

Report of Implementation for the year 2010

Reporting CPC: Mauritius

Part A. Describe the actions taken, under national legislation, in the previous year to implement Conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission at its Fourteenth Session.

Resolution 10/01 For the Conservation and Management of Tropical Tuna stocks in the IOTC area of Competence

The fishing operators were informed of the provisions under the Resolution in particular the area and period closure. Besides their fishing operations are monitored through the Vessel Monitoring System.

Resolution 10/02 Mandatory Statistical requirements for IOTC members and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CPCs)

Mauritius transmits to IOTC data regularly and these include:

- (a) Catch and effort of the local and foreign fishing vessels
- (b) Length frequency data of the catches of the swordfish fishing vessels;
- (c) Length frequency data of the licensed foreign longliners transshipping at Port Louis
- (d) Vessels characteristics for the vessel Registry
- (e) Data on transshipment and calling of vessels

Catch and effort data of local and licensed foreign longliners are compiled and processed on 1⁰ degree square.

For the year 2009, data including catch by species of local and foreign licensed vessels, transshipment in the port, local vessel craft statistics, vessel registry, detail of licensed vessels, length frequency statistics for the catch of local and foreign licensed vessels, Artisanal Fish Aggregating Devices fishery and estimate on sport fishery have been transmitted to IOTC and data for the year 2010 are being compiled.

Resolution 10/03 concerning the recording of catch by fishing vessels in the IOTC area

It is mandatory for local and foreign licensed vessels to submit fishing logbook after each fishing campaign. The details in the logbook are in accordance with the IOTC format.

Resolution 10/03 concerning Regional Observer Scheme

Three observers have been trained under the COI surveillance project and another five under the SWIOFP.

Resolution 10/06 on Reducing the Incidental Bycatch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries

The companies representing the longline fishing vessels have been informed accordingly. The operators have been requested to strictly implement the mitigation measures provided in the resolution.

Resolution 10/07 Concerning a Record of Licensed Foreign Vessels Fishing for Tunas and Swordfish in the IOTC Area.

Licences are issued to foreign vessels which are in the IOTC Record of Authorised vessels or on the Active list of IOTC to fish in the Mauritian maritime zone. Data collected from these vessels including vessel characteristics have been transmitted to the IOTC.

Resolution 10/08. Concerning a Record of Active Vessels Fishing for Tunas and Swordfish in the IOTC Area.

Data have been submitted

Resolution 10/10 Concerning Market Related Measures

Data have are being compiled and will be submitted to IOTC shortly.

Resolution 10/11 On Port state measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing

A Port Inspection Unit based at the port is operational since June 2004. Data are collected in line with FAO Model Scheme on Port State Measures. In this regard three

types of forms have been designed. All vessels calling to the port have to inform the port authority 72 hours in advance and have to provide data on catch, vessel characteristics and purpose of call. On arrival of vessels, inspections are carried out. All vessels have to submit copies of registration certificate, licence details, list of crew, fishing positions (logbooks), catch details, vessel characteristics. IUU listed vessels are not authorized to land their catch at Port Louis. Transshipment data are transmitted to IOTC.

Resolution 10/12 On the Conservation of Thresher Sharks.

The operators have been informed of the contents of the resolution.

Part B. Describe the actions taken under national legislation to implement conservation and management measures adopted by the commission in previous Sessions and which have not been reported previously.

A National Plan of Action to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU Fishing has been set up and the measures are being implemented after approval of the plan by the Government in 2010. The plan addresses among others the responsibilities of Mauritius as a State, flag State, coastal State and port State. It also provides market related measures, supporting actions and the role of RFMOs to combat IUU fishing.

Regulations specific to Monitoring, Control and Surveillance for fisheries are in the process of finalization. The VMS regulations are also being updated. Besides the implementation of international conservation and management measures including those of IOTC are provided under section 57 and 58 of the Fisheries and Marine Resources ACT of Mauritius.

Legal action is taken against a vessel which had on board shark fins without shark carcass. Another vessel was denied access to port as it had on board shark fin without shark carcass for which it was fined in Madagascar. In 2010, the National Coast Guard has booked 82 vessels for not complying with advance reportings (of 24 hrs) of entry into or exit from the Mauritian Maritime Zones. During the same year, the National Coast Guard had also booked 10 vessels for failing to provide advance notification of 72 hrs for port access and 4 vessel for break in VMS communication.