SEYCHELLES FISHING AUTHORITY
P.O Box 449,
Fishing Port, Mahé,
Republic of Seychelles
Telephone: 4670300 Fax: 4224508 E-mail: management@sfa.sc

Please address all Correspondence to the Chief Executive Officer

Friday, August 21, 2020

Dr. Christopher O'Brien
Executive Secretary
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
Le Chantier Mall
P.O. Box 1011,
Victoria, Seychelles

Dear Mr. O'brien,

RE: SEYCHELLES FEEDBACK LETTER REGARDING COMPLIANCE ISSUES (IOTC REFERENCE: 7253)

In reference to the letter dated 21st June 2019, we took note of the concerns raised by the compliance committee and would like to bring the following clarifications on the various points raised by the Chairperson of the Compliance Committee, as well as provide details of actions undertaken to address those non-compliant issues.

Please find in attachment, (Annex I) a table providing a summary of actions implemented in regards to each of the compliance concerns raised in the letter.

It is to be noted that, Seychelles continues to enhance it human resource capacity and putting significant effort toward enhancing compliance level *vis-a-vis* the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission. The improved financial and administrative status of the relevant institutions should result in improved level of compliance to CMMs adopted by the Commission.

I thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Yours Sincerely,

Vincent Lucas
Chief Fisheries Officer
For: Chief Executive Officer

Annex I. Summary of actions Seychelles has undertaken in addressing the concerns raised by CoC16 in 2019.

NUMBER	ISSUES IDENTIFIED	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED
1	Has not provided information on the implementation of the FAO guideline to reduce mortality of sea turtles, as required by Resolution 12/04.	Information are provided to the secretarial in the annual Implementation Report and National Report to the Scientific committee . Development of an NPOA for Marine turtle is in progress
2	Has not reported the DFAD management plan at IOTC standard, as required by Resolution 17/08.	A revised FAD Management plan was submitted to the secretariat on 21st August 2020.
3	Has not reported Size frequency for the Coastal fisheries, as required by Resolution 15/02.	Data collection for Coastal longline vessels are collected and submitted to the secretariat annually. For other gears taking IOTC species as bycatch, data collection will be initiated in 2019.
4	Has not reported Size frequency for the longline fisheries to IOTC standard, as required by Resolution 15/02.	The number of individuals sampled per set were increased from 20 to 30. Computation of data for 2018 and 2019 is still ongoing and is schedule to complete by December 2020.
5	Has not reported Nominal catch on sharks to IOTC Standard, as required by Resolution 17/05.	Revised logbook will cater for shark to be recorded in disaggregated format, hence down to species level Data computation is ongoing and will be submitted to the Secretariat in December 2020.
6	Has not reported Catch and effort on sharks to IOTC Standard, as required by Resolution 17/05.	Revised logbook will cater for shark to be recorded in disaggregated format, hence down to species level Data computation is ongoing and will be submitted to the IOTC secretariat in December 2020.
7	Has not reported Size frequency on sharks, as required by Resolution 17/05.	Computation of data is ongoing and will be submitted to the IOTC secretariat in Decembers 2020.

8	Has not provided data on interactions with cetaceans, as required by Resolution 13/04.	A revised logbook implemented in 2019 has catered for such data to be captured. Reporting started in 2019.
9	Has not provided data on interactions with whale sharks, as required by Resolution 13/05.	A revised logbook implemented in 2019 has catered for such data to be captured. Reporting started in 2019.
10	Has not provided data on seabirds interactions, as requested by Resolution 12/06.	A revised logbook implemented in 2019 has catered for such data to be captured. Reporting started in 2019.
11	Has not provided data on marine turtle interactions, as requested by Resolution 12/04.	A revised logbook implemented in 2019 has catered for such data to be captured. Reporting started in 2019.
12	Has not fully implemented the observer scheme, vessels monitored and coverage by gear type, as required by Resolution 11/04.	Coverage for PS fleet meet minimum standard. Observer programme for other fleets is being considered
13	Has not fully implemented the observer scheme, no observer coverage for the LL fishery, as required by Resolution 11/04.	Pilot EMS programme has been initiated on industrial LL fishery. Data analysis is currently ongoing. The programme will be expanded to cover the entire fleet.
14	Has not fully implemented the observer scheme for artisanal landing, as required by Resolution 11/04.	Data for 2018 was not submitted as new data management system for the artisanal fishery was undergoing a major upgrade. Report are to be compiled and submitted by September 2020
15	Has not provided observer reports to IOTC standard and for the LL fishery, as required by Resolution 11/04.	Pilot EMS programme has been initiated for this fleet. Reports will be submitted to the secretariat once data analysis is completed.

16	Has not inspected at least 5% of landing or transhipment, as required by Resolution 16/11.	Capacity enhancement and restructuring of MCS Division nearing completion. Will have a specific unit to deal with port state matters.
17	Has not provided all inspection reports, as required by Resolution 16/11.	Capacity enhancement and restructuring of MCS Division nearing completion. Will have a specific unit to deal with port state matters, including submission of reports
18	Has not reduced the yellowfin catch by 15 % (PS), as required by Resolution 18/01.	More control measures will be introduced in 2019 in order to meet the 15% reduction
19	Has not reported Nominal catch for the Coastal fisheries, as required by Resolution 15/02.	Data for 2018 was not submitted as new data management system for the artisanal fishery was undergoing a major upgrade. Report are to be compiled and submitted by September 2020.
20	Has not reported Catch & Effort for the Coastal fisheries, as required by Resolution 15/02.	Data for 2018 was not submitted as new data management system for the artisanal fishery was undergoing a major upgrade. Report are to be compiled and submitted by September 2020.
21	Has not reported data on supply vessels, as required by Resolution 15/02.	Computation of data is still ongoing and submission to the secretariat is expected by December 2020.
22	Has not reported data on days at sea by supply vessels, as required by Resolution 15/02.	Computation of data is still ongoing and submission to the secretariat is expected by December 2020.
23	Has not provided all the reports on at sea transhipments – CPC report, as required by Resolution 18/06.	Report will be submitted to the Secretariat before end of August 2020.

24	Has not provided transhipments in port report, as required by Resolution 18/06.	The Reporting was sent to the secretariat on the, March 13, 2019. However, the report was sent in the wrong template (using form 17/06 instead of 18/06) to IOTC-Transhipment@fao.org, which is the wrong address as well. Report were recompiled in template 19/06 and has been forwarded to the secretariat on the 21st August 2020.