

Clarification of Thailand on the areas of non-compliance with IOTC Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs)

Issues	Clarification
<p>1. Collection of size-frequency data for Tuna or Tuna-like species in all gears in the coastal areas of Thailand</p>	<p>As the collection of aquatic animal resources and fisheries data of Thailand in 2019 was implemented through accidental sampling, data of Tuna or Tuna-like fisheries from purse seine in coastal areas were collected constantly at port every month. However, there were implementation restrictions because during undertaking some samplings, purse seines were not found at port or there were purse seines without Tuna-like catch data. In consequence, Thailand could be partial compliance with CMMs. The data is as follows;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>, 447 tons caught of which 86 fish were sampled and collected for size-frequency data, 2. <i>Thunnus tonggol</i>, 3,162 tons caught of which 1,078 fish were sampled and collected for size-frequency data , 3. <i>Euthynnus affinis</i>, 6,101 tons caught of which 5,252 fish were sampled and collected for size-frequency data, 4. <i>Auxis thazard</i>, 864 tons caught of which 1,505 fish were sampled and collected for size-frequency data , 5. <i>Auxis rochei</i>, 6,876 tons caught of which 838 fish were sampled and collected for size-frequency data <p>To reduce the risk of data non-complying with the requirement of IOTC, Thailand has improved the method of data collection by assigning officers at the key ports of Thailand to take charge of the enumerator tuna-like caught by perse seiner, starting in 2021.</p>
<p>2. Nominal catch on sharks in all fisheries/gears</p>	<p>Thailand would like to provide the following clarification:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Data identified in the National Report of Thailand on nominal catches of sharks caught by otter board trawls and pair trawls are not consistent with Thailand’s report following the Resolution 15/02 in which catches data of shark were not shown, Thailand would like to clarify that otter board trawls and pairs trawls are the non-target gears used in the competent areas of IOTC, consequently, Thailand could not present the data, 2. According to IOTC Guideline for shark sampling, required the shark sampling to be made and reported if the species listed in the IOTC list were found, Thailand would like to clarify that shark species mostly found in Thailand are benthic sharks such as <i>chiloscyllium punctatum</i>, <i>Cacharhinus</i> sp. and <i>Atelomycterus</i> sp. which are not the species under the competent areas of IOTC.
<p>3. Effort on sharks in all kinds fisheries/gears</p>	
<p>4. Size-frequency data on sharks in all fisheries/gears</p>	

	Although Thailand has collected catches data, fishing effort, and length frequency of sharks under the NPOA-sharks 2020-2024, no report submitted to IOTC which is due to that shark species found in Thailand are not in the bycatch species list of IOTC.
5. Prohibition to retain on board, transship, land, any Striped Marlin, Black Marlin, Blue Marlin, Indo-pacific Sailfish smaller than 60 cm Lower Jaw Fork Length	Thailand is in the process of revising the relevant law and regulations to ensure compliance with the CMMs of IOTC