Yemen. The SCAF reiterated that the financial position of the Commission is a shared responsibility of all Contracting Parties (Members) and the level of unpaid contributions merits immediate attention from those concerned.
27. The SCAF **NOTED** that contributions from Mozambique, Kenya, South Africa, and Pakistan are in the process of payment and that FAO will receive them in due course.
28. Comoros informed the SCAF that its Government is currently examining ways to pay its contributions and clear its arrears.
- Iran informed the SCAF of the ongoing issues it faces in paying its contributions. In 2017, Iran was able to make a partial payment through the FAO office and will continue to work with the FAO representative to find a solution to paying its contributions. The SCAF **ENCOURAGED** Iran to meet its commitment from SCAF14, to make its payments in timely manner and to finalize its payment plan for its arrears as soon as possible.
29. The SCAF **EXPRESSED** deep concern that the continued increase in arrears poses a risk to the functioning of the Commission.

Recommendation/s

30. The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider implementing a mechanism to allow the voluntary contributions from CNCPs, long term fishing partners and others directly involved with fishing and fishing related activities in the IOTC Area.
31. The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission request CPCs with financial contributions in arrears to consider entering payment plans that facilitate payment by instalments over a set period of years.
32. The SCAF also **RECOMMENDED** the Secretariat take actions to recover contributions from ex-Members.

6. PROGRAMME OF WORK AND BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 2019 AND TENTATIVELY FOR 2020

33. The SCAF **NOTED** paper IOTC–2018–SCAF15–07_Rev1 which outlined the Budget Estimates for the IOTC Secretariat's *Program of Work* for the financial period 1 January to 31 December 2019, together with indicative figures for the 2020 financial period.
34. The SCAF **NOTED** the proposed budget for 2019 (IOTC–2018–SCAF15–07_Rev1) constituted a 15% overall increase from 2018. The SCAF expressed concern regarding the corresponding impact this level of increase would have on annual contributions. As a result, the SCAF **AMENDED** the proposed 2019 budget, reducing the overall increase to 9%. This was achieved by deferring the recruitment of the Scientific Coordinator until 2020. The SCAF **ACKNOWLEDGED** this continued vacancy may impact the workload of the current staff and is not a long-term solution to managing potential future budgetary increases.
35. The SCAF **AGREED** on an Administrative Budget for 2019 of **US\$ 4,270,341**. The SCAF also **AGREED** on the corresponding revised table of contributions (Appendix V).
36. The SCAF **AGREED** to re-introduce a Deficit Contingency budget of US\$ 150,000 from 2019 onwards until the situation of the shortfall in contribution payments improves.
37. The SCAF **NOTED** the statement of Indonesia provided in Appendix XIII.

Recommendation/s

38. The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt the Programme of Work and Budget and the scheme of contributions for 2019 and 2020 (indicative) as outlined in [Appendix IV](#) and [Appendix V](#) respectively, while **NOTING** 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 22nd Session of the Commission (S22) that have budgetary consequences, will require an amendment of the figures presented to, and endorsed by the SCAF.

7. PERFORMANCE REVIEW UPDATE (RESOLUTION 16/03 ON THE SECOND PERFORMANCE REVIEW FOLLOW-UP)

39. The SCAF **NOTED** paper IOTC–2018–SCAF15–08 which outlined the four actions allocated to the SCAF by the Commission arising from the 2nd Performance Review of the IOTC (IOTC-2016-PRIOTC02-R).
40. The SCAF **DISCUSSED** each action and updated the status, timelines and priorities for each (Appendix XX).
41. The SCAF **NOTED** that the action to undertake an external financial audit is pending as FAO indicated that such an audit would be undertaken in 2019.
42. The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that a working group be formed (led by SCAF Chairperson) to begin work on the action to replace the IOTC Financial Regulation and the action to develop guidelines to enable IOTC acceptance of extra budgetary funds. Australia, European Union, Pakistan, and Maldives showed interests to join the working group. Furthermore, the SCAF requested the Secretariat to send out invitations to the Members inviting them to join this working group. The SCAF accorded an “ongoing” status a “2019” timeline and a “high” priority to each of the above two actions.
43. The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission take note of the revised performance review status table, including proposed timelines and priorities for the actions relevant to the SCAF (Appendix XX).

8. STREAMLINING IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR IN-COUNTRY ACTIVITIES

44. The SCAF **NOTED** paper IOTC–2018–SCAF15–09 which outlined some implementation issues in connection with the legal framework for project-funded activities of IOTC in the territory of member countries of IOTC. In accordance with FAO requirements there is a need to establish a legal framework for the project funded activities of IOTC in the territories of Member countries, in order to manage the risk activities of and protect the budget of IOTC. The paper, which was prepared by FAO, proposed a solution to this issue that involves the adoption of a standard set of conditions by Commission Members.
45. The SCAF **AGREED** that the standard conditions were acceptable in principle; however, the SCAF **ACKNOWLEDGED** that some Members may need to confirm some elements of the conditions with their governments and enter a bilateral arrangement.
46. The SCAF **NOTED** without such an approach in place, the in-country activities of the Secretariat are likely to be severely disrupted.
47. The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider adopting the conditions set out in Annex 1 of paper IOTC–2018–SCAF15–09 as the standard framework applicable to in-country activities of IOTC.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Date and place of the 16th and 17th Sessions of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance

48. The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** to the Commission that the 16th and 17th Sessions of the SCAF in 2019 and 2020 respectively, should be held prior to the corresponding annual Commission meetings **NOTING** the dates and locations will be decided during the 22nd Session of the Commission.

9.2 Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

49. The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission endorse the nomination Mr. Hussain Sinan (Maldives) as Chairperson and Mr Muhammad Farhan Khan (Pakistan) as the Vice Chairperson of the SCAF for the next biennium.
50. The SCAF was unanimous in **THANKING** the Kingdom of Thailand for hosting the 15th Session of the SCAF and commended the local authorities of Bangkok on the warm welcome, the excellent facilities and the assistance provided to the IOTC Secretariat in the organisation and running of the Session.

10. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 15TH SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

51. The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider the consolidated set of recommendations arising from SCAF15, provided at [Appendix VII](#).
52. The report of the 15th Session of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (IOTC–2018–SCAF15–R) was **ADOPTED** on 17 May 2018.

Appendix IV

Proposed budget for 2019 and indicative budget for 2020 (in US\$)

		Actuals 2017	2018	2019	2020
1	Staff costs				
1.1	Professional				
	Executive Secretary (D1)	186,683	163,907	174,785	180,028
	<i>Science</i>				
	Science Manager (P5)	-	147,947	145,588	149,956
	Science Coordinator (P4)	-	57,654		113,856
	Stock Assessment Expert (P4)	103,412	116,308	108,327	111,577
	Fishery Officer (Science P3)	92,778	102,258	96,533	99,429
	<i>Compliance</i>				
	Compliance Manager (P5)	-	145,000	143,376	147,677
	Compliance Coordinator (P4)	111,630	131,500	133,488	137,493
	Compliance Officer (P3)	115,030	95,779	123,986	127,705
	<i>Data</i>				
	Data Coordinator (P4)	107,605	115,308	111,108	114,441
	Statistician (P3)	95,878	102,717	98,589	101,547
	Fishery Officer (Data P1)	-	91,000	55,917	57,594
	<i>Admin.</i>				
	Administrative Officer (P3)	106,628	98,970	111,689	115,040
1.2	General Service				
	Administrative Assistant	14,258	15,445	18,790	19,353
	Compliance Assistant	6,191	11,950	15,204	15,660
	Office Assistant	10,306	11,747	15,204	15,660
	Database Assistant	14,460	15,869	18,508	19,064
	Office Assistant	1,852	8,259	13,174	13,570
	Driver	7,777	7,465	10,095	10,398
	Overtime	-	5,000	5,450	5,614
	Total Salary Costs	974,487	1,444,083	1,399,811	1,555,661
1.3	Employer Pension and Health	279,556	418,651	379,736	421,347
1.4	Employer FAO Entitlement Fund	575,290	607,582	781,501	885,048
1.5	Adjustment entitlement fund	71,504			
1.6	Improved Cost Recovery Uplift	55,582	0	71,709	80,138
	Total Staff Costs	1,956,420	2,470,316	2,632,757	2,942,194
2	Operating Expenditures				
2.1	Capacity Building	60,780	125,000	100,000	100,000
2.2	Co-funding Science/Data grants	174,153	100,000	205,000	205,000
2.3	Co-funding Compliance grants	28,221	35,000	30,000	30,000
2.4	Misc. Contingencies		60,000	0	0
2.5	Consultants	230,994	155,000	155,000	155,000
2.6	Duty travel	126,977	135,000	150,000	150,000
2.7	Meetings	166,156	105,000	145,000	145,000
2.8	Interpretation	94,815	140,000	140,000	140,000
2.9	Translation	63,640	105,000	110,000	110,000
2.10	Equipment	22,033	30,000	25,000	25,000
2.11	General Operating Expenses	48,204	75,000	68,000	68,000
2.12	Printing	0	20,000	0	0
2.13	Contingencies	0	10,000	10,000	10,000
	Total OE	1,015,974	1,095,000	1,138,000	1,138,000
	SUB-TOTAL	2,972,394	3,565,316	3,770,757	4,080,194
3	Additional Contributions Seychelles	-15,783	-20,100	-20,100	-20,100
4	FAO Servicing Costs	144,319	160,439	169,684	183,609
5	Deficit Contingency	-	-	150,000	150,000
6	Meeting Participation Fund	202,945	200,000	200,000	200,000
	GRAND TOTAL	3,303,875	3,905,655	4,270,341	4,593,703

9%

7.6%

APPENDIX V
SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2019 (IN US\$)

Country	World Bank Classification in 2016	OECD Membership	Average catch for 2014-2016 (in metric tons)	Base Contribution	Operations Contribution	GNP Contribution	Catch Contribution	Total Contribution (in USD)
Australia	High	Yes	5,180	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$142,345	\$17,156	\$191,528
Bangladesh	Middle	No	2,284	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$35,586	\$1,513	\$69,127
China	Middle	No	74,062	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$35,586	\$49,059	\$116,673
Comoros	Low	No	9,858	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$0	\$6,530	\$38,558
Eritrea	Low	No	219	\$14,234	\$0	\$0	\$145	\$14,380
European Union	High	Yes	203,030	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$142,345	\$672,441	\$846,813
France(Terr)	High	Yes	0	\$14,234	\$0	\$142,345	\$0	\$156,579
India	Middle	No	166,274	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$35,586	\$110,141	\$177,755
Indonesia	Middle	No	344,776	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$35,586	\$228,382	\$295,996
Iran, Islamic Republic of	Middle	No	237,832	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$35,586	\$157,541	\$225,155
Japan	High	Yes	15,942	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$142,345	\$52,801	\$227,173
Kenya	Middle	No	877	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$35,586	\$581	\$68,195
Korea, Rep of	High	Yes	21,358	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$142,345	\$70,737	\$245,109
Madagascar	Low	No	8,670	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$0	\$5,743	\$37,771
Malaysia	Middle	No	20,546	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$35,586	\$13,610	\$81,223
Maldives	Middle	No	124,578	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$35,586	\$82,521	\$150,135
Mauritius	Middle	No	10,470	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$35,586	\$6,935	\$74,549
Mozambique	Low	No	4,101	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$0	\$2,716	\$34,744
Oman	High	No	39,856	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$142,345	\$26,401	\$200,773
Pakistan	Middle	No	59,238	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$35,586	\$39,240	\$106,854
Philippines	Middle	No	762	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$35,586	\$505	\$68,119
Seychelles	High	No	96,586	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$142,345	\$63,980	\$238,352
Somalia	Low	No	0	\$14,234	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$14,234
South Africa	Middle	No	381	\$14,234	\$0	\$35,586	\$252	\$50,073
Sri Lanka	Middle	No	90,306	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$35,586	\$59,819	\$127,433
Sudan	Middle	No	34	\$14,234	\$0	\$35,586	\$22	\$49,843
Tanzania	Low	No	7,167	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$0	\$4,748	\$36,775
Thailand	Middle	No	12,431	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$35,586	\$8,234	\$75,848
United Kingdom(Terr)	High	Yes	3	\$14,234	\$0	\$142,345	\$9	\$156,589
Yemen	Middle	No	39,816	\$14,234	\$17,793	\$35,586	\$26,374	\$93,988
			Total	\$427,034	\$427,034	\$1,708,137	\$1,708,137	\$4,270,341

APPENDIX VI

SCAF: UPDATE ON PROGRESS REGARDING RESOLUTION 16/03 – ON THE SECOND PERFORMANCE REVIEW FOLLOW-UP

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

REFERENCE #	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	UPDATE/STATUS	TIMELINE	PRIORITY
			STATUS	TIMELINE	PRIORITY
PRIOTC02.23 (para. 228)	<p><i>Availability of resources for IOTC activities & Efficiency and cost-effectiveness</i></p> <p>b) The PRIOTC02 RECOMMENDED that: consistent with best practice governance procedures, that the Commission:</p> <p>(i). Amend or replace the IOTC Financial Regulations (1999) as a matter of urgency in order to increase Contracting Parties' as well as the Secretariat's control of all the budget elements, including staff costs of the budget, consistent with best practice governance procedures.</p>	<i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance</i>	WORKINGGROUP BEING FORMED	2019	HIGH
	(ii). A system of cost-recovery should be considered as a possible funding mechanism for new activities and/or ongoing activities.				
	(iii). An annual external financial audit of the organisation be implemented as soon as possible, and include a focus on whether IOTC is efficiently and effectively managing its human and financial resources, including those of the IOTC Secretariat.		PENDING BY FAO	2019	HIGH
	(iv). Develop guidelines for the acceptance of extra-budgetary funds to undertake elements of the Commission's Program of Work, or those of its subsidiary bodies.		WORKING GROUP BEING FORMED	2019	HIGH

APPENDIX VIII**INDONESIA STATEMENT FOR 15th SESSION OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION
AND FINANCE IN BANGKOK, 16 MAY 2018**

Reflecting from the on-going discussion during the Compliance Committee Meeting for the past 3 days, we could not help but still disappointed with the lack of seriousness of IOTC Secretariat in conducting the assessment of our compliance report. As we have said during the meeting, some of our compliance report that we have submitted is NOT passed the deadline and this is NOT taken into consideration by the Secretariat. Even the Secretariat has acknowledged this fact but still fail to act accordingly, no correction or rectification on the final assessment. We therefore, again express our disappointment over this matter.

And now the Secretariat asking for significant increasing the budget of Indonesia annual contribution, around 13.7% increased from 281,663 USD in 2018 to 320,221 USD in 2019. In this junction, we in the position to object any increase in the budget contribution. Especially if those increase not give any significant benefit and impact to us for our capacity improvement and lack of services from IOTC to Indonesia.

It is difficult for us to explain to our government the relevance increase of the annual contribution while our performance is judged to be not good enough. There is a special task force in Indonesia who will assess our performance in IOTC, if our performance score is lower than previous year, and this is partly because of this unfairness assessment, it will be very very difficult for us to explain this to our government.

Lastly, we recommend the Secretariat to cut any unnecessary budget. We object any increasing budget for Indonesia in 2019. Please put this statement as reflected in the minute of the administrative meeting. Thank you.