

27 October 2021

IOTC CIRCULAR 2021-73

Dear Madam / Sir

INVITATION TO A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE INDIAN OCEAN TUNA COMMISSION ON 29 NOVEMBER 2021

I have received requests from more than one third of IOTC Members, to convene a Special Session of the IOTC for the purpose of a vote on conservation and management measure proposal [IOTC-2021-S25-PropE_Rev2](#).

In accordance with Article VI.5 of the IOTC Agreement: *“Special Sessions of the Commission may be convened by the Chairperson of the Commission at the request of at least one-third of its Members.”*

I have the honour to extend to you an invitation to participate in the Special Session (SS05) to be held on Monday 29 November 2021, starting 12 noon Seychelles time.

The focus of the Special Session

The Special Session will focus on reaching a decision on whether to adopt PropE_Rev2. The Commission will begin by deciding the validity vote taken at S25, taking into consideration advice received from the FAO Legal Office regarding the counting of ‘abstain’ votes in the voting process and information on some irregularities in the voting process that were identified after the session had concluded. If a second vote is required, it will be undertaken in accordance with the IOTC Agreement and Rules of Procedure.

I propose not to discuss the content of proposal Prop_Rev2.

Meeting format

In brief, the meeting format is as follows:

- The Commission will meet for up to 4 hours;
- Zoom will be the video conference platform;
- Interpretation (French / English) will be available;
- Entry to the meeting will be by password, and only provided to credentialed individuals.
- Start time for the meeting will be 12 noon Seychelles time, which, across the global span of Members ranges from 8 am in the United Kingdom to 7 pm in (Canberra) Australia. Please [click here](#) to work out the time in your country.

Credentials

Contracting Parties & Cooperating Non-contracting Parties (CPCs)

In accordance with Rule III of the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014), official credentials are required in order to participate in the meeting. Rule III.1 of the IOTC Rules of Procedure states: “Such Letter of Credentials shall conform to the standard set out in Appendix 1.” For your convenience, a draft letter of credentials (from Appendix I of the IOTC Rules of Procedure, 2014) is available [here](#). Please also refer to [IOTC Circular 2021-49](#) on the content of Credentials.

The Credentials are requested to be sent no later than 15 days before the meeting to iotc-secretariat@fao.org. Only credentialed individuals will receive the Zoom link to join the meeting.

Distribution

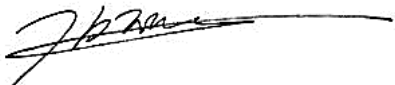
IOTC Contracting Parties: Australia, Bangladesh, China, Comoros, Eritrea, European Union, France (Territories), India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Rep of), Japan, Kenya, Rep. of Korea, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa, 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

Observers and Invited Experts

IOTC Observers and Invited Experts are also requested to submit a similar Letter of Credentials indicating who will receive the Zoom link. The credentials should also include the email address and contact phone number for each recipient. Credentials are requested no later than 15 days before the meeting to iotc-secretariat@fao.org.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JRK', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jung-re Riley Kim
IOTC Chairperson