

11 April 2022

IOTC CIRCULAR
2022–28

Dear Madam / Sir,

A COMMUNICATION FROM SRI LANKA REGARDING THREE VESSELS INCLUDED IN THE IOTC IUU VESSELS LIST

Pursuant to paragraph 83 of the Report of the 18th Session of the Compliance Committee ([IOTC-2021-CoC18-R](#)), please find attached a communication from Sri Lanka.

Yours sincerely



Christopher O'Brien
Executive Secretary

Attachments:

- Documents from Sri Lanka.

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



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கடற்பொழியல் நீரியல் வளத்துறை திணைக்களம்
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES & AQUATIC RESOURCES

web site : <http://www.fisheriesdept.gov.lk> E - mail : info@fisheriesdept.gov.lk

புதிய செயலகம், மாலிகாவத்தை கோழம்பு 10, இலங்கை. නව මහ ලේකම් කාර්යාලය, මාලිගාවිජය, කොළඹ 10, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව New Secretariat, Maligawaththa, Colombo 10

මගේ අංකය } DFAR/DFO/IOTC/2022
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நிகதி }
Date }

Executive Secretary
IOTC Secretariat
Victoria, Mahe
Seychelles

Copy to Chair of COC
Dr. C. C. Mees UK Delegate to IOTC

Dear Sir

Follow-up actions of COC 18 - Sri Lanka
Reference: Paragraph 85 of IOTC-2021-CoC18R

On the request of COC 18, Sri Lanka would like to provide the progress of the measures taken to prevent occurrence of IUU fishing using the multiday fishing vessels flag to Sri Lanka.

(1) Installation of VMS to all Multiday Vessels

Sri Lanka installed VMS to all authorized vessels in 2015, in compliance with the IOTC Resolution 06/03 and all vessels are being monitored in the land based monitoring center. In the meantime Regulation on Mandatory VMS onboard published in 2015, regulating all conditions given in the resolution 06/03.

Since non-authorized Sri Lanka vessels tend to enter high seas and other states waters Sri Lanka decided to install VMS to all multiday boats because they have the capacity to go beyond the EEZ. Therefore VMS are being installed to all multiday boats of Sri Lanka enabling those vessels to be monitored. The project implementation was delayed due to the Covid 19 pandemic and was able to receive the first batch of VMS transponders in September 2021. The total number of VMS to be installed under this project is 4200 numbers. The regulation is being amended making the VMS on board of all multiday fishing boats of Sri Lanka. The progress of VMS installation is as follows.

Progress of Installation of VMS under the New VMS installation Project covering all Multiday fishing vessels Sri Lanka.

District	Sep-Nov 21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	8-Apr-22	Total
Negombo	81	12	02	10	145	150	400
Kalutara	50	03		02		02	57
Matara	69	17	21	32	23	05	167
Tangalle		78	51	25	10	03	167
Galle			75	63	34		172
	200	110	149	132	212	160	963

(2) **Enforcement of law for owners and masters of fishing vessels**

Legal actions are being taken against the all owners and the skippers of the vessels those reported with adequate and proven evidence on IUU fishing activities, under the provisions of existing legislation. In the meantime the legislation is being further strengthened, severing the penalties to the skipper and the crew reported onboard at the time of offence and the draft is pending at the Attorney Generals Department. However DFAR noted that the repeated offences have been reduced due to the legal actions taken (seizure of the vessel, illegal fish catch, suspension of operation license, Skipper license and imposing of administrative Monetary penalty/ the penalty imposed after prosecution at the Courts and detaining of the vessel until VMS installation etc.

Sri Lanka appreciate if you could circulate this letter to all CPCs of the Commission

Yours sincerely,



Kalyani Hewapathirana
Director Fishing Operations
Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
Head of the Sri Lanka Delegation to the IOTC