

# IOTC Agreement – Article X

## Report of Implementation for the year 2022 (CoC20)

**Deadline for submission: 9/3/2023**

### READING NOTES:

- This report is composed of 5 sections reporting on the implementation of IOTC Resolutions.
- Answers provided by CPCs are presented in [blue text](#).
- A red dash ("–") indicates that no answer was provided.

**Reporting CPC: Maldives**

**Date of submission: 09 March 2023 - 14:42**

You can consult your previous Implementation Report for CoC 19, by [clicking here](#).

**Note:** All laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force must be uploaded in the requirement 1.5 named "Transposition of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures into national legislation".

# Section 1 – LEGAL OBLIGATION

## Articles X & XI.2 of the IOTC Agreement - Legal obligation – Transposition of IOTC CMMs into national legislation

### REQ 1.5

**Legal obligation:** Provide information on the status of the transposition of all the cmm requirements into the national legislation.

1 – All requirements of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures are fully transposed into national legislation: [Yes – Fully transposed into national legislation](#) –

2 – Laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to the IOTC Conservation and Management Measures uploaded: [Yes 22 January 2023 - 13:04](#)

3 – Comments/remarks about your submission and the implementation of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures:

–

## Section 2 – Part A

### Actions taken, under national legislation, in the previous year to implement CMMs adopted by the Commission at S26

#### Resolution 22/01

##### REQ 1.1Aa

Actions taken, under national legislation, in the previous year to implement *Resolution 22/01 on climate change as it relates to the Indian ocean Tuna Commission*, adopted by the Commission at its Twenty-Sixth Session (S26):

The Fisheries Act of the Maldives ensure that climate change adaptation and mitigation measures are considered when adopting policies, strategies and relevant laws and regulations.

Furthermore, Strategic Action Plan has set targets to enhance the marine and fisheries research capacity of the country.

There is an ongoing project to support the use of renewable energy by fishing vessels, such as installing of solar panels on the vessels.

Maldives is also implementing a projected to install Refrigerated Seawater Systems on 200 fishing vessels aiming to improve the quality of the fish caught.

#### Resolution 22/02

##### REQ 1.1Ab

Actions taken, under national legislation, in the previous year to implement *Resolution 22/02 on establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels*, adopted by the Commission at its Twenty-Sixth Session (S26):

At sea transshipment is prohibited in the Maldives.

Reports of transshipments between Maldivian collector vessels and pole and line fishing for 2022 have been uploaded and sent to the Secretariat with the implementation report.

##### REQ 8.1

**Information required:** At sea transshipments – CPCs reports participating in the ROP

1 - I have participated in the IOTC regional observer programme (ROP) to monitor transshipment at sea in 2021: –

2 - The reports on the list of LSTLVs & the quantities transhipped in 2021, and the assessment of observer reports in 2021, have been reported to the IOTC Secretariat: – –

3 - If YES:

- Number of LSTLVs having transhipped at sea in 2021: –
- Quantities transhipped at sea (kg) in 2021: –

4 - This requirement is not applicable: [No LSTLVs on the IOTC record of authorized vessel in 2021](#)

##### Legal obligation

Reference of laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

–

Text of the laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

–

##### REQ 8.2

**Information required:** Report on transshipments in foreign ports

##### FOR ALL CPCs:

1 - Flag LSTVs have transhipped in foreign ports in 2022: –

2 - The reports on the list of LSTVs & the quantities transhipped in foreign ports in 2022, have been provided to the IOTC Secretariat: -

NIL report: [No LSTV on the RAV in 2022](#)

3 - If YES:

- Number of LSTLVs having transhipped in foreign ports in 2022: -
- Quantities transhipped in foreign ports (kg) in 2022: -

4 - This requirement is not applicable: [No LSTV on the RAV in 2022](#)

#### FOR MALDIVES ONLY:

1 - Flag Pole and line fishing vessel(s) and collector vessel(s) have transhipped in 2022: [Yes](#)

2 - The reports on the list of Pole and line fishing vessel(s) and collector vessel(s) & the quantities transhipped in 2022, have been provided to the IOTC Secretariat: [No Data compilation process in ongoing, report will be submitted along with Implementation report](#)

NIL report: -

3 - If YES:

- Number of Pole and line fishing vessel(s) and collector vessel(s) having transhipped in 2022: -
- Quantities transhipped (kg) in 2022: -

4 - This requirement is not applicable: -

#### Legal obligation

Reference of laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

-

Text of the laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

-

#### REQ 8.3

**Required information:** list of authorised carrier vessels

1 - Flag LSTLVs have transhipped in ports and/or at sea in 2022: -

2 - All the mandatory information has been provided to the IOTC Secretariat for all authorized carrier vessels: - (-)

3 - Mandatory information not fully provided or missing: -

Reason for missing information: -

4 - In 2022, we have authorized:

- Carrier vessels under our flag (Nb): 0
- Carrier vessels under the flag of other fleets (Nb): 0

5 - This requirement is not applicable: [CPC does not tranship at sea and/or in port, in the IOTC area of competence in 2022](#)

#### Legal obligation

Reference of laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

-

Text of the laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

-

#### REQ 8.4

**Information required:** Results of the investigation on possible infraction in 2022 of IOTC regulations by LSTLVs/carrier vessels

1 - The reports on the results of investigation on possible infractions in 2022 have been submitted to the IOTC Secretariat: [No \(Not participating in the IOTC regional observer programme \(ROP\) to monitor transhipment at sea. Does not have LSTLVs on the Record of authorised vessels.\)](#)

2 - If YES:

- Number of possible infractions related to ATF: 0
- Number of possible infractions related to VMS: 0
- Number of possible infractions related to fishing logbook: 0
- Number of possible infractions related to LSTLVs marking: 0

- Total number of possible infractions in 2022: 0

3 - This requirement is not applicable: [I have not participated in the IOTC regional observer programme \(ROP\) to monitor transshipment at sea in 2022](#) · [No LSTLVs on the IOTC record of authorized vessel in 2022](#)

#### Legal obligation

Reference of laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

–

Text of the laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

–

#### REQ 8.5

**Information required:** ROP fee

1 - I have participated in the IOTC regional observer programme (ROP) to monitor transshipment at sea in 2022: –

2 - I have paid my ROP contribution for the ROP last call for fund: – (-)

3 - This requirement is not applicable: [I am not participating in the IOTC regional observer programme \(ROP\) to monitor transshipment at sea](#)

#### Legal obligation

Reference of laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

–

Text of the laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

–

## Resolution 22/03

#### REQ 1.1Ac

Actions taken, under national legislation, in the previous year to implement *Resolution 22/03 on a management procedure for bigeye tuna in the IOTC Area of Competence*, adopted by the Commission at its Twenty-Sixth Session (S26):

[No action has been taken under this resolution.](#)

## Resolution 22/04

#### REQ 1.1Ad

Actions taken, under national legislation, in the previous year to implement *Resolution 22/04 on a regional observer scheme*, adopted by the Commission at its Twenty-Sixth Session (S26):

[Maldives is working to improve our human observer program to cover 5% of the required fishing trips. Ministry currently employs 6 fisheries rangers and will be hiring personnel for this purpose.](#)

[Due the difficulties faced to achieve this 5% observer coverage, even with additional personnel, Maldives has developed an electronic catch reporting application and the testing phase has been completed. Full roll-out has been delayed initially due to the COVID-19 pandemic and further due to administrative difficulties. Currently 13 electronic monitoring systems have been installed licensed fishing vessels.](#)

## Section 3 – Part B

### **Actions taken, under national legislation, to implement CMMs adopted by the Commission in previous Sessions which have not been reported previously**

#### **REQ 1.1B**

1. Actions taken, under national legislation, to implement conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission in previous Sessions, and which have not been reported previously:

[Maldives reports all actions taken to implement the CMMs annually through the implementation report.](#)

2. We have taken actions, under national legislation, to implement conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission in previous Sessions: [Yes](#)

## Section 4 – Part C

### Data and information reporting requirements for CPCs to be included in this report

#### Resolution 01/03

##### REQ 7.Xg

**Information required: Observations of non-contracting parties, entities or fishing entities indicating fishing contrary to IOTC CMM**

1. Observation/Sightings report of Non-Contracting Party, Entity or fishing Entity vessels, indicating that there are grounds for believing that these vessels are fishing contrary to IOTC Conservation or Management Measures

Observation of vessels in 2022: –

–

NIL report: [Nil report for 2022 – no observation of vessel fishing contrary to IOTC Conservation or Management Measures in the IOTC Area of Competence](#)

##### REQ 7.Xh

1. Reporting on inspections in ports of vessels of Non-Contracting Parties, Entities or fishing Entities: –

–

NIL report: [Nil report for 2022 – no inspection conducted on NCP vessels](#)

#### Resolution 01/06

##### REQ 10.3

1. A system for monitoring export and re-export of frozen bigeye tunas exists: [Yes](#)

EXPORT:

2. Frozen bigeye tunas were exported in 2021: –

Total quantity of frozen bigeye tunas exported in 2021 (kg): –

Country' vessels from which the bigeye tunas were exported: –

RE-EXPORT:

3. Frozen bigeye tunas were re-exported in 2021: –

Total quantity of frozen bigeye tunas re-exported in 2021 (kg): –

Country' vessels from which the bigeye tunas were exported: –

4. This requirement is not applicable: [CPC did not export/re-export frozen bigeye tunas in 2021](#) • [No large scale longline vessels on the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels in 2021](#)

#### Resolution 07/01

##### REQ 7.XJ

**Information required: reports on actions and measures taken to investigate allegations and/or reports on IUU fishing involving nationals**

1 - Reporting on actions and measures taken to investigate allegations and/or reports on IUU fishing involving nationals: –

2 - If YES, information on the national(s) (natural or legal persons): –

3 - NIL report: [Nil report for 2022 – no nationals engage in IUU fishing in the IOTC Area of Competence](#)

#### Resolution 11/02

##### REQ 2.22

1. Reporting observations of damaged data buoys in 2022:

–  
Nil Report - No report received from flag vessels in 2022

## Resolution 11/04

- REQ 9.1**  
**NOT TO BE ASSESSED FOR THE YEAR 2021 FOR THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE 20**
1. We are implementing the regional observer scheme (ROS) at national level for: [All fishing vessels of 24 meters length overall and above](#)
  2. The number of vessels monitored and the coverage achieved by gear type, have been reported to the IOTC Secretariat & the IOTC Scientific Committee: [Yes - entirely The reports of the fishing trips covered under the observer scheme was emailed to the secretariat on 26th February 2023. The submission of the reports were delayed due to an administrative error.](#)

Type of fishing gear	No of vessels monitored in 2021:	Coverage in 2021 (%)
Purse seine	–	–
Longline	–	–
Gillnet	–	–
Baitboats	–	–
Handline	–	–

Additional gear types: Type of fishing gear, Nb of vessels monitored in 2021, Coverage in 2021 (%)

–

3. The requirement is not applicable: –

## Resolution 12/04

- REQ 6.9**
1. Reporting the progress of implementation of Resolution 12/04: [Yes - the Report is attached in the UPLOAD section](#)
  2. If NO, requirement of the Resolution 12/04 on which you reported on:  
 Collect (through logbooks and observer programs) and provide to the Scientific Committee all data on their vessels interactions with marine turtles,  
 Furnish information to the Scientific Committee on successful mitigation measures and other impacts on marine turtles (such as the deterioration of nesting sites & swallowing of marine debris):  
[Yes There is a system to report information on interaction with the turtles through the logbook reporting. This information is reported as the bycatch information reported with the fisheries statistical data.](#)



Require fishermen to bring aboard, if practicable, any captured hard shelled turtle that is comatose or inactive as soon as possible and foster its recovery, including aiding in its resuscitation, before safely returning it to the water.

Ensure that fishermen are aware of and use proper mitigation and handling techniques and keep on board all necessary equipment for the release of turtles:

**Yes** Catching and harming of turtles is prohibited in the Maldives and fishers are required to release any incidental catch immediately under the license condition. This information is relayed to fisher folks through outreach programs and a turtle guide is distributed to fishing vessels to inform the fishers on the best practice. Turtle bycatch has never been recorded in the baitboat or handline fishery and therefore has been assessed as low risk for management purposes.

For gillnet vessels: Require vessel to record all incidents involving marine turtles in the logbooks and report incidents to authorities of the CPC:

**No** Not applicable as gill netting is prohibited in the Maldives by law.

For longline vessels / Pour les palangriers

(a) Ensure that longline vessels carry line cutters & de-hookers to facilitate the handling and release of marine turtles caught or entangled

(b) Encourage use of whole finfish bait;

(c) Require vessel to record all incidents involving marine turtles in the logbooks and report incidents to authorities of the CPC.

**Yes**

The requirements to carry and use of de-hookers, line cutters, dip nets and the process of proper release of turtles and other marine mammals that could be caught in Longline fishery is clearly specified in the Tuna Fisheries Management Plan and subsequent regulation. The Management plan also stipulates other bycatch mitigation measures and also encourages fishing vessels to use wholefish bait to minimise turtle bycatch.

\*Longline log books also allow the reporting of turtle bycatch or interactions to the IOTC standard and are reported to the IOTC on an annual basis.

\*Maldives has suspended issuing licenses to longline fishing vessels since 2019.

For purse seine vessels:

(a) Ensure that vessels:

(i) Avoid encirclement of marine turtles, if a marine turtle is encircled/ entangled, take measures to safely release the turtle.

(ii) Release all marine turtles observed entangled in fish aggregating devices (FADs) or fishing gear.

(iii) If a marine turtle is entangled in the net, stop net roll as soon as the turtle comes out of the water; disentangle the turtle without injuring it before resuming the net roll; and assist the recovery of the turtle before returning it to the water.

(iv) Carry and employ dip nets to handle turtles.

(b) Encourage vessel to adopt FAD designs which reduce the incidence of entanglement of turtles;

(c) Require vessel to record incidents involving marine turtles in the logbooks and report incidents to authorities of the CPC.

**No** Not applicable as purse seining is prohibited in the Maldives by law.

CPCs to undertake research trials of circle hooks, use of whole finfish for bait, alternative FAD designs, alternative handling techniques, gillnet design and fishing practices and other mitigation methods which may improve the mitigation of adverse effects on turtles.

**Yes** Anchored FADs used in the Maldives are non-entangling with only a set of float-buoys with horizontal attachment of netting underneath.

CPCs continue to undertake research and development to improve the mitigation of adverse affects on marine turtles & provide research outcomes to the Scientific Committee.

**Yes** No research on turtle was conducted in the year 2022.

Collaborate with the IOSEA and take into account the IOSEA MoU

**Yes** IOSEA MOU Signatory since April 2010.

3. This requirement is not applicable in 2022

## Resolution 12/06

### REQ 6.14

1. The obligation for all longline vessels to use at least two of the three mitigation measures: - -

2. This requirement is not applicable: **No** longline vessels on the IOTC Record of authorised Vessels or active

### Legal obligation:

Reference of laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

Text of the laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

## Resolution 13/05

### REQ 6.16

1. Cetaceans have been encircled by the purse seine nets as reported by flagged vessels in 2022: -
2. Reporting instances of cetaceans encircled: -
3. This requirement is not applicable: [Not applicable – in 2022 no purse seine fishing vessels operating in the IOTC Area of Competence.](#)

## Resolution 13/04

### REQ 6.18

1. Whale sharks have been encircled by the purse seine nets as reported by flagged vessels in 2022: -
2. Report on instances of whale sharks encircled: -
- Number of instances of encirclement in 2022 : -
3. This requirement is not applicable: [Not applicable – in 2022 no purse seine fishing vessels operating in the IOTC Area of Competence](#)

## Resolution 14/05

### REQ 3.10

**Information required:** Access agreements information

- 1 - A system exist to sign Government to Government access agreement for foreign vessels to operate in your waters, within the IOTC Area: -
- 2 - Foreign vessels were licensed in 2022 under a Government to Government access agreement: -
- 3 - CPC-to-CPC agreements in 2022 exist and information concerning these agreements submitted to the IOTC Secretariat: - -
- 4 - If No, information about these agreements: - -
- 5 - All the mandatory information has been provided to the IOTC Secretariat for all CPC/CPC access agreement: - -
  - The stock or species authorized for harvest, including any applicable catch limits: -
  - The CPC's quota or catch limit to which the catch will be applied, where applicable: -
  - Monitoring, control, and surveillance measures required by the flag CPC and coastal CPC involved: -
  - Data reporting obligations stipulated in the agreement, including those between the parties involved, as well as those regarding information that must be provided to the Commission: -
- 6 - Mandatory information are not fully provided or missing: - -
- 7 - This requirement is not applicable: [CPC does not have CPC-CPC agreement in 2022](#)

## Resolution 16/05

### REQ 7.Xf

1. Reporting on vessel without nationality that may be fishing in the high seas of the IOTC area of competence: [Nil report for 2022 – no sighting of vessel without nationality](#)
- Information on any sighted vessels:

## Resolution 16/08

**REQ 2.14X**

1. Reporting occurrence of a fishing operation undertaken with the aid of aircraft or unmanned aerial vehicle in the IOTC area of competence: [Nil report for 2022 – no occurrence of vessel fishing operation with the aid of aircraft or unmanned aerial vehicle](#)  
For each occurrence: date, vessel name and identifiers as well as actions taken:

**Resolution 17/07**

**Objection received from Pakistan: does not apply to Pakistan**

**REQ 2.8**

**Prohibition from:** using large-scale driftnets in the entire IOTC area of competence

1 - Use of large scale driftnets is banned in the IOTC area of competence (high seas and EEZ): [Has been banned by national legislation \(1986\)](#)

**Legal obligation:**

Reference of laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

[Fisheries Act of the Maldives](#)

Text of laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

[Article 27 - Types of Fishing Prohibited in the Maritime Zones of the Maldives](#)

The following types of fishing are prohibited in the maritime zones of the Maldives.

- (a) Purse seine fishing;
- (b) Gillnet fishing;
- (c) Trawl net fishing;
- (d) Fishing using a net with the exception of bait fishing and fishing for personal consumption;

**Objection received from Pakistan: does not apply to Pakistan**

**REQ 2.9**

Information required: Report on MCS actions related to large-scale driftnet fishing.

**Monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) actions:**

1. Monitoring, control, and surveillance actions are applicable to:

[Flag vessels](#) • [Foreign vessels](#)

2. Monitoring, control, and surveillance actions are:

[Controlling of flag vessels at licensing](#) • [Inspection at sea \(EEZ\) of foreign vessels](#) • [Inspection at sea \(EEZ\) of flag vessels](#) • [Inspection in port of flag vessels](#) • [Inspection in port of foreign vessels](#) • [Control/ban of large-scale driftnet import](#) • [Control/ban of large-scale driftnet sale](#)

Additional MCS actions in place:

[Maldives never had a driftnet fisheries and use of net fishing for tuna fishing is banned under the Fisheries Act of the Maldives.](#) Furthermore, [Maldives do not issue fishing license to foreign fishing vessels.](#) [Foreign fishing calling into Maldivian ports are subjected to inspection under the PSMA regulation.](#)

**Resolution 18/07****REQ 2.21**

1. A system to collect fisheries data exists: [Yes](#)

2. Mandatory data/statistics reported: [Yes](#)

3. Action(s) to improve data collection that facilitate improvements in compliance in terms of IOTC mandatory reporting obligations:

a. *Development or improvements in the implementation of logbooks:* [Yes](#)

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

[Maldives has taken measures to implement logbook in tuna fishing fleet by strengthening enforcement at the landing centers.](#) [Landing centers are now required to collect the log sheet for that trip prior to the offloading process.](#) [Vessels cannot unload the catch unless the log sheet for that trip has been submitted.](#) [This has significantly increased the coverage of logbooks in past two years.](#)

Maldives is working on full roll-out electronic logbook systems. The data collected will be hosted within the Fisheries Information System.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries: –

*b. Port-based sampling or related fisheries surveys:* Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries: Port sampling was implemented at the key landing sites.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries: –

*c. National observer scheme:* Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries: Some of the trips were observed with an observer onboard under the National Observer Scheme

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries: –

*d. National Vessel registry:* Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries: All sea going vessels including fishing vessels are required to register at the Ministry of Transport under the law. This registration is among one of the mandatory prerequisite for issuing a fishing license.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries: –

*e. Electronic data capture, VMS, or on-board electronic monitoring:* Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries: An electronic catch reporting application has been developed and testing phase completed. Full roll-out has been delayed due to administrative difficulties.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries: –

4. Action(s) to improve data processing and reporting systems that facilitate submission of data to the IOTC Secretariat:

*a. Development of fisheries databases:* Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

Data on fishing license, logbook records, all commercial landings and exports are all recorded electronically and maintained in the Fisheries Information System database. Database is developed as web software which enable landing and processing facilities report their mandatory fisheries reporting directly through to the system. The software is developed to provide different level of access in terms of their role in fisheries management and MCS spectrum. Thus, this allows relevant officers from the Ministry and other relevant agencies to generate reports, cross reference and validate information more effectively and in a timely manner. Application developed for logbook reporting of pole and line and handline fishery is also integrated into the database.

To fulfill reporting obligations, particularly to attain timely reporting of catch and effort data concerning of IOTC resolutions 15/01 and 15/02, Maldives continually implements the necessary developments and enhancements to Fisheries Information Database.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries: –

*b. Development of data dissemination systems:* Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

Countries importing fish from Maldives can access to catch documentation issued through Fisheries Information System through the FIS exporter portal.

There is an online portal established for electronic data reporting. This portal will be further developed to share information required for fishers, processors and other relevant agencies in a timely manner.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries: –

*c. Frame surveys:* No

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries: All vessels engaged in commercial tuna fishing is required to obtain a fishing license. The licensing process currently in place captures information of the vessel, gears and other related information. Furthermore the mandatory logbooks also captures details of the fishery

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries: –

*d. Coherence of data with alternative fisheries datasets:* No

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries: –

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries: –

*e. Development of automated routines to process and extract IOTC data submission:* Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

Maldives have a full-fledge e-licensing system which can be integrated into IOTC database.

Automation of fisheries data collection require full roll-out of e-logbook. Once the full roll-out work is completed the intention is to make the e-logbook mandatory. This would help to to eliminate manual recording of paper based logbook data and would enable to receive logbook catch data near real time.

VMS is a monitoring software is design to record and report data electronically through API for any database permitted to.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries: –

*f. Steps to minimise data entry errors:* Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

With the implementation of e-reporting specific validation rules are set to eliminate reporting errors. It is an ongoing process to further study on the potential areas that require improvement particularly on minimizing data reporting issues.

Different level of verifications stages are deployed for vessel license, fish landing and logbook data entry into the system to crosscheck data enter into the Fisheries Information System.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries: –

#### 5. Action(s) to improve the quality and accuracy of data submitted to the IOTC Secretariat:

##### a. Steps to improve data validation: Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

All data related to tuna fisheries including fishing license, logbook, landings, and sampling data are electronically logged into Fisheries Information System. Full rollout of electronic logbook reporting will enable automatic data verification across data patches. This would consequently improve quality and accuracy of data and also facilitate the validation process. Furthermore, the VMS and electronic observer scheme would further assist validating data coming through different sources.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries: –

##### b. Improvements in sampling coverage: –

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries: Currently sampling program is implemented targeting major landing centers. However, new samplers are deployed in targeting fishing islands to improve sampling coverage.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries: –

##### c. Frame surveys: –

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries: –

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries: –

##### d. Coherence of data with alternative fisheries datasets: –

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries: –

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries: –

##### e. Comparability of data from previous years: –

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries: –

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries: –

#### 6. This requirement is not applicable in 2022 : –

## Resolution 18/03

### REQ 7.Xa

1. Reporting illegal activity of vessels in 2022 / 2023 : A-Detail of the vessel, B-Details of IOTC Resolution Elements Contravened, C-Associated documents and D-Recommended action: –

If yes, the IUU forms and relevant details including date, location, source of information have been uploaded: Yes

2. If Yes, summary of vessel illegal activity as reported in the IUU forms, with the following information for each:

- Name of vessel
- Flag of vessel
- IRCS
- IMO number
- Recommended actions (see below)

#### Recommended Actions:

A Notification to IOTC Secretariat only. No further action is recommended.

B Notification of illegal activity to IOTC Secretariat. Recommend notification of activity to flag State.

C Recommended for inclusion on IOTC IUU list

–

3. Nil report for 2022 / 2023

2023: No illegal activity of vessel within the IOTC Area and in relation to species covered by the IOTC Agreement or by IOTC Conservation and Management Measures to report

### REQ 7.Xb

1. Reporting comments and information from flag State on vessel included on the Draft IUU Vessel List: No

If yes, the IUU forms and relevant details including date, location, source of information have been uploaded: No

2. If yes, summary of vessel illegal activity as reported in the draft IUU vessel list, with the following information for each:

- Name of vessel
- Flag of vessel
- IRCS
- IMO number

3. The information provided show that the listed vessel under my flag on the Draft IUU Vessel List have:

4. Nil report: [No flag vessel on the Draft IUU list](#)

#### REQ 7.Xc

1. Reporting additional information on vessel included in the Draft IUU Vessel List: [No](#)  
IUU forms uploaded: [No](#)

2. Vessels included in the draft IUU vessel list on which information is provided:

- Name of vessel
- Flag of vessel
- IRCS
- IMO number

3. The information provided show that the vessel listed on the Draft IUU Vessel List have:

4. Nil report: [No additional information on vessels on the Draft IUU list](#)

#### REQ 7.Xd

1. Providing information on flag vessel on the IOTC IUU Vessels List for the purpose of delisting the vessel: [No](#)  
Information uploaded: [No](#)

2. Vessels included in the IUU vessel on which the information is provided:

- Number of the vessel in the IOTC IUU List (1)
- Name of vessel
- Flag of vessel
- IRCS
- IMO number

3. The information provided as the flag State of the vessel listed on the IOTC IUU Vessels List, demonstrates that:

#### REQ 7.Xe

1. Reporting additional information on vessel included in the Draft IUU Vessel List: [No](#)  
Information uploaded: [No](#)

2. Vessels included in the draft IUU vessel list on which information is provided:

- Name of vessel
- Flag of vessel
- IRCS
- IMO number

3. The information provided show that the vessel listed on the Draft IUU Vessel List have:

4. Nil report: [No additional information on vessels on the Draft IUU list](#)

## Resolution 19/02

**REQ 2.11**

1. FADs management plans were implemented and reported for following year(s): –  
Additional information: –
2. Reporting the 2023 FADs management plan: –
3. The 2023 FADs management plan has been prepared in accordance with the Guideline (Annex I or II): –
4. Not applicable: For 2023 no purse seine vessels / supply vessels fishing on Drifting Fish Aggregating Devices.

**REQ 2.12**

1. FADs management plans were implemented and progress reports on the implementation reported for the years: –  
Additional information: –
2. Reporting the progress report on implementation of the 2022 FADs management plan: –
3. Not applicable: In 2022 no purse seine vessels / supply vessels fishing on Drifting Fish Aggregating Devices

**Resolution 19/04****REQ 2.28**

1. Paragraph 11.a):

Fulfil in respect of the vessels the requirements and responsibilities under the IOTC Agreement and its Conservation and Management Measures: I have conducted a review of the internal actions & measures, punitive actions and sanctions for paragraph 11.a):

If such a review has been conducted, list of measures with, for each the following details: Actions & Measures, Punitive Actions, Sanctions:

IOTC CMMs are implemented through national legislations. Current regulatory framework enable implementation of all current IOTC CMMs and bring changes when required under any of the future measure comes into force.

Current government Strategic Action Plan involves specific activities to implement the national Monitoring Compliance and Surveillance plan for fishing and fisheries activities. This involve schedule for random inspection and routing checks by the compliance officers and surveillance activities that would be carried out in coordination of Maldives coast guard are carried out to make sure IOTC conservation and management measures are met by AFVs.

Maldives developed NPOA-IUU in 2019. It mandates Maldives to implement all relevant measures adopted under IOTC resolutions on eliminating IUU fishing.

The Tuna Fishery Regulation (2022/R-139) has a chapter on Licensing of the vessels. Vessels that does not fulfill the requirements of the licensing conditions are not issued fishing licenses. The regulation also includes the penalties specified if these requirements are not met by the vessel.

2. Paragraph 11.b):

Ensure that AFVs comply with all the relevant IOTC Conservation and Management Measures: I have conducted a review of the internal actions & measures, punitive actions and sanctions for paragraph 11.b):

If such a review has been conducted, list of measures with, for each the following details: Actions & Measures, Punitive Actions, Sanctions:

IOTC CMMs are implemented through national legislations. Current regulatory framework enable implementation of all current IOTC CMMs and bring changes when required under any of the future measure comes into force.

Current government Strategic Action Plan involves specific activities to implement the national Monitoring Compliance and Surveillance plan for fishing and fisheries activities. This involve schedule for random inspection and routing checks by the compliance officers and surveillance activities that would be carried out in coordination of Maldives coast guard are carried out to make sure IOTC conservation and management measures are met by AFVs.

Maldives developed NPOA-IUU in 2019. It mandates Maldives to implement all relevant measures adopted under IOTC resolutions on eliminating IUU fishing.

The Tuna Fishery Regulation (2022/R-139) has a chapter on Licensing of the vessels. Vessels that does not fulfill the requirements of the licensing conditions are not issued fishing licenses. The regulation also includes the penalties specified if these requirements are not met by the vessel.

3. Paragraph 11.c):

Ensure AFVs on the IOTC Record keep on board valid certificates of vessel registration and valid authorisation to fish and/or tranship: I have conducted a review of the internal actions & measures, punitive actions and sanctions for paragraph 11.c):

If such a review has been conducted, list of measures with, for each the following details: Actions & Measures, Punitive Actions, Sanctions:

The Tuna Fishery Regulation (2022/R-139) has a chapter on Licensing of the vessels. Vessels are required to keep a copy of the fishing license on board. The regulation also includes the penalties specified if these requirements are not met by the vessel.

The current Strategic Action Plan involves specific activities to implement the national Monitoring Compliance and Surveillance plan for fishing and fisheries activities. As per this plan enforcement officers conducts random inspection and routing checks to make sure IOTC conservation and management measures are met by AFVs as well as other relevant domestic regulations.

At sea transshipment is prohibited in the Maldives.

## 4. Paragraph 11.d):

Ensure AFVs on the IOTC Record have no history of IUU fishing activities or that AFVs are not engaged in or associated with IUU fishing: [I have conducted a review of the internal actions & measures, punitive actions and sanctions for paragraph 11.d\):](#)

If such a review has been conducted, list of measures with, for each the following details: Actions & Measures, Punitive Actions, Sanctions:

[The Tuna Fishery Regulation \(2022/R-139\) has a chapter on Licensing of the vessels. Vessels are required to keep a copy of the fishing license on board. The regulation also includes the penalties specified if these requirements are not met by the vessel. The current Strategic Action Plan involves specific activities to implement the national Monitoring Compliance and Surveillance plan for fishing and fisheries activities. As per this plan enforcement officers conducts random inspection and routing checks to make sure IOTC conservation and management measures are met by AFVs as well as other relevant domestic regulations. At sea transshipment is prohibited in the Maldives.](#)

## 5. Paragraph 11.e):

Ensure under domestic law the owners/operators of AFVs on the IOTC Record are not engaged in/associated with tuna fishing activities conducted by vessels not entered into the IOTC Record in the IOTC area of competence: [I have conducted a review of the internal actions & measures, punitive actions and sanctions for paragraph 11.e\):](#)

If such a review has been conducted, list of measures with, for each the following details: Actions & Measures, Punitive Actions, Sanctions:

[Under the licensing regulation vessels are required to have authorization or fishing license to engage in any form of commercial fishing. Maldives regularly communicate updates AFVs to the IOTC secretariat on a weekly basis.](#)

[The Licensing Regulation also mandates fish landing centers and processing facilities to obtain license to operate. These landing centers are also mandated to record and report fish daily fish landing through fisheries information system. Landing to these fish processing centers are only permitted for authorised vessels.](#)

## 6. Paragraph 11.f):

Ensure under domestic law the owners of the AFVs on the IOTC Record are citizens or legal entities within the flag CPCs so that any control or punitive actions can be effectively taken against them: –

If such a review has been conducted, list of measures with, for each the following details: Actions & Measures, Punitive Actions, Sanctions:

[All local seagoing vessels including fishing vessels can be operated in the Maldives after register under the Transport Regulation on vessel registration. Under the licensing regulation all vessels requesting for fishing license are required to have a local vessel registry with applicant be Maldivian nationals or a 100 percent Maldivian legal entity. Regulation on registry of seagoing vessels consists provisions to ensure the verification of vessel characteristics, origin, history and owner\(s\) of the vessel.](#)

[Maldives Transport Authority communicates vessel registration information with the Ministry of Fisheries on a regular basis to enable validation of information present with application for fishing license.](#)

[Furthermore the recently enacted Fisheries Act of the Maldives also stipulates that a fishing license cannot be granted to a foreign flagged fishing vessel to fish in Maldives.](#)

7. Nil report: –

8. Not applicable: –

**REQ 7.Xi**

1. Reporting factual information showing that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting vessels not on the IOTC Record to be engaged in fishing and/or transshipment of tuna and tuna-like species in the IOTC area of competence: –

Additional information: –

2. NIL report: [Nil report for 2022 – no factual information](#)

**Resolution 21/01****REQ 2.15**

[Objection received from India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Madagascar, Oman and Somalia: does not apply to these CPCs.](#)

[Resolution 19/01 remains binding for Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Madagascar, Oman and Somalia. Resolution 18/01 remains binding for India.](#)

1. CPC subject to yellowfin tuna catch reductions in 2021, due to over-catch in 2020: **No**

If Yes, YFT catch declared and over-catch in 2020: – / –

2. Our catch of yellowfin tuna in 2022 was reduced by the following percentage: –

3. If the CPC is subject to catch reduction due to over-catch, report on corrective actions taken to adhere to prescribed catch levels: –

4. Provide any additional information below: –

5. This requirement is not applicable: [CPC is not subject to yellowfin tuna catch reductions in 2021 due to no over-catch in 2020](#)



**REQ 2.16****Objections received:**

- Not applicable to India: Resolution 18/01 remains binding.
- Not applicable Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Madagascar, Oman and Somalia: Resolution 19/01 remains binding.

1. The CPC is subject to yellowfin tuna catch reductions: **Yes**

If Yes, overcatch: **Maldives has not gone over the yellowfin quota for 2022.**

2. The report on methods for achieving the yellowfin tuna catch reductions has been provided to the IOTC Secretariat: **Yes**

If No, report uploaded: **No**

3. The methods for achieving the yellowfin tuna catch reductions implemented at national level are: **Reduction of fishing effort**

Additional methods:

a) **Applying a temporary ban on direct and indirect subsidies that could contribute to additional fishing capacity in the handline and pole and line fishery.**

b) **By incentivizing and encouraging pole and line fishers to fish from free swimming schools as research has shown free swimming schools of skipjack tuna, yields reduced incidental catches of yellowfin tuna.**

c) **Catches of yellowfin tuna were also regularly monitored by the Ministry through the newly implemented Fisheries Information System (FIS – Keyolhu) to ensure that catches remained within the limits and to implement further remedial action should the forecasts indicate a breach of the limits.**

4. Additional information: **–**

5. This requirement is not applicable: **–**

**REQ 2.18****Objections received:**

- Not applicable to India: Resolution 18/01 remains binding.
- Not applicable Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Madagascar, Oman and Somalia: Resolution 19/01 remains binding.

1. CPC has PS/SP vessels on the Record of authorized vessels: **–**

2. The plan for reducing the use of supply vessel was provided for: **–**

The plan was uploaded: **No**

3. This requirement is not applicable: **CPC has no purse seiners (PS) and no supply vessel (SP) on the IOTC Record of authorised vessels**

**REQ 2.20**

1. I have reported gillnet catch in 2022, I have gillnet fishing vessels on the Record of authorised vessels, the gillnet fleet was active in the IOTC Area of Competence: **–**

2. Level of implementation of paragraph 21 - Phasing out or convert gillnet fishing vessels to other gears: **–**

3. Level of implementation of paragraph 22 - Set gillnets at 2m depth from the surface in gillnet fisheries: **–**

4. Level of implementation of paragraph 23 - Increase observer coverage or field sampling in gillnet fishing vessels by 10% using alternative data collection methodologies (electronic or human): **–**

5. This requirement is not applicable: **No gillnet fishing vessels on the IOTC Record of authorized Vessels**

**Letter of feedback on compliances issues****REQ 1.4**

1. The response to the feedback letter on compliances issues (from the 2022 CoC) has been provided to the IOTC Secretariat: **Yes**

Date of submission: **13 September 2022**

2. Not applicable: **–**

# Section 5 – Part D - Data and information reporting requirements for CPCs that have objected to some Resolutions

Objection received from Pakistan on Resolution 17/07:

- Resolution 12/12 remains binding for Pakistan

Objection received from India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Madagascar, Oman and Somalia on Resolution 21/01:

- Resolution 19/01 remains binding for Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Madagascar, Oman and Somalia.
- Resolution 18/01 remains binding for India

Objection received from India on Resolution 19/01:

- Resolution 18/01 remains binding for India

## Resolution 12/12 (binding on Pakistan)

### REQ 2.80bj1707

#### ONLY APPLICABLE TO PAKISTAN

1. Actions taken to implement conservation and management measures in "Resolution 12/12 to prohibit the use of large-scale driftnets on the high seas in the IOTC area" adopted by the Commission: -

2. Use of large-scale driftnets is banned on the high seas in the IOTC Area of competence: -

If banned, date; if not banned, reasons: -

#### Legal obligation

Reference of laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

-

Text of the laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

-

### REQ 2.90bj1707

#### ONLY APPLICABLE TO PAKISTAN

1. Monitoring, control, and surveillance actions are applicable to: -

2. Monitoring, control, and surveillance actions are: -

Additional MCS actions in place: -

#### Legal obligation

Reference of laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

-

Text of the laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

-

## Resolution 18/01 (binding on India)

### REQ 2.160bj1901

#### ONLY APPLICABLE TO INDIA

1. Actions taken to implement conservation and management measures in "Resolution 18/01 On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC area of competence" adopted by the Commission: -

2. CPC is subject to yellowfin tuna catch reductions: -

If Yes, YFT over-catch: -

3. The report on methods for achieving the yellowfin tuna catch reductions has been provided to the IOTC Secretariat: -

4. The methods for achieving the yellowfin tuna catch reductions implemented at national level are: -

Any method implemented and not listed above: -

5. Additional information: -

6. This requirement is not applicable: –

#### Legal obligation

Reference of laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

–

Text of the laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

–

#### REQ 2.180bj1901

ONLY APPLICABLE TO INDIA

1. CPC has PS/SP vessels on the Record of authorised vessels: –
2. The plan for reducing the use of supply vessel was provided for: –
3. This requirement is not applicable: –

#### Legal obligation

Reference of laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

–

Text of the laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

–

#### REQ 2.190bj1901

ONLY APPLICABLE TO INDIA

1 - CPC is subject to yellowfin tuna catch reductions:

–

2 - The catch of yellowfin tuna in 2021 reported to the IOTC Secretariat and the reductions were:

Fishing gear	Baseline year	YFT catch of baseline year	YFT catch in 2021 (T)	Reduction (%)
Purse seine	–	–	–	–
Longline	–	–	–	–
Gillnet	–	–	–	–
Pole and line	–	–	–	–

3 - This requirement is not applicable: –

#### Legal obligation

Reference of laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

–

Text of the laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

– –

### Resolution 19/01 (Binding on Indonesia, Iran, Madagascar, Oman and Somalia)

**REQ 2.160bj2101**

**ONLY APPLICABLE TO INDONESIA, THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, MADAGASCAR, OMAN AND SOMALIA**

1. Actions taken to implement conservation and management measures in "Resolution 19/01 On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC area of competence" adopted by the Commission: –
2. The CPC is subject to yellowfin tuna catch reductions: –
- If Yes, overcatch: –
3. The report on methods for achieving the yellowfin tuna catch reductions has been provided to the IOTC Secretariat: –
- If No, report uploaded: –
4. The methods for achieving the yellowfin tuna catch reductions implemented at national level are: –
- Additional methods: –
5. Additional information: –
6. This requirement is not applicable: –

**Legal obligation**

Reference of laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

–

Text of the laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

–

**REQ 2.170bj2101**

**ONLY APPLICABLE TO INDONESIA, THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, MADAGASCAR, OMAN AND SOMALIA**

- 1 - CPC has PS/SP vessels on the Record of authorised vessels: –
- 2 - The information on purse seiners served by each supply vessel in 2023 has been provided to the Secretariat: –
- 3 - This requirement is not applicable: –

**Legal obligation**

Reference of laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

–

Text of the laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

–

**REQ 2.180bj2101**

**ONLY APPLICABLE TO INDONESIA, THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, MADAGASCAR, OMAN AND SOMALIA**

1. CPC has PS/SP vessels on the Record of authorised vessels: –
2. The plan for reducing the use of supply vessel was provided for: –
3. This requirement is not applicable: –

**Legal obligation**

Reference of laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

–

Text of the laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

–

**REQ 2.190bj2101**

**ONLY APPLICABLE TO INDONESIA, THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, MADAGASCAR, OMAN AND SOMALIA**

- 1 - CPC is subject to yellowfin tuna catch reductions: –
- 2 - The catch of yellowfin tuna in 2021 reported to the IOTC Secretariat and the reductions were:

Fishing gear	Baseline year	YFT catch of baseline year	YFT catch in 2021 (T)	Reduction (%)
Purse seine	–	–	–	–
Longline	–	–	–	–

<b>Gillnet</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Pole and line</b>	-	-	-	-

3 - This requirement is not applicable: -

#### **Legal obligation**

Reference of laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

-

Text of the laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

-

#### **REQ 2.200bj2101**

**ONLY APPLICABLE TO INDONESIA, THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, MADAGASCAR, OMAN AND SOMALIA**

1. I have reported gillnet catch in 2022, I have gillnet fishing vessels on the Record of authorised vessels, the gillnet fleet was active in the IOTC Area of Competence: -
2. Level of implementation of paragraph 20 - Phasing out or convert gillnet fishing vessels to other gears: -
3. Level of implementation of paragraph 21 - Set gillnets at 2m depth from the surface in gillnet fisheries: -
4. Level of implementation of paragraph 22 - Increase observer coverage or field sampling in gillnet fishing vessels by 10% using alternative data collection methodologies (electronic or human): -
5. This requirement is not applicable: -

#### **Legal obligation**

Reference of laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

-

Text of the laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force related to this requirement:

-