

**25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission**  
**7-11 June 2021**

**Agenda Item 14.3: Implementation of paragraph 6 of the UNGA Resolution 73/925 (FAO)**

**Statement by the Republic of Mauritius**

The Republic of Mauritius welcomes the actions which the FAO has taken to implement UN General Assembly Resolution 73/295.

As a matter of fact, it is worth noting that specialized agencies of the United Nations have taken a range of significant measures in line with the UN General Assembly Resolution. As an example, on 30 April 2021, the Council of Administration of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) considered the following recommendations from the International Bureau of the UPU for the implementation of Resolution 73/295:

- (a) to formally acknowledge henceforth that, for the purposes of any and all activities of the UPU, the Chagos Archipelago forms an integral part of the territory of Mauritius;
- (b) to request Mauritius to keep the UPU, through the International Bureau, regularly informed of any decisions regarding international postal operations on the Chagos Archipelago;
- (c) to cease the registration, distribution and forwarding of any and all postage stamps issued by the so-called “British Indian Ocean Territory” (“BIOT”);
- (d) to refrain from making any reference, in UPU documentation, to the so-called “BIOT” or to the Chagos Archipelago as forming part of the UK overseas territories which are collectively a member of the UPU; and
- (e) to take any other measures to ensure the implementation of UN General Assembly Resolution 73/295.

In the light of its discussions, the Council of Administration decided to submit a draft resolution along the lines of those recommendations to the next Universal Postal Congress scheduled for 9-27 August 2021 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire for adoption.

It is the understanding of the Mauritius delegation that similar actions are being envisaged by other UN agencies. The actions taken by the FAO are therefore very timely and since the FAO has indicated that the implementation of Resolution 73/295 will be a continuous process, we would appreciate receiving regular updates on actions it will be taking.

The Republic of Mauritius requests that this statement be annexed to the report of this meeting.