



SEYCHELLES FISHING AUTHORITY

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Please address all Correspondence to the Chief Executive Officer

OUR REF: SFA/IOTC2022-139
Date: 3rd March 2022

Dr. Christopher O'Brien
Executive Secretary
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
Abis Centre, Providence
P.O. Box 1011,
Victoria, Seychelles

Dear Dr. O' Brien,

**RE: SEYCHELLES RESPONSE TO FEEDBACK LETTER REGARDING
COMPLIANCE ISSUES (IOTC REF: IOTC2022-139)**

In reference to the letter dated 24th May 2022, we took note of the concerns raised by the Compliance Committee in regards to Outstanding Compliance issues for the Seychelles. We would like to bring to your attentions some clarifications as well as provide details of corrective actions undertaken to address those issues raised by the Chairperson of the Commission,.

Please find in attachment the Annex summarizing the actions undertaken for each of the outstanding compliance matter.

Let me also take this opportunity to reaffirms Seychelles full commitment towards improving its compliance level *vis-a-vis* its obligations to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.

Yours sincerely

Philippe Michaud (Mr.)
Chief Executive Officer
SEYCHELLES FISHING AUTHORITY

attach



Responsible Fishing For Sustainability



Annex: Compliance issues from CoC19.

CPC: Seychelles	Responses/clarifications
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not provided all mandatory information on vessels greater than 24m LOA, as required by Resolution 19/04. 	Submitted with compliance questionnaire for vessels above 24m LOA.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not provided data for catch & effort for coastal fisheries, as required by Resolution 15/02. 	Submitted, attached with the feedback letter.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not provided data for size frequency for coastal fisheries, as required by Resolution 15/02. 	SFA encountered difficulties to measure tuna and tuna-like species at landing sites due to limited access to the fish during unloading. Sampling programme was intensified during 2022. Data will be submitted in June 2023.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not provided data for size frequency for longline fisheries, as required by Resolution 15/02. 	SFA encountered major delays in data recapture of the size frequency (previously lost due to Virus on its server). Data for 2021 was submitted in December 2022. Historical data (2016 to 2020) will be submitted in June 2023.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not provided nominal catch data for sharks, as required by Resolution 15/02 	Submitted, attached with the feedback letter.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not provided catch & effort data for sharks, as required by Resolution 15/02. 	Submitted, attached with the feedback letter.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not provided size frequency data for sharks, as required by Resolution 15/02. 	Data for the longline fleet were provided. Data for the purse seine fleet are available from Observer Programme. However, due to some technical issues with the central database, it is currently not possible to extract the data. The information will be made available when the issues are sorted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not provided information on seabirds as required by Resolution 12/06. 	Submitted. Attached with the feedback letter.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not provided mandatory transshipments in port report as required by Resolution 21/02. 	Submitted. Attached with the feedback letter.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not provided inspection reports as required by Resolution 16/11. 	20 vessels were inspected throughout the year 2021, 4 PIR was submitted to the platform and 16 OLT were submitted. Due to restrictions imposed during the Covid 19 outbreak, we were unable to perform more inspections.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not inspected at least 5 per cent of LAN/TRX as required by Resolution 16/11 	Due to restrictions imposed during the Covid 19 outbreak, access to fishing vessels were restricted, hence we were unable to conduct the required level of inspection.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not provided report of progress on implementation of FADs management plan, as required by Resolution 19/02. 	Submitted. Attached with the feedback letter.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not provided report on corrective actions taken to adhere to prescribed catch levels as required by Resolution 21/01. 	Submitted. Attached with the feedback letter.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not provided nominal catch of YFT in 2020, as required by Resolution 19/01 	Submitted. Attached with feedback letter.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not provided data for nominal catch for coastal fisheries, as required by Resolution 15/02. 	Submitted. Attached with feedback letter.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not provided data for size frequency for surface fisheries, as required by Resolution 15/02. 	All available data was submitted. However the minimum requirements were not met due to health restrictions

CPC: Seychelles	Responses/clarifications
	imposed due to the COVID19 Pandemic. Access to fishing vessels were restricted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibition to gaff, lift by the gill slits/spiracles, punch holes through the bodies. Obligation to release alive, implementation of live release handling procedures of mobulid rays does not cover all fisheries as required by Resolution 19/03. 	<p>Report submitted. Attached with feedback letter.</p> <p>Seychelles is undertaking a comprehensive 1-year survey of the artisanal and recreational fishery to assess the occurrence of mobulids sp. Additionally the domestication of IOTC's CMMs is expected to be completed in 2023 and will provide the legal framework for the implementation of the requirements for the artisanal and subsistence fisheries.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not provided data on interactions with marine turtles as required by Resolution 12/04. 	<p>Information was presented in the National Report (<i>IOTC-2022-SC25-NR22E_Seychelles</i>), under section 5.3 on Marine turtles. However, we are experiencing some technical issues with the central database, and it is currently not possible to extract the observer data. The information can be made available as soon as the technical issues are rectified.</p>