

**CONCERNING THE LEVEL OF ILLEGAL FISHING ACTIVITIES
REPORTED BY THE UNITED KINGDOM ON BEHALF OF ITS INDIAN
OCEAN TERRITORIES**

Prepared by the IOTC Secretariat

At the request of the United Kingdom, on behalf of its Indian Ocean Territories, the Secretariat is making available the attached document for consideration at the Seventh Session of the IOTC Compliance Committee

Alejandro Anganuzzi
Executive Secretary
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
Mahe
Seychelles

12 February 2010

Dear Dr Anganuzzi,

Resolution 09/03. On establishing a list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing in the IOTC area.

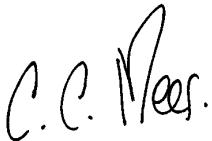
I wrote to you on 10 January 2010 on behalf of the British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT) Administration with details of five vessels flagged to Sri Lanka carrying out IUU fishing activities in the IOTC Area, specifically within the BIOT Fisheries Conservation Management Zone during 2009. By the end of 2009 we had recorded 50 incidents involving Sri Lankan Vessels since 2002 – a significant milestone. Since the end of 2009, two further vessels have been arrested. A table of all the incidents to the end of 2009 in the waters surrounding BIOT, involving vessels registered to Sri Lanka, can be found at Annex A. I would appreciate you bringing this information to the attention of the Compliance Committee for discussion in Busan next month.

At the current time I have not compiled all the details necessary for a submission under Resolution 09/03 for the two vessels that have been arrested during 2010 but I will do so in due course.

Illegal fishing by vessels from Sri Lanka poses one of the most significant threats, risks and uncertainties to the ecosystem in the waters surrounding BIOT. Whilst the BIOT Administration utilises a range of measures to protect its fisheries, including the deployment of a fisheries protection vessel that has arrested several fishing vessels over the past 12 months, the problem continues. The UK Government on behalf of the BIOT Administration has made, and continues to make, representation to the Government of Sri Lanka but the number of vessels entering the waters surrounding BIOT shows no sign of decline.

We would be most interested to discuss this in the Compliance committee and to explore any further actions that could be taken to prevent this continuing IUU threat.

Yours sincerely



Dr C. C. Mees

Head of UK Delegation to IOTC

Cc: Colin Roberts (Director, Overseas Territories Directorate, FCO); Joanne Yeadon (BIOT Administrator), Zoe Townsley (Assistant BIOT Administrator); Andrew Allen (FCO) Scott Parnell (Sustainable Fisheries Manager, FCO), Andy Carroll (Sea Fisheries Conservation Division, DEFRA)

Annex A: A list of Sri Lankan registered vessels and shore based camps engaged in, or suspected of engaging in illegal fishing activity in the British Indian Ocean Territory between 2002 and 2009.

No.	Vessel Name	Flag	Date	Activity	Location	Lat	Long	Action
1	Dori 2	LK	19/11/2002	fishing	Middle Brother, GCB	-6.12	71.55	Arrested
2	Local Putha	LK	07/12/2002	at anchor	Peros Banhos	-5.43	71.75	Verbal warning & released
3	Champion 1	LK	07/12/2002	at anchor	Peros Banhos	-5.43	71.75	Verbal warning & released
4	Krmel 1	LK	10/12/2002	at anchor	Peros Banhos	-5.18	71.98	Verbal warning & released
5	Sisira	LK	10/12/2002	at anchor	Peros Banhos	-5.18	71.98	Verbal warning & released
6	Serarly	LK	10/12/2002	at anchor	Peros Banhos	-5.18	71.98	Verbal warning & released
7	Saura Duwa 1	LK	10/12/2002	at anchor	Peros Banhos	-5.18	71.98	Verbal warning & released
8	Dnusha Baby 1	LK	10/12/2002	at anchor	Peros Banhos	-5.18	71.98	Verbal warning & released
9	SM 83	LK	17/12/2002	fishing	Centurion Bank	-7.65	70.81	Arrested
10	Vijita	LK	17/12/2002	ran aground	Eagle Island	-6.2	71.36	Crew arrested but repatriated
11	Champion 1	LK	13/02/2003	fishing	Peros Banhos	-5.25	71.92	Arrested
12	Lakpriya	LK	17/02/2003	fishing	Pitt Bank	-7.38	71.57	Arrested
13	Chajana 4	LK	12/03/2003	fishing	Peros Banhos	-5.37	71.95	Arrested
14	Sagura Putha	LK	02/07/2003	fishing	Speakers Bank	-5.02	72.40	Arrested
15	Nelangi	LK	02/07/2003	fishing	Speakers Bank	-4.98	72.45	Arrested
16	Chajana	LK	02/07/2003	fishing	Speakers Bank	-4.72	72.40	Escaped
17	Ishara lakshany	LK	29/08/2003	fishing	Pitt Bank	-7.12	71.58	Arrested
18	Champion 1	LK	01/09/2003	fishing	Middle Brother, GCB	-6.12	71.50	Arrested
19	Lakpriya 5	LK	23/10/2003	drifting	NW of Peros Banhos	-4.77	71.77	Released
20	Ravin Putha	LK	23/10/2003	drifting	NW of Peros Banhos	-4.77	71.78	Released
21	Ruwan Putha 1	LK	02/11/2003	steaming	Western Edge GCB	-6.92	71.68	Verbal warning & released
22	Lakpriya 5	LK	10/11/2003	breakdown	Southern GCB	-6.5	72.28	towed back to Sri Lanka
23	Chutiduwa	LK	19/11/2003	fishing	Southwest GCB	-6.57	71.38	Arrested
24	Chajana	LK	20/12/2003	steaming	Sector 8 INNER	-4.43	71.30	Verbal warning & released
25	Udashika Duwa	LK	27/12/2003	drifting	Northwest GCB	-5.85	72.62	Verbal warning & released
26	Hashan Putha 1	LK	27/12/2003	drifting	Northwest GCB	-5.83	72.65	Verbal warning & released
27	Sameera Putha 2	LK	28/12/2003	breakdown	Egmont Island	-6.58	71.27	Verbal warning & released
28	Ruwan Putha 2	LK	05/01/2004	fishing	Southeast GCB	-6.48	72.38	Arrested
29	Manal 7	LK	10/01/2004	fishing	Eastern periphery GCB	-6.12	72.62	Arrested
30	Vishmi	LK	10/01/2004	fishing	Eastern periphery GCB	-6.05	72.62	Arrested
31	Ranmini	LK	26/05/2004	fishing	Northeastern FCMZ	-3.97	74.93	Arrested

32	Rushan Putha 4	LK	27/05/2004	fishing	Northeastern FCMZ	-5.13	74.07	Arrested
33	Chajana	LK	28/04/2005	fishing camp	CGB: Eagle Island	-6.2	71.37	Arrested
34	Prarthana	LK	24/05/2005	drifting	Speakers Bank	-4.77	71.37	Verbal warning & released
35	Luan Putha	LK	25/06/2005	fishing camp	Eagle Island	-6.65	72.26	Arrested
36	Rushan Putha 6	LK	28/07/2005	fishing	Blenheim Reef	-5.32	72.26	Arrested
37	Sumudu Putha	LK	08/08/2005	fishing camp	Ile Yeye: Peros Banhos	-5.23	71.95	Arrested
38	Nuan Putha	LK	26/08/2005	fishing camp	Moresby Island	-5.23	71.83	Arrested
39	Anjana 7	LK	11/09/2005	fishing camp	Ile Diamant: Peros Banhos	-5.23	71.45	Arrested
40	Sachith Putha	LK	11/05/2006	fishing	Eastern periphery GCB	-6.07	72.18	Arrested
41	Senaka	LK	11/05/2006	fishing	Eastern periphery GCB	-6.07	72.18	Arrested
42	Alina 1	LK	24/01/2007	fishing	Central GCB	-6.1	72.03	Arrested
43	S.T. Lanka	LK	17/02/2008	fishing	west Peros Banhos	-5.43	71.46	Arrested
44	Jhanth Putha 3	LK	12/08/2008	fishing	Central GCB	-6.01	72.01	Arrested
45	Rogier 6	LK	01/07/2009	fishing	Central GCB	-6.4	72.12	Arrested
46	Randika Putha 1	LK	25/11/2009	fishing	Central GCB	-6.02	72.22	Arrested
47	Lakshani	LK	25/11/2009	fishing	Central GCB	-6.4	72.17	Arrested
48	Suratha	LK	28/11/2009	fishing	North GCB	-5.88	72.03	Arrested
49	Sulara 3	LK	05/12/2009	fishing	Centurian Bank	-7.62	70.85	Arrested
50	Chandra Kala	LK	09/12/2009	fishing	Central GCB	-6.47	71.68	Arrested

Year	Incidents
2002	10
2003	17
2004	5
2005	7
2006	2
2007	1
2008	2
2009	6
Total	50