

## REPORT ON ESTABLISHING A PROGRAMME FOR TRANSHIPMENT BY LARGE-SCALE FISHING VESSELS

Prepared by IOTC Secretariat

IOTC Resolution 08/02 *On Establishing a Programme for Transhipment by Large-Scale Fishing Vessels* calls for all transhipment operations of tuna and tuna like species in the IOTC Area to take place in port except under special conditions. In accordance with this resolution, at sea transhipments will be monitored by IOTC observers. This applies initially to large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels and to carrier vessels authorised to receive transhipments from these vessels at sea.

### Contract awarded to run the Programme

As the Compliance Committee was previously advised, the scope for establishing the transhipment programme is beyond the capacity of the Secretariat as it currently resourced and that this work was to be contracted out. A call for tender was published by the FAO on 12th September 2008. Four bids were received and evaluated by an evaluation panel, which was composed of the Chair of the Commission, the Secretary and the Compliance Officer. Based on the results of the evaluation criteria, elaborated for both the technical and financial offers, the Consortium of Marine Resource Assessment Group and Capricorn Fisheries was awarded the contract.

### Fleets currently participating in the Programme

Paragraph 3. The Commission hereby establishes a programme to monitor transhipment at sea which applies initially to large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels (hereafter referred to as the "LSTLVs") and to carrier vessels authorised to receive transhipments from these vessels at sea.

Paragraph 4. The CPCs that flag LSTLVs shall determine whether or not to authorise their LSTLVs to tranship at sea.

Table 1 lists the numbers of Large Scale Fishing Vessels currently operating in the IOTC Area and indicates which fleets are participating in the Programme.

### Submission of carrier vessels list

Paragraph 6. Each CPC shall submit, electronically where possible, to the IOTC Secretary by 1 July 2008 the list of carrier vessels that are authorised to receive at-sea transhipments from its LSTLVs in the IOTC Area.

Six fleets have submitted their list of carrier vessels authorised to receive at-sea transhipments from their LSTLVs. This represents a total of 53 carrier vessels that have been expressly authorised to receive at-sea transhipments from participating fleets in the programme; China (30 carrier vessels authorised), Taiwan, China (37), Republic of Korea (17), Japan (34), Philippines (48) and Seychelles (36). It should be noted that a carrier vessel may be authorised by one or more participating fleets.

## **Calculation of the contributions from the participants in the Regional Observer Programme for the year 2009**

Paragraph 13, Annex 3 - The costs of implementing this program shall be financed by the flag CPCs of LSTLVs wishing to engage in transshipment operations. The fee shall be calculated on the basis of the total costs of the program. This fee shall be paid into a special account of the IOTC Secretariat and the IOTC Secretary shall manage the account for implementing the program.

The principle applied to recover the cost for the programme is to assess contributions proportionally to the average catch of the main four species (yellowfin, bigeye, swordfish and southern bluefin tunas) by large-scale tuna longline vessels during the period 2005-2007 for the participating fleets.

The amount to be apportioned is the equivalent of the total expected cost for the year (e.g. € 656,073.06 in 2009). This amount is based on operating for 2,100 observer days at sea. Almost certainly, the actual costs will differ depending on the number of actual days at sea for the observers. This difference will result in adjustments to next year's individual contributions to the Programme.

### **Transshipments observed**

A total of 20 observer deployments have been approved in the first two months of the programme. Information on transshipments observed for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2009 are presented in Tables 2 and 3, for seven trips that had concluded by the end of February. A total of 111 transshipment operations have been observed, in which 6,229 tonnes of fish were transhipped. Bigeye tuna was the main species transhipped; accounting for nearly 75% of all fish transhipped

**Table 1. Numbers of Large Scale Tuna Longline Vessels (LSTLVs) operating in the IOTC Area, and remarks on participation in the Transshipment Programme**

	No LSTLVs.	Remarks
Australia	15	Not transshipping at sea
Belize	7	Not transshipping at sea
China	69	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Taiwan,China	346	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Comoros		n/a
EC	148	Not transshipping at sea
Eritrea		n/a
France (O. T.)	1	Not transshipping at sea
Guinea	1	Not transshipping at sea
India	74	Not transshipping at sea
Indonesia	246	Not transshipping at sea
Iran	1	Not transshipping at sea
Japan	400	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Kenya	2	Not transshipping at sea
Korea, Republic of	169	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Madagascar	2	Not transshipping at sea
Malaysia	25	Not transshipping at sea
Mauritius	3	Not transshipping at sea
Oman	16	Not transshipping at sea
Pakistan		n/a
Philippines	27	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Seychelles	29	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Sierra Leone		n/a
Sri Lanka		n/a
Sudan		n/a
Tanzania		n/a
Thailand	6	Not transshipping at sea
UK (O. T.)		n/a
Vanuatu	44	Not transshipping at sea
Senegal	3	Not transshipping at sea
South Africa	10	Not transshipping at sea
Uruguay		n/a
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,652</b>	

**Table 2: Details of the transhipments undertaken under the IOTC Transhipment Programme. Numbers of transhipments undertaken individual carrier vessels (by fleet) and quantities of fish (tonnes) transhipped. The trips on the table refer to trips made by individual carrier vessels with an observer on board.**

Fleet	No. Transhipments (% of total)	Total weight transhipped (tonnes) (% of total)														
			Trip 2		Trip 3		Trip 4		Trip 9		Trip 10		Trip 11		Trip 12	
			No.	tonnes	No.	tonnes	No.	tonnes	No.	tonnes	No.	tonnes	No.	tonnes	No.	tonnes
China Taiwan,China																
Japan																
Korea, Republic of																
Philippines																
Seychelles																
<b>Total</b>																

**Table 3: Quantities of fish transhipped by species (t)**

Species	Weight (t)
Bigeye tuna	
Yellowfin tuna	
Mixed Fish Species (Includes billfish, opah, Spanish mackerel)	
Swordfish	
Dogfish sharks	
Southern bluefin tuna	
Albacore	
Other tuna-like fishes	