

IOTC-2022-CoC19-Statement-06_Statement by the Republic of France

19th Session of IOTC Compliance Committee - 8th June to 10th June 2022

Statement by the Republic of France in response to the statements by the Republic of Mauritius

In a declaration during the 19th Meeting of IOTC Compliance Committee, Mauritius objects the sovereignty of France over the Island of Tromelin as well as sovereign right or jurisdiction over its Exclusive Economic Zone and rejects the inclusion of the Island of Tromelin in the French Southern and Atlantic Lands (TAAF) or the Scattered Islands (îles Eparses).

France does not recognize any legal value of the registration of this objection by the Republic of Mauritius submitted to the IOTC Secretariat, which fails to consider that the Island of Tromelin is a French territory over which France has constantly exercised full and total sovereignty.

France would like to point out that neither the Secretariat of this Agreement, nor the regional fisheries management organizations meetings of the Indian Ocean are the appropriate place to discuss territorial sovereignty issues.

This statement applies to other agenda items and to all documents circulated for this meeting. The Republic of France requests that this statement be annexed to the report of this meeting.