



15 June 2023

IOTC CIRCULAR 2023-40

Dear Sir/Madam

REPORTING OF MANDATORY FISHERIES STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 2022 TO THE IOTC

This letter provides the first reminder for the reporting of mandatory fisheries statistics according to the provisions set in IOTC Resolutions [15/01](#), [15/02](#), [12/04](#), [12/06](#), [13/04](#), [13/05](#), [17/05](#), [18/02](#), [18/05](#), [18/07](#), [19/01](#), [19/02](#), [19/03](#), and [21/01](#).

Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs) of the IOTC that have not yet submitted complete statistics for the statistical year 2022 are encouraged to provide this information no later than 30 June 2023.

For all CPCs reporting on longline fisheries, the data may be submitted as *preliminary* with the deadline for the submission of *final* data being no later than 30 December 2023.

All data should *preferably* be submitted using the recommended IOTC [forms](#) available as MS Excel spreadsheets and designed to provide guidance to the CPCs on the required fields and contents expected for each type of dataset to be reported to the IOTC Secretariat. The IOTC forms greatly facilitate the management of the data received through their harmonisation while ensuring the CPCs comply with IOTC standards and code lists. The [notes for the completion of IOTC forms](#) and the [guidelines for the reporting of fisheries statistics to the IOTC](#) provide details on how to compile the original data and fill the forms. CPCs are requested to refer to **Table 1** below to determine the number and extent of file submissions for each type of dataset expected by the deadlines.

CPCs are advised to submit all statistical data either by email *exclusively* to IOTC-Statistics@fao.org (with IOTC-Secretariat@fao.org in copy) or through the [e-MARIS](#) platform. The subject of the e-mail should include a clear reference to the submitting CPC and to the IOTC resolution(s) the data are related to (e.g., <CPC_code>_15/02_4SF).

For reasons of transparency and security, the submission of official data via file sharing services (e.g., *Dropbox*, *Google Drive*, *Microsoft OneDrive* or similar) will not be accepted. CPCs are requested to contact the IOTC Secretariat in advance if files are too large to be sent by email.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat should you require any additional information concerning the above.

Yours sincerely

Christopher O'Brien
Executive Secretary

Attachments:

- Nil

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.

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Table 1. Details on the number and structure of the data files expected by the IOTC Secretariat for each type of dataset along with the IOTC forms recommended for reporting.

Type of dataset	Expected number of submissions for the statistical year	Form
Annual retained catches	<u>One file per year</u> , including data for <u>all fisheries and species</u>	1-RC
Annual retained catches of yellowfin tuna ¹	<u>One file per year</u> , including data for <u>all fisheries</u>	1-RC-YFT
Annual discards	<u>One file per year</u> , including data for <u>all fisheries and species</u>	1-DI
Reporting status matrix	<u>One file per year</u> , including data for <u>all fishery categories and species</u>	1-DR
Fishing crafts ²	<u>One file per year</u> , including data for <u>all fisheries and boat sizes</u>	2-FC
Geo-referenced catch and effort (coastal fisheries)	<u>One file per fishery per year</u> , each including data for <u>all species</u> interacted with by the fishery	3-AR
Geo-referenced catch and effort (surface fisheries)	<u>One file per fishery per year</u> , each including data for <u>all species</u> interacted with by the fishery	3-CE
Geo-referenced catch and effort (longline fisheries)	<u>One file per fishery per year</u> , each including data for <u>all species</u> interacted with by the fishery	3-CE
DFAD effort and activities	<u>One file per fishery per year</u> , each including data for <u>all species</u> interacted with by the fishery	3-FA
Supply vessels effort	<u>One file per year</u>	3-SU
Size-frequency	<u>One file per year for each gear and species combination</u> for which samples are available	4-SF
Fish prices ³	<u>One file per year</u>	7-PR

¹ Only applies to CPCs that are still bound by IOTC Resolution 19/01, i.e., Indonesia, I.R. Iran, Madagascar, Oman, and Somalia

² Submission of this dataset is voluntary.

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