

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

Prepared by IOTC Secretariat, 23 March 2012

IOTC Resolution 11/05 *On Establishing a Programme for Transhipment by Large-Scale Fishing Vessels* calls for all transhipment operations of tuna and tuna like species in the IOTC Area to take place in port except under special conditions. In accordance with this resolution, at sea transhipments will be monitored by IOTC observers. This applies initially to large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels and to carrier vessels authorised to receive transhipments from these vessels at sea.

Executing the Regional Observer Programme

The Consortium of Marine Resource Assessment Group and Capricorn Fisheries is responsible for executing work under the IOTC regional observer 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 regional observer 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 Secretariat at the end of each deployment. In line with the agreed confidentiality rules, these reports are subsequently edited by the 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 have been transhipped are also forwarded to the Secretariat of the CCSBT as per the MOU 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 Programme

Paragraph 3. The Commission hereby establishes a programme to monitor transhipment 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 transhipments from these vessels at sea.

Paragraph 4. The CPCs that flag LSTLVs shall determine whether or not to authorise their LSTLVs to tranship at sea.

Table 1 list the numbers of Large Scale Fishing Vessels currently authorised to operate in the IOTC Area and indicates which fleets have participated in the Programme in 2011. Table 1 also highlight the fleets that have transhipped under the programme but have, at the time of preparing this report, never contributed to the cost of the programme.

Submission of carrier vessels list

Paragraph 6. Each CPC shall submit, electronically where possible, to the IOTC Secretary by 1 July 2008 the list of carrier vessels that are authorised to receive at-sea transhipments from its LSTLVs in the IOTC Area.

Nine fleets have submitted information on carrier vessels authorised to receive at-sea transhipments from their LSTLVs. This represents a total of 56 carrier vessels that have been expressly authorised to receive at-sea transhipments from participating fleets in the programme; it should be noted that a carrier vessel may be authorised by one or more participating fleets. The following CPCs have not submitted their list of authorised carrier vessels; Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia and Tanzania.

Costs of implementing the Regional Observer Programme for the year 2011 and calculation of contributions for the participants in the Programme

Paragraph 12, Annex 3 - 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 second year of the transshipment programme, a budget of €991,122.53 was proposed for the programme in 2011. This resulted in a total budget of €2,998,286.49 allocated for the three 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 regional observer programme. Unlike the initial cost recovery method, which was adopted in the first year of the programme (2009), the cost recovery method for 2010 and 2011 have been based on actual figures from the preceding year. Therefore, the cost for 2011 was apportioned to participating fleets based on the quantity of fish that they actually transhipped during 2010.

The amount apportioned is the equivalent of the estimated total cost for the year plus the 4.5% FAO 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.

It should be noted, as indicated in Table 1, below, two fleets have transhipped under the Programme and to date has failed to register their contributions, despite the Secretariat having sent them invoices for the costs incurred. It should also be noted that six fleets have failed to make their contributions to the cost of the Programme for 2011.

Transshipments observed

For 2011, a total of 42 observer deployments were approved; excluding deployments that were approved in late 2010, but continued into 2011. Three of the approved deployments were subsequently cancelled by the fleets requesting the deployment. Information on transshipments observed from the 1st January to 31st December, 2011, are presented in Table 2 and Figures 1 and 2. Others in Figure 2 refer to Belize, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand. A total of 770 transshipment operations have been observed, in which 34,443 tonnes of fish were transhipped. In comparison to 2010, the numbers of deployments approved were slightly less in 2011, and the numbers of transshipments observed were down by just over 14%. Bigeye tuna was the main species transhipped; accounting for 34% of all fish transhipped. This was followed by albacore and yellowfin tunas which accounted for 13.7% and 17%, respectively. Oilfish (*Revtutus spp.*), which is a non-IOTC species, and which accounted for the second and fourth most important species transhipped, respectively in 2009 and 2010, accounted for almost 11.4% of fish transhipped during 2011. Overall, tuna and billfishes accounted for approximately 72% of all species transhipped. In comparison to 2010, the quantity of fish transhipped during 2011 has decreased by 3.5 % (1,360 T). Figures 3 and 4 provide a graphical illustration of the changes in the transshipment programme over 2010 and 2011. Others in Figure 4 refer to Belize, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Oman and Thailand.

Table 1. Numbers of Large Scale Fishing Vessels (LSTLVs) authorised to operate in the IOTC Area, and remarks on participation in the Transhipment Programme

	No LSTLVs.	Remarks
Australia	15	Not transhipping at sea
Belize	2	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
China	65	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Taiwan,China	342	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Comoros		n/a
European Union	145	Not transhipping at sea
Eritrea		n/a
France (O. T.)		n/a
Guinea		n/a
India	15	Not transhipping at sea
Indonesia	323	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Iran	1	Not transhipping at sea
Japan	283	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Kenya	2	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Korea, Republic of	121	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Madagascar	2	Not transhipping at sea
Malaysia	8	Not participating in the ROP; three transhipments have been observed during 2010 and 2011. Has not contributed to the cost of the programme.
Maldives		Not transhipping at sea
Mauritius	3	Not transhipping at sea
Mozambique	1	Not transhipping at sea
Oman	23	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Pakistan		n/a
Philippines	26	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Seychelles	24	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Sierra Leone		n/a
Sri Lanka		n/a
Sudan		n/a
Tanzania	4	Not participating in the ROP; two transhipments were observed in 2009 and one in 2011. Has not contributed to the cost of the programme.
Thailand	6	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
UK (I. O. Territories)		n/a
Vanuatu	40	Not transhipping at sea
Senegal	3	Not transhipping at sea
South Africa	7	Not transhipping at sea

Table 2: Details of the transhipments undertaken by fleets, during the period 1st January 2011 – 31st December, 2011.

Fleets	Albacore	Bigeye tuna	Yellowfin tuna	Oilfish	Swordfish	OTH_Tunas ^a	Oth_Billfish ^b	Others ^c	Sharks/Sharks prod.	Total
Belize	28.22	0.09	3.67	1.68	0.97	0.00	2.75	7.79	16.74	61.92
China	8.30	118.06	27.7	0.00	6.80	0.00	6.77	0.54	12.90	181.09
Taiwan,China	3,345.07	7,738.02	3,679.45	3,853.25	722.55	224.66	842.16	3,225.08	2,171.90	25,802.16
Indonesia	325.76	35.05	19.41	314.33	22.44	0.00	11.13	23.46	74.96	826.58
Japan	855.29	1,258.33	1,311.86	23.02	133.44	192.13	203.25	238.06	48.34	4,263.75
Republic of Korea	349.26	118.74	94.06	0.00	11.39	57.67	19.38	25.22	32.52	708.28
Malaysia	4.07	0.63	3.88	1.52	2.92	0.00	13.03	3.14	15.39	44.62
Oman	31.08	526.03	156.10	43.22	37.41	0.00	13.74	4.07	5.82	817.51
Philippines	0.00	0.00	162.05	0.00	0.00	0.94	2.06	1.89	0	166.95
Seychelles	202.98	2791.98	818.17	48.49	161.15	0.00	115.15	63.51	83.65	4,285.11
Thailand	0.00	197.11	78.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	275.15
Total	5,150.51	12,784.62	6,354.42	4,285.54	1,099.093	475.414	1,229.468	3,592.80	2,462.27	37,433.16

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

b: Atlantic Blue Marlin, Atlantic Sailfish, Indo-pacific blue marlin, Indo-pacific sailfish, Longbill spearfish, Black marlin, Stripped Marlin, Marlins, sailfishes nei.

c: Wahoo, Butterfly kingfish, Narrow-barred Spanish mackerel, Mixed fish species, Opah.

Figure 1. Distribution of species/species groups transhipped (%)

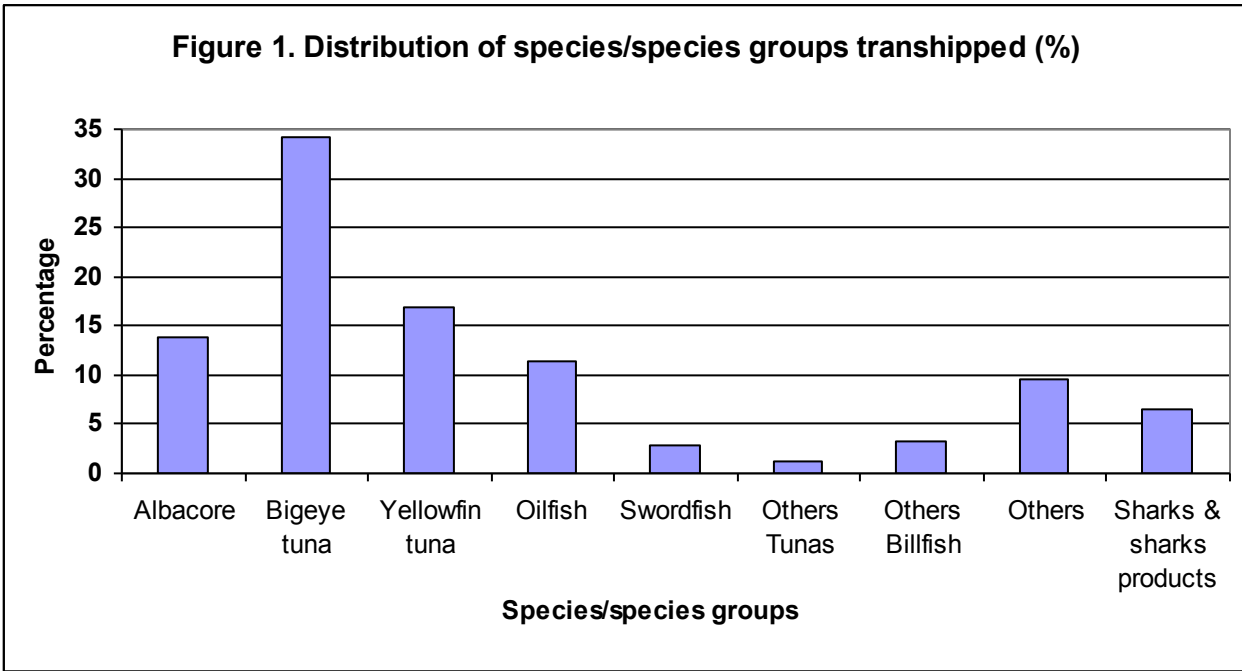


Figure 2. Distribution of transhipments by fleets

