



01 October 2021

**IOTC CIRCULAR
2021-54**

Dear Madam / Sir

A COMMUNICATION FROM JAPAN REGARDING A PROPOSED SPECIAL SESSION OF IOTC

Please find attached a communication from the Japan in response to IOTC Circular 2021-48 *Regarding a proposed special session of the IOTC.*

Yours sincerely

Christopher O'Brien
Executive Secretary

Attachments:

- Letter from Japan

Distribution

IOTC Contracting Parties: Australia, Bangladesh, China, Comoros, Eritrea, European Union, France (Territories), India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Rep of), Japan, Kenya, Rep. of Korea, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, United Rep. of Tanzania, Thailand, United Kingdom, Yemen. **Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties:** Senegal. **Intergovernmental Organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations. Chairperson IOTC. Copy to:** FAO Headquarters, FAO Representatives to CPCs.

This message has been transmitted by email only



FISHERIES AGENCY
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES, GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN

1-2-1, Kasumigasaki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8907, Japan

1 October 2021

Ms. Jung-re Riley Kim
IOTC Chair

Subject: Proposal for a special session of the IOTC

Dear Ms. Kim,

I am writing to respond to your call for the Special Session (IOTC CIRCULAR 2021-48).

Japan appreciates very much that you have duly taken into account our request to postpone the decision on the FADs Resolution proposal after the Scientific Committee will discuss this issue with the latest scientific information in December. Japan maintains its position that new measures on FADs should be discussed without hastiness, taking fully into account technical/scientific advices from the FADs Working Group and the Scientific Committee.

Japan however believes that the proposed Special Session in January 2022 is still too early for Members to make a decision by fully digesting outcomes of the FADs-WG and the SC.

Therefore, Japan does NOT request the Special Session in January. Instead, we would like to have through discussions on this issue at the next regular session of the Commission meeting in May 2022.

Thank you very much for your kindest understanding and cooperation.

I would appreciate it very much if you would circulate this letter to CPCs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Moronuki'.

Hideki Moronuki
Japan's Commissioner to IOTC