



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM CONCERNING FIVE VESSELS MENTIONED IN DOCUMENT IOTC-2022-CoC19-07d

Prepared by IOTC Secretariat, 29 April 2022

PURPOSE

To provide additional information, which has been received from the United Kingdom by the IOTC Secretariat, to the Compliance Committee to assist it to:

- further appreciate the excellent bilateral relationship between the United Kingdom and Sri Lanka to combat IUU fishing activities in the IOTC Area, and
- to take decisions on two Indian vessels mentioned in document IOTC-2022-COC19-07d.

INFORMATION REPORTED TO THE IOTC SECRETARIAT

In response to the publication of document IOTC-2022-COC19-07d for the consideration of CoC19, the United Kingdom has provided the additional information reproduced in Appendix 1.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the CoC19:

- 1) **NOTE** the information provided in document IOTC-2022-CoC19-07 Add1, which will assist it in its deliberations on:
 - a. the effectiveness of the bilateral relationship between the United Kingdom and Sri Lanka to combat IUU fishing activities in the IOTC Area, and
 - b. take decisions on if the two Indian vessels mentioned in document IOTC-2022-COC19-07d should be included in the Provisional IOTC IUU Vessels List for 2022.



British Indian Ocean Territory Administration
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
London SW1A 2AH

Dr Chris O'Brien
Executive Secretary
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
Mahe
Seychelles

28 April 2022

cc. Dr Indra Jaya Vice Chair CoC
Mr Susantha Kahawatta, and Ms Kalyani Hewapathirana, DFAR, Sri Lanka

Dear Dr O'Brien,

Further recommendation on three Sri Lankan Flagged Vessels IMULA-0248-KLT; IMULA-0947-MTR; IMULA-0524-KLT notified to IOTC in 2022 with recommendation b) 'Notification of illegal activity to IOTC Secretariat. Recommend notification of activity to flag State'. (Resolution 18/03 On establishing a list of vessels presumed to have carried out IUU fishing in the IOTC Area of Competence)

We refer to our letters relating to the three referenced vessels contained in Attachments 2, 3 and 4 of IOTC-2022-CoC19-07d [E] and details of the action taken by Sri Lanka to date. We note the effective bilateral relationship with Sri Lanka to combat IUU and the positive actions they have taken.

With respect to two of these vessels, **IMULA-0248-KLT; IMULA-0947-MTR**, we note that the cases are continuing and request that Sri Lanka provides an update to UK and the Compliance Committee intersessionally as these cases progress. Whilst we anticipate that the cases will be satisfactorily resolved, we will review the evidence provided prior to the 70-day deadline for reporting vessels to IOTC in 2023.

For **IMULA-0524-KLT** we note that this case is closed and we are satisfied that sanctions of adequate severity have been applied. We request that Sri Lanka provides an update to UK and the Compliance Committee intersessionally when VMS is installed and the vessel is released.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C.C. Mees'.

Dr C.C. Mees
UK Delegation to IOTC



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Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
London SW1A 2AH

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Executive Secretary
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cc. Dr Indra Jaya Vice Chair CoC

Mr IA Siddique; Dr P. Pandian; Mr J. Balaji, Ministry of Fisheries, Government of India

Dear Dr O'Brien,

Provisional IUU Vessels List: Further recommendation on two Indian Flagged Vessels IND.TN.15.MM.4569 (NOVA) and IND.TN.15.MM.5707 (YONA) notified to IOTC in 2022 with recommendation b) 'Notification of illegal activity to IOTC Secretariat. Recommend notification of activity to flag State'. (Resolution 18/03 On establishing a list of vessels presumed to have carried out IUU fishing in the IOTC Area of Competence)

We refer to our letters relating to the two above referenced vessels contained Attachments 5 and 6 of IOTC-2022-CoC19-07d [E]. At the 70-day deadline for submitting vessels to the Draft IUU vessels list there was evidence that these vessels, not on the IOTC Record of Authorised vessels, had been illegally fishing in the IOTC area, but there was no evidence of IUU in BIOT waters. We suggested that the Compliance Committee could consider whether further action, including listing these vessels was appropriate. Since that time, both vessels were inspected a second time in BIOT waters and the Masters both admitted to fishing illegally in BIOT waters. Both vessels were also operating as part of a group in coordinated IUU activities (see our letters dated 12 April 2022 in Attachments 5 and 6).

By 23rd April, 15 days prior to the Compliance Committee meeting, India had not submitted any evidence of the actions it has taken. Furthermore, the vessels were not detained in port by the Indian authorities following the first reports submitted by UK to them. The lack of adequate flag State controls by India and the substantial incursions and IUU events recorded in BIOT waters to date in 2022 has been highlighted in our letter dated 28 April 2022 regarding IND.TN.15.MM.106 (LittleSha)).

In 2022 these vessels were notified to IOTC with recommendation b) 'Notification of illegal activity to IOTC Secretariat. Recommend notification of activity to flag State'. However, in light of the demonstrated lack of flag State controls, and given the repeated infractions by the owner and skipper of both IND.TN.15.MM.4569 (NOVA) and IND.TN.15.MM.5707 (YONA) in BIOT waters we request that the Compliance Committee considers the possibility that they are moved to the Provisional IUU vessel list this year.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Dr C.C. Mees
UK Delegation to IOTC