

May 20, 2021

ATTN: Heads of Delegation to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)

61 Supply Chain Companies call on the IOTC to Rebuild the Indian Ocean Yellowfin Tuna Stock

Given the consistent overfishing and overfished status of the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock since 2015, it is imperative that the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) agree measures to rebuild the stock at the June meeting of the Commission. Despite the urgency of the situation, the Commission has not agreed on a rebuilding plan even after holding two meetings dedicated to this topic in the last six months. While Commission members delay, the risks to the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock and the communities that depend on it, continue to grow.

The undersigned group of concerned companies strongly urge the IOTC to adopt without delay an effective rebuilding plan for yellowfin tuna that replaces the interim measure in Resolution 19/01 at its Commission meeting in June 2021. Specifically, any measure adopted by IOTC must reduce fishing mortality to a level that will rebuild the stock of yellowfin tuna within the period of two generations.

As organizations engaged in the sourcing of tunas globally, we reiterate our position that the IOTC must reach agreement on a yellowfin tuna rebuilding plan in June 2021, and that any further delay is unacceptable.

The companies represented here understand the importance of sourcing Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna. However, if further delay does occur, a number of the undersigned individual companies may review if Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna meets their organization's sourcing policies.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Yours faithfully,

The Global Tuna Alliance, Tuna Protection Alliance, Whole Foods, Target, Hy-Vee, New Seasons Market, New Leaf Market, Carrefour, Giant Eagle, Publix, Anova, Direct ocean, D&E Imports, Fish is Life, Afritex Ventures Limited, Lusamerica (including Tasty Catch and Monterey Bay Seafood), Organic Ocean, Beaver Street Fisheries, Seafood Imports, Sea Delight, Orca Bay Seafoods, Culinary Collaborations, North Atlantic Inc, Rema Foods, Seattle Fish, Norpac Fisheries Export, JJ McDonnell, The Fishin' Company, Santa Monica Seafood, Coop Italia, Migros and Micarna.



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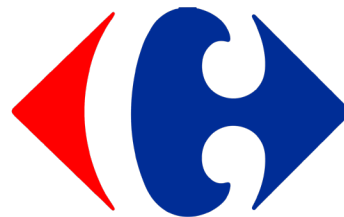


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