



Republic of Liberia

NATIONAL FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE AUTHORITY (NaFAA)

P. O. Box 1384

Bushrod Island, Monrovia, Liberia



Office of the Director General

Email: emglassco@nafaa.gov.lr

RL/NaFAA/DG/L-046/'20

February 26, 2020

Mr. Christopher O'Brien

Executive Secretary

Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)

Le Chantier Mall (2nd floor)

P.O. Box 1011

Victoria Mahé, Seychelles

RE: Request for Continued Participation as Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (CNCP)

Dear Mr. O'Brien/Secretariat:

Compliment and best wishes.

NaFAA would like to request Liberia continuous participation as a CNCP of the IOTC. Please note that the reason for renewing our status is because Liberia has a number of reefer/carrier and support vessels that participate in transshipment activities in the IOTC Convention Area. Pursuant to Resolution 03/02 (*Criteria for Attaining the Status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party*), please see below information:

- a) Data on historical fisheries in the IOTC Area, including nominal catches, number/type of vessels, name of fishing vessels, fishing effort and fishing areas:

Liberia has several reefer/carrier and support vessels in the IOTC Convention Area and are included on the IOTC's Record of Vessels.

- b) All the data that Contracting Parties have to submit to IOTC based on the Resolutions adopted by IOTC:

Liberia has submitted and will continue to submit the requisite data to the IOTC. In due course, Liberia intends to provide to the IOTC its Compliance Questionnaire; Report of Implementation; Report of Implementation of VMS; Annual Report on Transshipment (due September 15); and National Scientific Report, any other information deemed relevant by the IOTC.

- c) Details on current fishing presence in the IOTC Area, number of vessels and vessel characteristics:

Liberia does not have fishing vessels in the IOTC Convention Area. However, Liberia has provided its Record of Vessels authorized to engage in transshipment activities in the IOTC Convention Area.

- d) Information on any research programs Liberia may have conducted in the IOTC Area and the information and the results of this research:

Liberia has not conducted any research programs in the IOTC Area. Should Liberia conduct any such activities, the results will be provided to the Secretariat.

In addition, Liberia:

- e) Confirms its commitment to respect the Commission's Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs):

Liberia is fully committed to cooperating in the implementation of CMMs adopted by the IOTC and will continue to ensure that the registered vessels comply with the provisions of the IOTC Convention and CMMs.

- f) Inform the IOTC of the measures to ensure compliance by Liberian registered vessels:

Liberia has implemented measures to ensure compliance by vessels engaged in transshipment activities in the IOTC and other areas. Some of those measures include, Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) requirements; authorization to transship; establishment of a fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC); establishment of list of vessels presumed to have carried out IUU fishing activities and investigation of alleged IUU activities and imposition of sanctions.

Should you need additional information, please feel free to contact the undersigned at transshipment@nafaa.gov.lr.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Emma Metieh Glassco
Director General