

Mr. Christopher O'Brien  
Executive Secretary  
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission

September 11, 2020

Dear Executive Secretary,

I write in response to the feedback letter regarding compliance issues, IOTC Reference 7244 dated 21 June, 2019 although we were not able to provide these comments in a timely manner due to the change of Korea's point of contact for IOTC and the challenges stemmed from COVID-19.

Basically, Korea already provided its comments during the Compliance Committee meeting in 2019 on the three issues raised. We would like to provide additional comments as follows :

**Issue No. 1 :** Has not reported size frequency for surface fishery to IOTC Standard(Less than one fish per metric ton of catch per species), as required by Resolution 15/02.

**Response :** Korean purse seiners usually have observers from the Seychelles on board but we have had difficulties in acquiring the observer data from such observers/observer providers. We have been in consultation with the Seychelles to address this issue and will provide additional size frequency data once the observer data/reports become available to Korea.

**Issue No. 2 :** Has not provided all the at sea transshipments – CPC report, missing the report on the assessment of the observer reports, as required by Resolution 18/06.

**Response :** The report on the assessment of the observer reports was submitted on 5 June, 2019.

**Issue No. 3 :** Has not fully implemented the observer scheme coverage below 5% for the longline fleet, as required by resolution 11/04.

**Response :** One of the observer trips started in 2016 and ended in 2017, and according to the Secretariat, this observer trip was included in 2016, which resulted in insufficient coverage for 2017. We calculate the coverage based on the number of hooks deployed and the number of hooks observed in a given year. Our calculation showed that the 2017 longline observer coverage was 5.9%. Resolution 11/04 doesn't seem to provide specific principles for the calculation of observer coverage as the term "operations" in paragraph 2 can be interpreted in several ways.

Thank you very much.



Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jung-re Riley, Kim'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Policy Officer/Lead Negotiator  
International Cooperation Division  
Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries  
Republic of Korea