

26 October 2021

## IOTC CIRCULAR 2021-72

Dear Madam / Sir

### OBJECTION FROM OMAN TO IOTC RESOLUTION 21/03

Please find attached a communication from Oman regarding its objection, in accordance to Article IX (5) of the IOTC Agreement, to [IOTC Resolution 21/03](#) *On harvest control rules for skipjack tuna in the IOTC area of competence*, which was adopted at the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the IOTC.

Given a previous objection, an extension period of 60 days has already been applied to the date when Resolution 21/03 comes into force. Thus, Resolution 21/03 will come into force on 17 December 2021, unless a total of more than one-third of the members also object, before this time. Oman's objection is the second to be received.

The relevant paragraphs (5, 6 and 7) of Article IX on the ensuing process are reproduced herein for your reference.

*5. Any Member of the Commission may, within 120 days from the date specified or within such other period as may be specified by the Commission under paragraph 4, object to a conservation and management measure adopted under paragraph 1. A Member of the Commission which has objected to a measure shall not be bound thereby. Any other Member of the Commission may similarly object within a further period of 60 days from the expiry of the 120-day period. A Member of the Commission may also withdraw its objection at any time and become bound by the measure immediately if the measure is already in effect or at such time as it may come into effect under this article.*

*6. If objections to a measure adopted under paragraph 1 are made by more than one-third of the Members of the Commission, the other Members shall not be bound by that measure; but this shall not preclude any or all of them from giving effect thereto.*

*7. The Secretary shall notify each Member of the Commission immediately upon receipt of each objection or withdrawal of objection.*

Yours sincerely



Christopher O'Brien  
Executive Secretary

#### Attachments:

- Letter from Oman

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

Sultanate of Oman

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries Wealth & Water Resources



سُلْطَانَةُ عُومَانَ

وَزَارَةُ الثَّرْوَةِ الثَّرَوِيَّةِ وَالْمَخْيَرِ وَالسَّمَكِيَّةِ وَوَزَارَةُ الْمَنِيَّةِ

No. : 213171526

Date : 25/10/2021

Date : .....

الرقم : .....

التاريخ : .....

الموافق : .....

Ms Riley Kim  
Chairperson  
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission  
P.O Box 1011  
Victoria Seychelles

Dear Ms Kim,

In reference to Indian Ocean Tuna Commission Circular 2021-33 dated on the 21<sup>st</sup> June 2021 with titled with *Conservation and management measures (CMMs)* adopted by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) in its 25th session meeting held during 7 to 11 June 2021. Regarding the adopted Resolution 21/03 *On harvest control rules for skipjack tuna in the IOTC area of competence.*

As per provision under Article IX (5,6 and 7) of the IOTC Agreement that any member of the Commission may object within a further period of 60 days from the expiry of the 120-day period, Oman hereby submits its objection to the Resolution which is not consistent with the sovereign rights of costal states in respect of the resources in their exclusive economic zone.

I would be grateful if you would circulate this letter to all members of the Commission.

Yours Faithfully,



Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Marzouqi  
Director General of Fisheries  
Resources Development