

IOTC-2020-CoC17-04a [E]

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

Prepared by IOTC Secretariat, 31 July 2020

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) Resolution 19/06 *On Establishing a Programme for Transshipment by Large-Scale Fishing Vessels* calls for all transshipment operations of tuna and tuna like species and sharks species in the IOTC Area to take place in port, except under special conditions. In accordance with this Resolution, at sea transshipments will be monitored by IOTC observers. This applies initially to large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels and to carrier vessels authorised to receive transshipments from these vessels at sea.

Paragraph 4. The Commission hereby establishes a programme to monitor transshipment 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 transshipments from these vessels at sea. [...]

Executing the at-sea Transshipment Programme

The Consortium of Marine Resource Assessment Group and Capricorn Fisheries is responsible for executing work under the IOTC at-sea transshipment 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 at-sea transshipment 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 IOTC Secretariat at the end of each deployment. In line with the agreed confidentiality rules, these reports are subsequently edited by the IOTC Secretariat and forwarded to the concerned fleets whose vessels have transhipped under the deployment for which the report covers. Additionally, the reports for deployments where Southern Bluefin tuna (SBT) have been transhipped are also forwarded to the Secretariat of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), as per the Letter of Understanding (LOU) signed between the IOTC and CCSBT. This arrangement has the benefit of minimising costs to the fleets that catches and tranships SBT in the IOTC Area.

Fleets currently participating in the at-sea Transshipment Programme

The following fleets have participated in the at-sea Transshipment Programme in 2019: China, Taiwan China, Japan, Kenya, Korea (Republic of), Malaysia, Oman and Seychelles.

Paragraph 5. The CPCs that flag LSTLVs shall determine whether or not to authorise their LSTLVs to tranship at sea. [...]

Table 1, below, list the fleets with number of Large Scale Tuna Longline Vessels (LSTLVs) currently authorised to operate in the IOTC Area and indicates which fleets have participated in the Programme in 2019.

Table 1. Number of Large Scale Tuna Longline Vessels (LSTLVs) authorised to operate in the IOTC Area, and remarks on participation in the Transshipment Programme.

Fleets	No LSTLVs.	Remarks
Australia	4	Not transshipping at sea.
Bangladesh		N/A
China	117	Participated in the at-sea Transshipment Programme.
Taiwan, China	237	Participated in the at-sea Transshipment Programme.
Comoros		N/A
European Union	41	Not transshipping at sea.
Eritrea		N/A
France (O. T.)		N/A
Guinea		N/A
India	4	Not transshipping at sea
Indonesia	147	The Commission agreed in 2017 for Indonesia to operate a national transshipment programme.
Iran	5	Not transshipping at sea
Japan	184	Participated in the at-sea Transshipment Programme.
Kenya	3	Participated in the at-sea Transshipment Programme.
Korea, Republic of	73	Participated in the at-sea Transshipment Programme.
Madagascar		N/A
Malaysia	16	Participated in the at-sea Transshipment Programme.
Maldives	1	The Commission agreed in 2018 for Maldives to operate a national transshipment programme.
Mauritius		N/A
Mozambique	1	Not transshipping at sea.
Oman	1	Participated in the at-sea Transshipment Programme.
Pakistan		N/A
Philippines	7	Not transshipping at sea.
Seychelles	59	Participated in the at-sea Transshipment Programme.
Sierra Leone		N/A
South Africa	11	Not transshipping at sea.
Sri Lanka	22	Not transshipping at sea.
Sudan		N/A
Tanzania	1	Not transshipping at sea.
Thailand		N/A.
UK (OT)		N/A
Liberia		N/A
Senegal		N/A

N/A (not applicable) Fleets without Large Scale Tuna Longline Vessels (LSTLVs) in the IOTC Record of Authorized vessels

Submission of carrier vessels list

Paragraph 7. Each CPC shall submit, electronically where possible, to the IOTC Executive Secretary the list of carrier vessels that are authorised to receive at-sea transhipments from its LSTLVs in the IOTC area of competence. [...]

All fleets which participated in the at-sea Transhipment Programme during 2019 have submitted information on carrier vessels which they have authorised to receive at-sea transhipments from their LSTLVs. This represents a total of 78 carrier vessels that have been expressly authorised to receive at-sea transhipments from the fleets which participated in the programme; it should be noted that a carrier vessel may be authorised by one or more participating fleets.

From the 78 carrier vessels listed in the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels (as of 06 April 2020), 26 carrier vessels have been used by the participating fleets in 2019 (Table 2) following submission of request of deployments by the participating fleets, and subsequent approval of the deployments by the IOTC Secretariat.

Table 2: Active carrier vessels in 2019 (Deployment starting in 2018 continuing in 2019 and deployment starting in 2019)

Fleet	Name of carrier vessel active in 2019
Japan	Taisei Maru No. 15
	Taisei Maru No. 24
Korea, Republic of	Sei Shin
	Seibu
	Seiyu
	Seiwa
Liberia	Chikuma
	Genta Maru
	Meita Maru
	Shota Maru
Malaysia	Kha Yang 333
Panama	Bao Win
	Futagami
	Harima
	Hsiang Hao
	Ibuki
	Kurikoma
	Oriental Chilan
	Tuna Queen
Singapore	Chitose
	Yachiyo
Taiwan, China	Chen Yu No 7
	Ho Yuan
	Sheng Hong
	Shun Tian Fa No.168
	Yong Man Shun
	Yuan Tai No. 806

Costs of implementing the At-sea Transshipment Programme for the year 2019 and calculation of contributions for the participants in the Programme

Paragraph 13, Annex IV - 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.

Based on the level of activities recorded from the ten years (2009 – 2018) of the transshipment programme, a budget of €719,250 was proposed for the programme in 2019 (May 2019 - Apr 2020). This resulted in a total budget of €8,664,689 allocated for the eleven years over which the transshipment programme had been implemented.

The principle applied to recover the cost for the programme was discussed and agreed upon by the representatives of the different fleets participating in the at-sea Transshipment Programme. Unlike the initial cost recovery method, which was adopted in the first year of the programme (2009), the cost recovery method for the last ten years have been based on actual figures from the preceding year. Therefore, the cost for 2019 was apportioned to participating fleets based on the quantity of fish that they actually transhipped during 2018.

The amount apportioned is the equivalent of the estimated total cost for the year plus the 4.5% FAO project servicing cost. Difference between the budgeted amount and the actual costs incurred is adjusted to the contributions of the participating fleets in the following year of the Programme, when the actual costs become available.

Following a new call for tender for the delivery of this service, a new contract for the at-sea Transshipment Programme was signed by the FAO, on behalf of the IOTC, with the service provider who has been delivering this service since its inception. The present contract with the consortium of MRAG Ltd/CapFish cc was issued to MRAG Ltd in May 2018 for an initial period of one year with the possibility of annual renewals up to a total of five years, subject to satisfactory performance and availability of funds.

Transshipments observed

For 2019, a total of 65 observer deployments were approved. Two of the approved deployment were subsequently cancelled by the fleet requesting the deployment. Information on transshipments observed from the 1st January to 31st December 2019, are presented in Table 3, and Figures 2 and 3. Note that the data pertaining to quantities transhipped are originating from the transshipment declarations made by the vessels (LSTLVs), as opposed to the data produced by the IOTC observers, based on their observations whilst onboard authorised carrier vessels. A total of 1,317 transshipment operations have been observed in which 64,644 metric tons of fish were transhipped. In 2019, while the number of transshipments were lower than the previous year (1370) the total volume of fish transhipped showed a slight increase (Figure 1).

Yellowfin tuna was the main species transhipped; accounting for 26.94% of all fish transhipped. This was followed by albacore tuna and bigeye tuna, which accounted for 25.50% and 14.51%, respectively. Oilfish (*Revuttus spp.*), which is a non-IOTC species, accounted for the fourth most important species transhipped in 2019, accounting for 13.21% of the quantity of fish transhipped. Overall, tuna and billfishes accounted for 79.06% of all species transhipped (Figure 2).

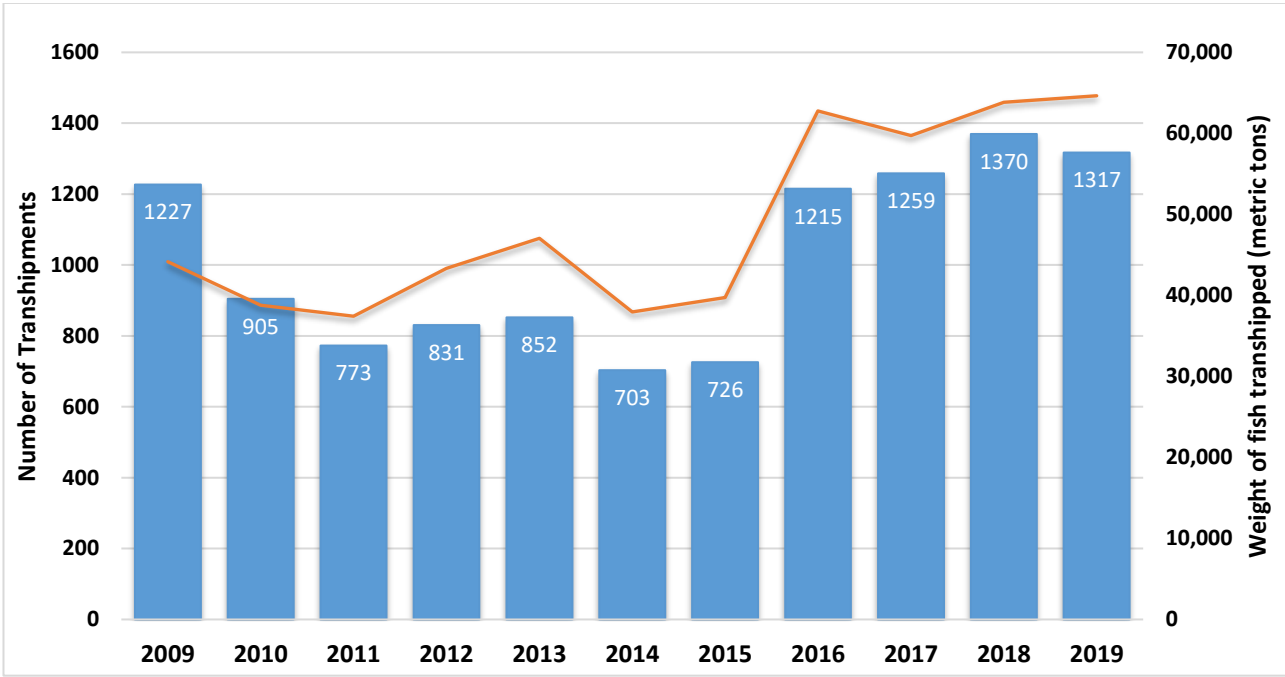


Figure 1: Evolution of IOTC at-sea transshipment activities from 2009 to 2019, through number of transshipments (blue columns) and total weight of fish transhipped (red line).

Table 3: Details of the transshipments undertaken by fleets, during the period 1st January 2019 – 31st December, 2019.

Fleets	Albacore	Bigeye tuna	Yellowfin tuna	Oilfish	Swordfish	Other_Tunas ^a	Other_Billfish ^b	Others ^c	Total (Mt)
China	1,559.58	2,018.81	7,212.85	197.63	1,891.95	5.82	837.50	632.88	14,357.02
Taiwan, China	12,101.77	4,382.37	3,500.28	7,535.49	1,527.32	341.54	854.08	3,766.38	34,009.23
Japan	0.00	8.62	19.84	0.00	4.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	33.45
Kenya ^d									
Republic of Korea	37.07	69.24	871.86	1.27	18.50	522.50	23.09	63.26	1,606.79
Malaysia	1,203.22	36.46	65.18	14.46	12.97	0.00	10.96	57.14	1,400.39
Oman ^d									
Seychelles	495.55	2,295.97	3,793.47	760.87	702.14	0.12	287.99	342.00	8,678.11
Total (Mt)	16,486.62	9,380.60	17,418.19	8,536.58	4,290.94	1,429.42	2,101.26	5,000.75	64,644.37
Percentage	25.50%	14.51%	26.94%	13.21%	6.64%	2.21%	3.25%	7.74%	

a: Mixed Tunas, Skipjack tuna, Southern bluefin tuna, Tunas nei.

b: Atlantic white marlin, Black marlin, Indo-Pacific sailfish, Marlins, sailfishes, Striped marlin, Indo-Pacific blue marlin, Atlantic blue marlin, Atlantic sailfish.

c: Atlantic Spanish mackerel, Blacktip shark, Blue shark, Butterfly kingfish, Dorado/Mahi Mahi, Escolar, Japanese Spanish mackerel, King mackerel, Longfin mako, Mako sharks, Mixed Fish Species, Narrow-barred Spanish mackerel, Oceanic Sunfish, Other fish Unclassified, Pelagic Sharks nei, Pomfret, Shortbill spearfish, Shortfin mako, Silky shark, Various sharks nei, Wahoo

d: The quantities transhipped by the one Omani and Kenyan vessel are not displayed individually due to confidentiality rule, as both has only one vessel participating in the ROP.

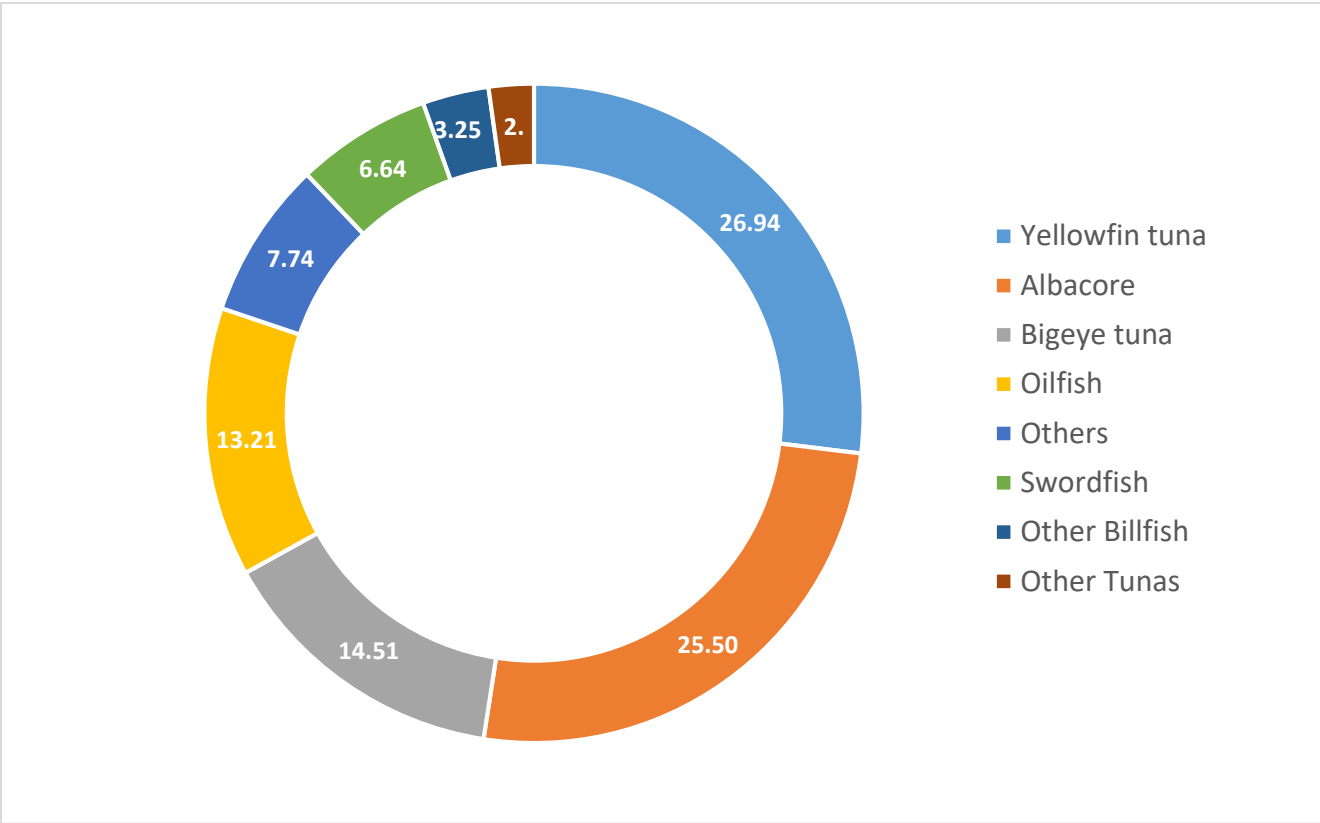


Figure 2: Percentage composition of species groups transhipped in 2019

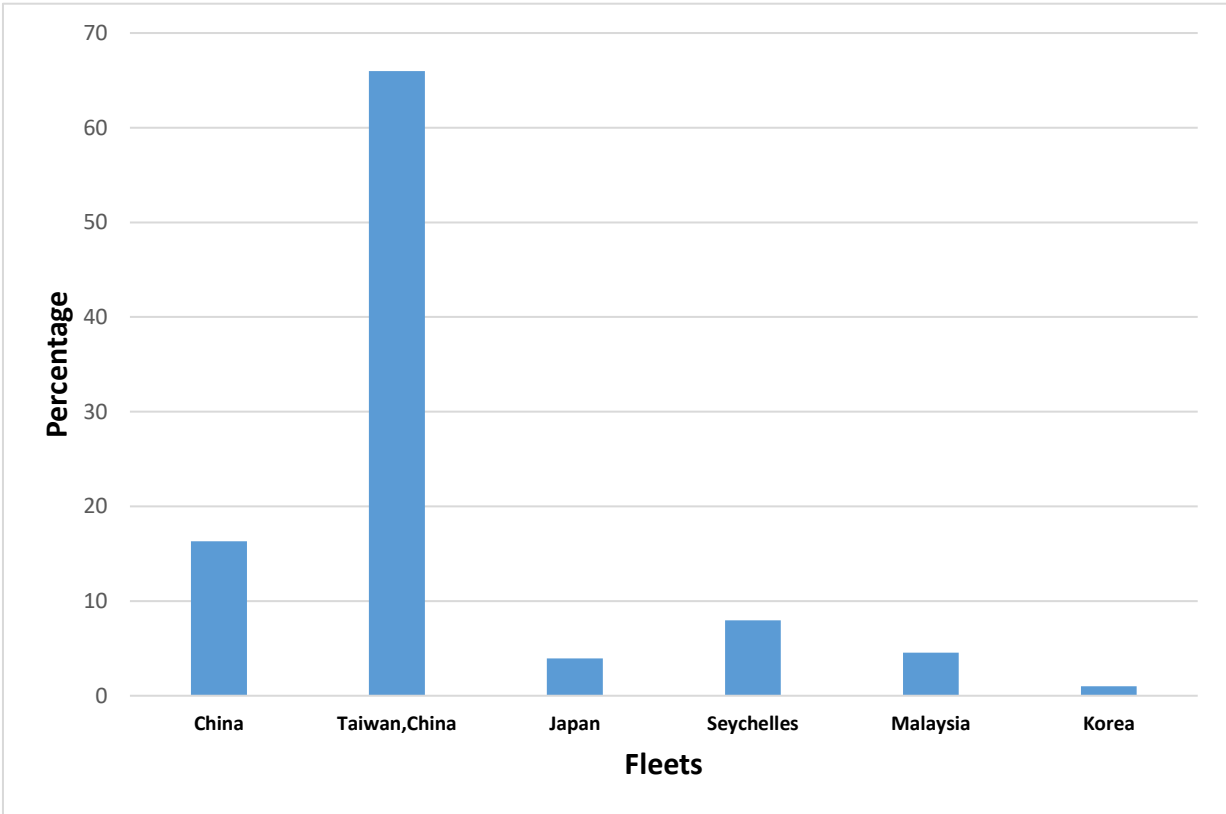


Figure 3. Distribution of transhipments by fleets (2019)

The percentages for the one Omani and Kenyan vessel are not displayed individually due to confidentiality rule, as both has only one vessel participating in the ROP.

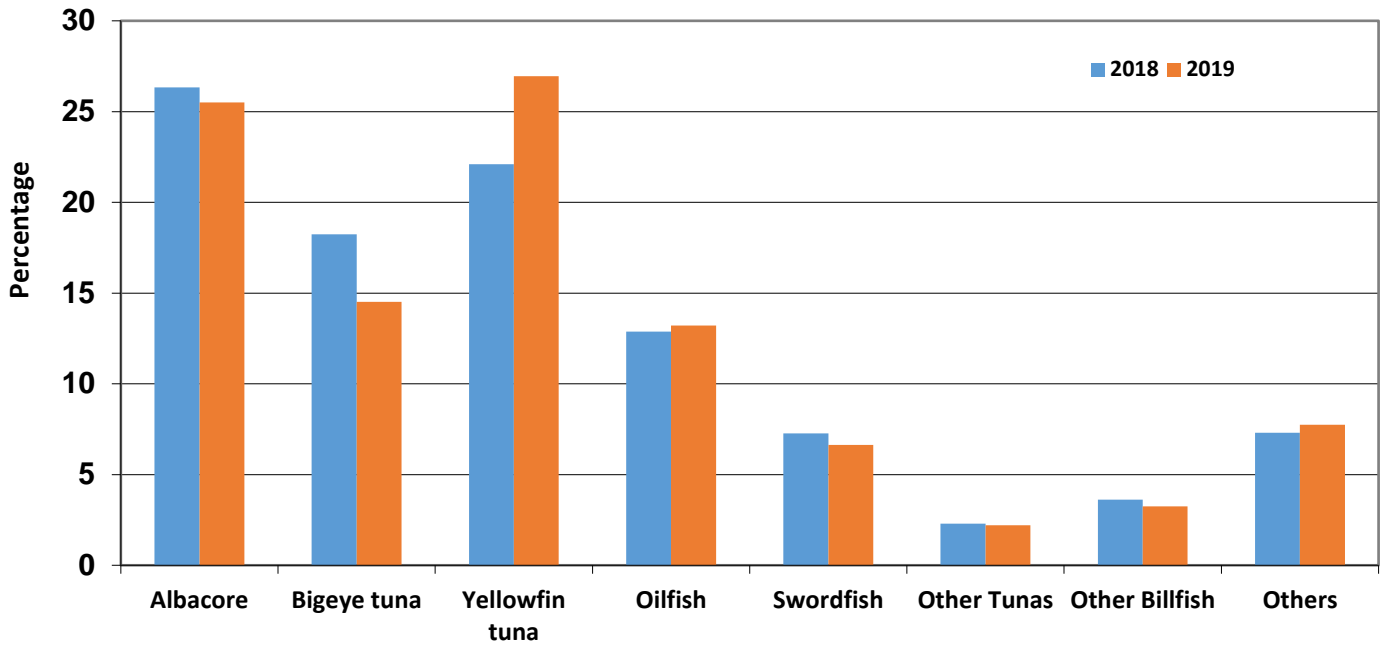


Figure 4. Distribution of species/species groups transhipped in 2018 and 2019

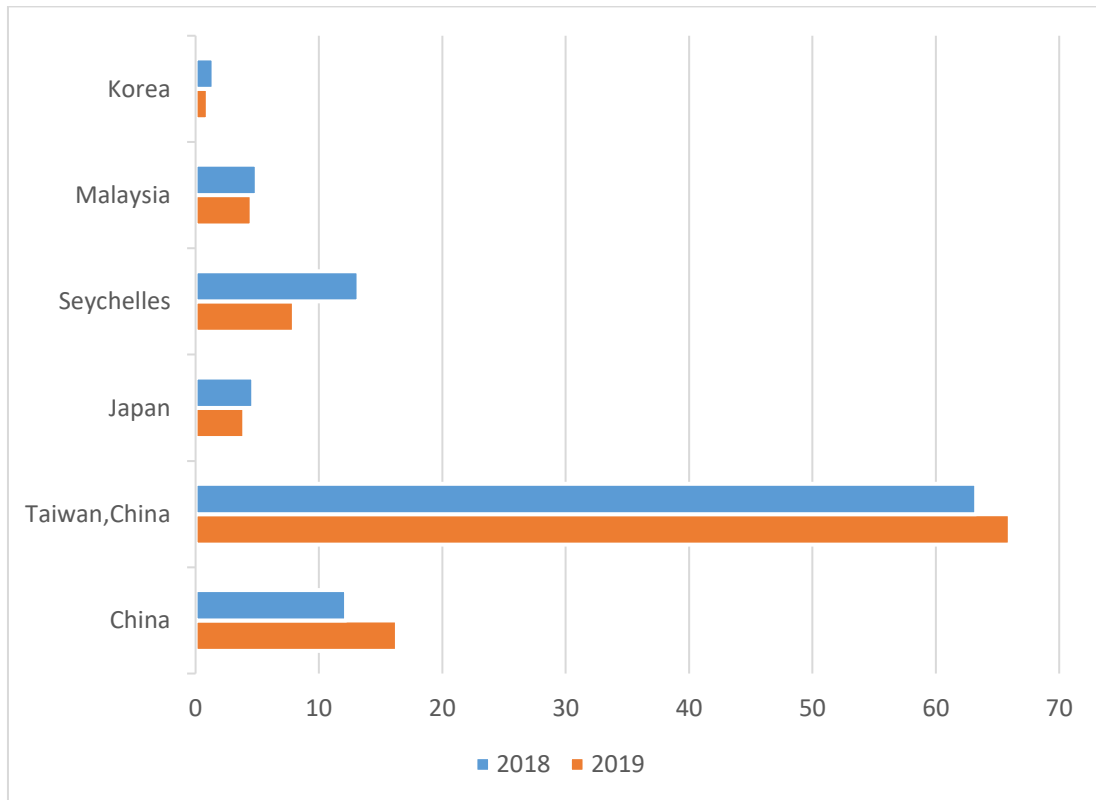


Figure 5: Percentage of participation in transshipment activity by fleets between 2018 and 2019

The percentages of the one Omani and Kenyan vessel are not displayed individually due to confidentiality rule, as both has only one vessel participating in the ROP.