



05 January 2023

IOTC CIRCULAR 2023-01

Dear Sir/Madam

REQUEST FOR OBSERVER STATUS FROM MALDIVES SEAFOOD PROCESSORS AND EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION

Please find attached a request letter from the Maldives Seafood Processors and Exporters Association to participate as an Observer to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission processes.

In accordance with Rule XIV of the IOTC Rules of Procedure, Contracting Parties of the Commission may wish to allow the Maldives Seafood Processors and Exporters Association to participate as an Observer given their interest in the IOTC as stipulated in the attached letter. Thus, unless any objections are received within 30 days of the date of this Circular, the IOTC Secretariat will consider that approval has been granted for the Executive Secretary to issue an invitation to the potential Observer to attend IOTC meetings accordingly.

Yours sincerely

Christopher O'Brien
Executive Secretary

Attachments :

- Letter from MSPEA

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:** Liberia. **Intergovernmental Organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations. Chairperson IOTC. Copy to:** FAO Headquarters, FAO Representatives to CPCs.

This message has been transmitted by email only



**MALDIVES SEAFOOD PROCESSORS
AND
EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION**

6TH Floor, BKT Building
Boduthakurufaanu Magu,
Malé -20026, Maldives

Letter no: MSPEA/2023/01/01

02nd January 2023

Dr Christopher O'Brien
Executive Secretary
Blend Seychelles Building (2nd floor)
Providence
PO Box 1011
Victoria Mahé – SEYCHELLES

Re: Observer Status for Maldives Seafood Processors and Exporters Association

We are writing to formally request that the Maldives Seafood Processors and Exporters Association (MSPEA) be granted observer status at the IOTC.

As you may know, the MSPEA is a non-profit organization that represents the interests of the seafood processing and exporting industry in the Maldives. Our members include companies that are involved in the processing, exporting and trading of tuna, and other seafood products from the Indian Ocean region.

We are proud of the important work being done in the Maldives to maintain MSC Certification and to improve our handline yellowfin tuna fishery. These efforts contribute to the Maldives' compliance with the rebuilding of depleted stocks of yellowfin tuna, and we believe that the MSPEA can play a valuable role in supporting and promoting these efforts.

We believe that the MSPEA can make a valuable contribution to the work of the IOTC as a formal observer. Our members have a wealth of experience and expertise in the seafood industry, and we are committed to promoting sustainable and responsible fishing practices. As an observer, we would be able to contribute our knowledge and insights to the work of the IOTC, and we would also be able to learn from the experiences of other member countries.

We are confident that our participation as an observer would be beneficial to both the MSPEA and the IOTC, and we hope you will consider our request favorably. We look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the important work of the IOTC and to learn from the experiences.

Sincerely,

Umar Jamaal

President, Maldives Seafood Processors and Exporters Association (MSPEA)



Reg No: T/2007/77/30

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