

## 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.

### Executing the Regional Observer Programme

The Consortium of Marine Resource Assessment Group and Capricorn Fisheries is responsible for executing work under the IOTC regional observer programme. The responsibilities of the Consortium include the training and provision of qualified observers, managing the logistics for the deployment of observers and their repatriation at the end of the deployment and maintaining the IOTC regional observer programme database. The Consortium is also tasked with providing the IOTC Secretariat with five day reports which summarise the activities undertaken by the programme every five days. A report for each deployment is also submitted to the Secretariat at the end of each deployment.

### 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 list the numbers of Large Scale Fishing Vessels currently operating in the IOTC Area and indicates which fleets have participated in the Programme in 2009. Table 1 also highlight the fleets that have transhipped under the programme but have not yet agreed to participate in the programme, thus not contributing to the cost of 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.

Seven fleets have submitted information on carrier vessels authorised to receive at-sea transhipments from their LSTLVs. This represents a total of 66 carrier vessels that have been expressly authorised to receive at-sea transhipments from participating fleets in the programme; Belize (1), China (33), Taiwan, China (35), Republic of Korea (17), Japan (34), Philippines (49) and Seychelles (36). It should be noted that a carrier vessel may be authorised by one or more participating fleets.

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## **Costs of implementing the Regional Observer Programme for the year 2009 and calculation of contributions for the participants in the Programme**

Paragraph 12, 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.

An initial budget of €656,073.06 was forecasted for the whole of 2009. This amount was based on operating for 2,100 observer days at sea; a figure based on the first year of a similar programme for the Atlantic Ocean. However, half way through the year it became clear that the IOTC programme was on a much larger scale than anticipated. To ensure the seamless continuation of the Programme an additional budget of €393,644.00 was sought. This essentially resulted in a total budget of €1,049,717.06 for 2009. The final cost of the Programme for 2009 will become known once all trips that started in late 2009 and ending in early 2010 have ended.

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

The amount apportioned is the equivalent of the estimated total cost for the year. Any differences between the budgeted amount and the actual costs incurred will result in adjustments to the 2010 contributions of the participating fleets in the Programme.

### **Transshipments observed**

For 2009, a total of 73 observer deployments have been approved, of which six were subsequently cancelled by the fleets requesting the deployment. Information on transshipments observed for the 58 trips that have been concluded at the time of preparing this report are presented in Table 2 and Figures 1 and 2. A total of 3,757 transshipment operations have been observed, in which 44,160 tonnes of fish were transhipped. Bigeye tuna was the main species transhipped; accounting for just over 40% of all fish transhipped. Oilfish (*Revetus spp.*), which is a non-IOTC species was the second most important species (18%) transhipped. Overall, tuna and billfishes accounted for approximately 70% of all species transhipped.

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

	No LSTLVs.	Remarks
Australia	16	Not transhipping at sea
Belize	6	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
China	76	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Taiwan, China	344	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Comoros		n/a
European Union	147	Not transhipping at sea
Eritrea		n/a
France (O. T.)	1	Not transhipping at sea
Guinea	1	Not transhipping at sea
India	31	Not transhipping at sea
Indonesia	252	Not participating in the ROP; five transhipments have been observed
Iran	1	Not transhipping at sea
Japan	368	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Kenya	2	Not participating in the ROP; one transhipment has been observed
Korea, Republic of	162	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Madagascar	2	Not transhipping at sea
Malaysia	25	Not transhipping at sea
Mauritius	3	Not transhipping at sea
Oman	22	Not participating in the ROP; eleven transhipments have been observed
Pakistan		n/a
Philippines	27	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Seychelles	24	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Sierra Leone		n/a
Sri Lanka		n/a
Sudan		n/a
Tanzania		n/a
Thailand	6	Not transhipping at sea; requested exemption from the programme for the purse seine fleet
UK (I. O. Territories)		n/a
Vanuatu	44	Not transhipping at sea
Senegal	3	Not transhipping at sea
South Africa	8	Not transhipping at sea
Uruguay		n/a

**Table 2: Details of the transshipments undertaken by fleets, during the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009 – 9<sup>th</sup> November 2009.**

<b>Fleets</b>	<b>Albacore</b>	<b>Bigeye tuna</b>	<b>Billfish</b>	<b>Oilfish</b>	<b>Other Tunas</b>	<b>Others</b>	<b>Sharks/Shark products</b>	<b>Yellowfin tuna</b>	<b>Total</b>
Belize	96.40	5.70	10.11	1.50	0.00	14.33	9.45	24.10	161.58
China	37.58	1,782.87	211.92	71.80	24.90	232.49	146.48	229.09	2,737.13
Taiwan, China	2,641.31	10,225.36	2,029.08	7,156.02	113.35	2,405.56	1,408.17	2,234.47	28,213.32
Indonesia	122.74	11.75	0.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.54	135.78
Japan	962.93	3,050.75	355.48	0.00	105.89	691.14	90.41	1,894.07	7,150.66
Kenya	5.00	0.00	0.00	65.00	0.00	0.00	3.00	0.00	73.00
Korea, Rep. of	63.02	243.42	87.71	0.00	84.66	118.99	31.75	446.46	1,076.01
Oman	89.80	182.77	11.43	3.00	0.00	0.77	6.00	28.66	322.43
Philippines	227.48	320.34	15.88	185.00	16.55	2.24	0.09	242.29	1,009.87
Seychelles	61.68	2,241.50	132.62	508.69	4.95	54.71	13.60	262.42	3,280.16
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,307.93</b>	<b>18,064.46</b>	<b>2,854.97</b>	<b>7,991.01</b>	<b>350.30</b>	<b>3,520.23</b>	<b>1,708.96</b>	<b>5,362.08</b>	<b>44,159.94</b>

