



IOTC CIRCULAR

2023-47

Dear Sir/Madam

REGARDING IOTC YELLOWFIN TUNA ALLOCATED CATCH LIMITS FOR 2023

The estimated allocated yellowfin tuna catch limits for 2023 were previously provided in [Circular 2022-56](#). Subsequent revisions to catch data from several members, as well as a clarification on the interpretation of Resolution 21/01 during S27 and captured under point 9.2 of the [meeting report](#) necessitated a re-estimation of the allocations. The revised tables are provided below.

Resolution 21/01

[IOTC Resolution 21/01](#) On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC Area of Competence came into force on 17 December 2021 and applies to all CPCs except India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Madagascar, Oman and Somalia. Paragraph 25 of Resolution 21/01 requires the IOTC Secretariat, under the advice of the Scientific Committee, to prepare and circulate the below table of 2023 provisional allocated catch limits disaggregated as per the conditions set out in paragraphs 5 – 11.

Background on the calculations and discussions regarding these allocated catch limits are available in the Report of the 25th Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee which is posted on the [SC25 meeting page](#).

2022 (calculated) and 2023 (estimated) allocated catch limits for yellowfin tuna

CPC	Base allocated catch limit	Allocated catch limits (t)	
		2022	2023
Australia	2,000	2,000	2,000
Bangladesh	2,000	2,000	2,000
China	10,557	7,658	8,035
Comoros	5,279	5,279	5,279
Eritrea	2,000	2,000	2,000
European Union	73,078	72,091	72,091
France (Territories)	500	500	500
Japan	4,003	4,003	4,003
Kenya	3,654	3,654	3,654
Korea Rep. of	9,056	9,056	9,056
Malaysia	2,000	2,000	2,000
Maldives	47,195	47,195	47,195
Mauritius	10,490	10,490	10,490
Mozambique	2,000	2,000	2,000
Pakistan	14,468	14,468	14,468
Philippines	700	700	700
Seychelles	39,577	36,587	37,732
South Africa	2,000	2,000	2,000
Sri Lanka	33,245	33,245	33,245
Sudan	2,000	2,000	2,000
Tanzania United Rep. of	3,905	3,905	3,905

Thailand	2,000	2,000	2,000
United Kingdom	500	500	500
Yemen	26,262	26,262	26,262
Totals	298,469	291,593	293,115

Resolution 19/01

[IOTC Resolution 19/01](#) *On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC Area of Competence* came into force on 28 December 2019 and applies to Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Madagascar, Oman and Somalia. Paragraph 24 of Resolution 19/01 requires the IOTC Secretariat, under the advice of the Scientific Committee, to prepare and circulate a table of 2023 allocated catch limits disaggregated as per the conditions set out in paragraphs 5 – 10.

Background on the calculations and discussions regarding these allocated catch limits are available in the Report of the 25th Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee which is posted on the [SC25 meeting page](#).

2022 (calculated) and 2023 (estimated) catch limits for yellowfin tuna

CPC	Gear (industrial)	Base allocated catch limit	Allocated catch limits (t)	
			2022	2023
Indonesia*	Longline	2,918	2,819	2,819
	Purse seine	4,833	3,961	3,961
Iran I.R.	Gillnet	21,961	-398	-3,803

No catch limits apply for Madagascar, Oman and Somalia in 2023.

*YFT catches for Indonesia were estimated by Indonesia for the following vessels, which are considered as industrial: For LL - (i) LOA >24m->85GT - hooks > 1800 & <1800; (ii) LOA <24m operated outside EEZ hooks >1800 & <1800. For PS - (i) LOA>24m & >115GT; (ii) LOA<24m operated outside EEZ.

Resolution 18/01

[IOTC Resolution 18/01](#) *On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC Area of Competence* came into force on 4 October 2018 and applies to India.

Resolution 18/01 pertains to all fishing vessels targeting tuna and tuna like species in the Indian Ocean of 24 meters overall length and over, and those under 24 meters if they fish outside the EEZ of their flag State, within the IOTC area of competence. India currently does not have such vessels matching these criteria; therefore, no catch limits apply for India in 2023.

Please note: the limits for 2023 are *estimated* on the assumption that catches for 2022, which are not yet available, will not exceed the limit for that year. CPCs are currently in the best position to calculate a more precise estimate of their allocated catch limits for 2023 using the information they have collected at the national level for 2022.

Yours sincerely



Paul de Bruyn
Executive Secretary

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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