

26 July 2023

IOTC CIRCULAR 2023–46

Dear Madam / Sir

INVITATION TO THE 12TH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON ALLOCATION CRITERIA 16 – 19 OCTOBER 2023

I have the honour to extend to you an invitation to participate in the upcoming 12th meeting of the Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria (TCAC12).

The meeting will be held on Eden Island, Seychelles (Eden Bleu Hotel).

Meeting will be held in a hybrid format

The meeting will allow for physical participation and participation by videoconference.

Please note, the numbers of people able to participate in-person are yet to be ascertained and will depend on the venue and any COVID-19 restrictions in place at the time. You will be advised of any restrictions as soon as possible.

Meeting Participation fund (for developing Contracting Party Members only)

The participation of one representative from developing contracting parties of the IOTC may be supported through the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund (MPF). The applications for the MPF, must be received by the IOTC Secretariat (iotc-secretariat@fao.org) no later than 60 days before the start of the meeting (i.e. 17 August 2023). NOTE – this 60-day deadline will be strictly enforced.

Applications must include:

- i) an official nomination letter
- ii) the contact details of the nominee (with a copy of his/her passport).

The rules of procedure for the administration of the MPF as well as guidelines for applying to the MPF can be found in Appendix VIII of the IOTC Rules of Procedure (click [here](#)). Please be reminded that there is no provision in the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2022) for the IOTC Secretariat to consider late applications.

Credentials

In accordance with Rule III of the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2022), official credentials are required to participate in the meetings. For your convenience, a draft letter of credentials (from Appendix I of the IOTC Rules of Procedure, 2022) is available [here](#).

Contracting Parties & Cooperating Non-contracting Parties (CPCs)

Rule III.1 of the IOTC Rules of Procedure states: “Such Letter of Credentials shall conform to the standard set out in Appendix I.” Please also refer to [IOTC Circular 2021-49](#) on the content of Credentials.

The Credentials are requested to be sent no later than 15 days before each meeting to iotc-secretariat@fao.org. Only credentialed individuals will receive a Zoom link to join the meetings.

Invited Experts and Observers

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

IOTC Observers and Invited Experts are also requested to submit a similar Letter of Credentials. The credentials should also include the email address and contact phone number for each recipient. Credentials are requested no later than 15 days before each meeting to iotc-secretariat@fao.org.

Calendar of important dates for TCAC12

Dates	TCAC12	Who	Notes
17 August 2023	Deadline for receiving applications for the Meeting Participation Fund	Eligible CPs	60 days before the meeting
16 September 2023	Provisional agenda posted on the TCAC12 web page	Secretariat / Chair	30 days before the meeting
1 October	Deadline for receiving Credentials	All	15 days before the meeting
16 October	Opening of the meeting	All	

Further information

As requested by the TCAC11, the Secretariat has produced a template of a draft calendar that illustrates how the allocation process would be implemented over a normal year. This template can be found [here](#)

Version 6 of the draft Allocation Regime has also already been posted on the TCAC12 webpage. I encourage delegations to continue to meet inter-sessionally, bilaterally or in smaller groups, on any difficult issues, to see if compromises can be made, and progress can be achieved. I remain available should delegations wish for me to chair or mediate such meetings.

Information concerning the meeting, including the agenda, other meeting documents, and Zoom instructions will be posted on the IOTC website TCAC12 meeting page [\[click here\]](#).

Yours sincerely

Nadia Bouffard



TCAC Chairperson