



## SUMMARY OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE DRIFTING FISH AGGREGATING DEVICES MANAGEMENT PLANS

Prepared by: IOTC Secretariat, 30 April 2021

This document summarises the information received from IOTC CPCs in accordance with IOTC Resolution 19/02 (Previously Resolution 18/08, Resolution 17/08, Resolution 15/08, Resolution 13/08 and Resolution 12/08) on *Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan*, including a limitation on the number of FADs, more detailed specifications of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species.

Paragraph 2. This Resolution shall apply to CPCs having purse seine vessels and fishing on Drifting Fish Aggregating Devices (DFADs), equipped with instrumented buoys for the purpose of aggregating target tuna species, in the IOTC area of competence. Only purse seiners and associated supply or support vessels are allowed to deploy DFADs in the IOTC Area of Competence.

It is to be noted that Resolution 19/02, like its predecessor, Resolutions 18/08 and 17/08, had maintained elements pertaining to anchored FADs, while paragraph 2 of both of these resolutions clearly indicate that this measure is only applicable to CPCs having purse seine vessels and fishing on Drifting Fish Aggregating Devices (DFADs).

As of 12 April 2021:

- 12 flag States have registered, on the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels, 297 purse seine vessels of over 24 meters LOA (authorised to operate in the IOTC area),
- 1 flag State has registered, on the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels, 1 purse seine vessel of less than 24 meters LOA (authorised to operate in waters outside their EEZs),

Details on the vessels currently in the record of authorised vessels are presented in Table 2.

Paragraph 12. CPCs having vessels flying their flag and fishing on FADs shall submit, to the Commission, on an annual basis, Management Plans for the use of FADs. Due to their specificity in terms of users, type of boat/vessel involved, fishing method and gear used and materials used in their construction, the Management Plans and Reporting Requirements for Drifting FADs (DFAD) [...]. The Plans shall at a minimum follow the Guidelines for Preparation for FAD Management Plans by each CPC as provided for DFADs in Annex I [...].

Paragraph 13. The Management Plans shall be analysed by the IOTC Compliance Committee.

At its 12<sup>th</sup> Session, the Compliance Committee recommended that the IOTC Secretariat provide a summary of compliance with the FAD management plans in a tabular format to the next CoC [*Para 123, IOTC-2015-CoC12-R*].

This document presents an update of the summary of compliance with the DFAD management plans (Table 1) and Annex 1 provide the details of the assessment for the DFAD management plans. Following the submission of updated DFAD management plans during the intersession period 2020/2021 by the European Union

(FRA/ITA/ESP; 08/04/2021), Iran (13/04/2021), Japan (07/04/2021), Kenya (31/07/2020), the Republic of Korea (08/04/2020), Mauritius (08/04/2021) and Seychelles (21/08/2020).

Philippines, which has 48 purse seiners on the record of authorized vessels has to date not submitted a DFAD management plan. Philippines submitted a policy document named “: National Tuna Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) Management Policy” (09/05/2019) with the scope making reference to another tuna RFMOs; “*b) FADs (anchored & drifting) deployed by Philippine flagged purse seine and ring net fishing vessels including any of its support vessels as duly registered in the WCPFC roster of vessels allowed to operate in the high seas*”.

Australia has indicated that no FAD fishery was authorised in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 in IOTC fisheries (Source: IOTC-2017-CoC14-IR01, IOTC-2018-CoC15-IR01, IOTC-2019-CoC16-IR01, IOTC-2020-CoC17-IR01 and IOTC-2021-CoC18-IR01). Australia withdrew its 2014 FAD Management Plan.

Indonesia has indicated that it operated only anchored FADs in 2019 (Source: IOTC-2020-CoC17-IR09) and that no purse seine vessels are fishing on FADs (Source: IOTC-2021-CoC18-CQ09).

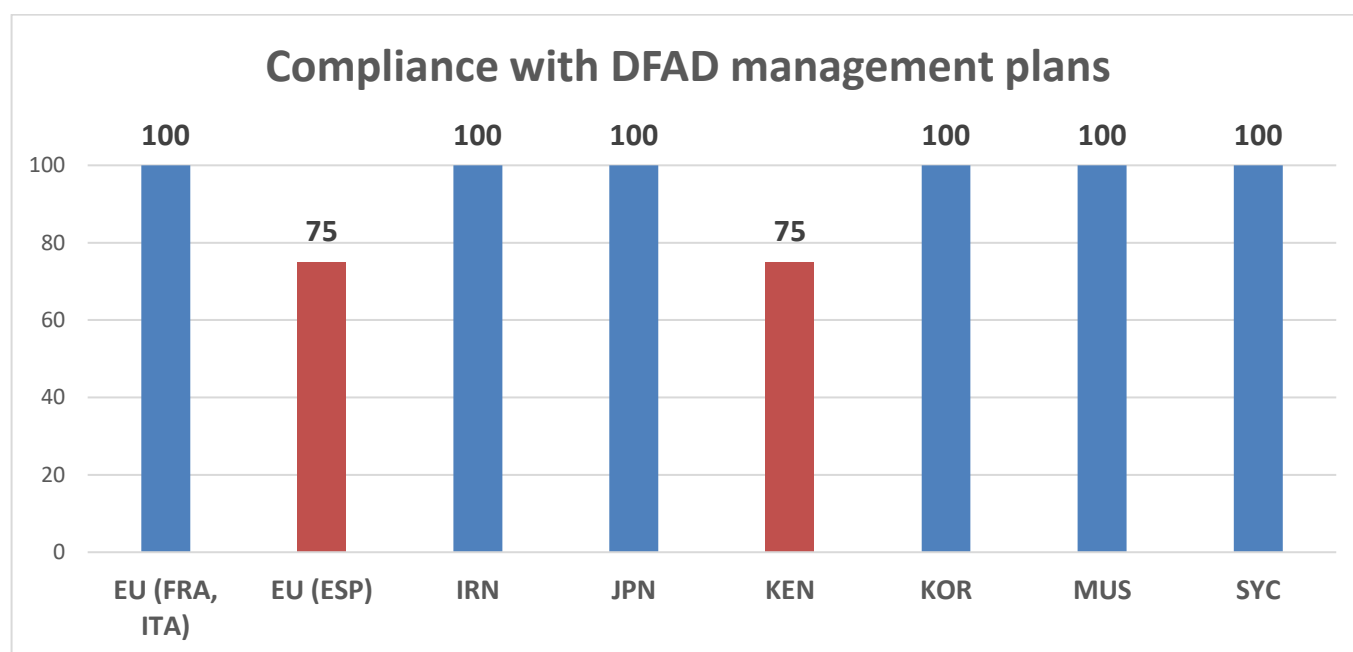
There are 24 sections/elements assessed for each DFAD management plan using the following methodology: Yes (Y): Indicates the topic is covered in the DFAD management plan; No (N): Indicates the topics is not covered in the DFAD management plan.

**Table 1:** Summary of the assessment for each DFAD management plan submitted.

DFAD MANAGEMENT PLANS	EU (FRA, ITA)	EU (ESP)	IRN	JPN	KEN	KOR	MUS	SYC
Year of last submission	2021	2021	2021	2021	2020	2021	2021	2020
PS vessels > 24 m <sup>xx</sup>	<b>28</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>
Topics covered (Y)	24	18	24	24	18	24	24	24
Topics not covered (N)	0	6	0	0	6	0	0	0
% of topics covered	100	75	100	100	75	100	100	100

<sup>xx</sup>: Number of PS vessels subject to DFAD Management Plans (as of 12April 2021). Australia , Indonesia and Philippines are not included in the table, for reasons provided earlier.

**Figure 1:** Levels of compliance of DFAD management plans with the guideline, expressed in percentage of topics covered (Annex I – Resolution 19/02)



Conclusion: Of the eight DFAD management plans submitted, two of the DFAD management plans that have been received are still missing some of the elements specified in the guideline of the Resolution 19/02. The available DFAD management plans fall into the following two distinct categories:

1. DFADs management plans with less than 100% topics covered (European Union (ESP), Kenya),
2. DFADs management plans with 100 % topics covered (European Union (FRA, ITA), Iran, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mauritius and Seychelles).

## Annexe 1: Details of compliance assessment of the DFAD management plans.

**Note:** Yes (Y): Indicates the topic is covered in the DFAD management plan; No (N): Indicates the topic is not covered in the DFAD management plan.

\*: Vessels registered on the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels.

Comments received from CPCs are highlighted in yellow.

DRIFTING FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE (DFAD) MANAGEMENT PLANS	EU (France, Italy)	EU (Spain)	Iran, Islamic Rep. of	Japan	Kenya	Korea, Republic of	Mauritius	Seychelles
Date of last submission	08.04.21	08.04.21	13.04.21	03.04.21	31.07.2020	08.04.21	08.04.21	21.08.20
Purse seine vessels above 24 m*	27 FRA 1 ITA	18	8	10	6	7	3	13
<b>1. An objective</b>	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
<b>2. Scope - Description of its application with respect to:</b>								
- 2.1. Vessel-types and support and tender vessels	Y	Y	Y (No support / tender vessel)	Y (No support / tender vessel)	Y	Y	Y	Y
- 2.2. DFAD numbers and/or DFADs beacon numbers to be deployed	Y (300/vessel)	Y (300/vessel)	Y (40/vessel)	Y (150 /vessel)	Y (300/vessel)	Y  (Approximately 1,000 DFADs for the entire PS fleet will be deployed and 500 DFADs will be retrieved from the ocean and then deployed again.)	Y  (No more than 300 active buoys & 700 acquired/year/PS)	Y (300/vessel)
- 2.3 reporting procedures for DFAD deployment	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
- 2.4 incidental bycatch reduction and utilization policy	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
- 2.5 consideration of interaction with other gear types	Y	N [The EU-ES purse seine fleet does not have interactions with other gear types because it is a	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y

		long distance fleet that operates in IOTC areas where no other EU-ES vessels are active. This is the reason why the National Plan of FADs does not contemplate this aspect].						
- 2.6 plans for monitoring and retrieval of lost DFADs	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
- 2.7 statement or policy on "DFAD ownership"	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
<b>3. Institutional arrangements for management of the DFAD Management Plans</b>								
- 3.1 Institutional responsibilities	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
- 3.2 application processes for DFAD and /or DFAD beacons deployment approval	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
- 3.3 Obligations of vessel owners and masters in respect of DFAD and /or DFAD beacons deployment and use	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
- 3.4 DFAD and/or DFADs beacons replacement policy	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
- 3.5 reporting obligations	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
<b>4. DFAD construction specifications and requirements</b>								
- 4.1 DFAD design characteristics (a description)	Y	Y (No technical specification cited)	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y

- 4.2 DFAD markings and identifiers, including DFADs beacons	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
- 4.3 Lighting requirements	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
- 4.4 radar reflectors	Y (No radar)	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
- 4.5 visible distance	Y (No rules)	N	Y (4 Miles)	Y	Y	Y	Y (1 NM)	Y
- 4.6 radio buoys (requirement for serial numbers)	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
- 4.7 satellite transceivers (requirement for serial numbers)	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
<b>5. Applicable areas</b>								
- 5.1 Details of any closed areas or periods e.g. territorial waters, shipping lanes, proximity to artisanal fisheries, etc	Y (No closed area)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
<b>6. Applicable period for the DFAD–MP</b>								
	Y (2021)	Y (In force until further modifications are adopted or new international provisions are set.)	Y (Aug to March)	Y (for the entire period while Japanese purse seiners operate in the IOTC)	Y (08/2020 to 08/2021)	Y (the time when Korean-flagged purse seiners are in operation in the IOTC area of Competence)	Y (One year 2021)	Y (Valid 1 year, 2020/2021)
<b>7. Means for monitoring and reviewing implementation of the DFAD–MP</b>								
	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

<b>8. DFAD logbook template</b>	Y	N (logbook provided in Spanish)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y (SP & PS logbook)
Number of topics covered vs not covered	24 Y	18 Y 6 N	24 Y	24 Y	18 Y 6 N	24 Y	24 Y	24 Y
<b>General comments by Secretariat</b>	Most elements exist in the FADs management plan but some not covered. Plan mentions “ This FAD management plan is applicable to tuna purse seiners registered in a French port and operating in Indian Ocean waters in 2021.” ITA not covered.	Most elements exist in the FADs management plan but some not covered.	All elements exist in the FADs management plan	All elements exist in the FADs management plan	Most elements exist in the FADs management plan but some not covered.	All elements exist in the FADs management plan	All elements exist in the FADs management plan	All elements exist in the FADs management plan
<b>General comments received by CPC</b>	No comment received following submission of updated FAD management plan. Last comments	No comment received following submission of updated FAD management plan. Last comments received	No comment received	Received 21/04/17.	No comment received	No comment received following submission of updated FAD management plan.	Received 15/03/16.	No comment received.

	<p>received on 11/03/16:          After checking with national administration that the FAD plan for the IT vessel is integrated in the French FAD plan. This is official and please take it into account. Only the next FAD plan will be provided separately (FR and IT). The IT vessel is part of a French industry consortium and fishing strategy is common to all their vessels and therefore the FAD plan should be seen, so far, as FR/IT plan.</p>	<p>11/03/16:          Consider as our report concerning the EU/Spanish PS fleet that the FAD management Plan of 2014 has been fully implemented</p>						
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