



REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, REGIONAL INTEGRATION
AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE**

No. 9/2023 (18570/46/142 V25)

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade of the Republic of Mauritius presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and has the honour to refer to the 12th Meeting of the Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria (TCAC12) of the IOTC to be held from 16 to 19 October 2023 in Eden Island, Seychelles.

The Ministry has the honour to transmit copy of two statements by the Republic of Mauritius on Agenda items 2 and 5, respectively. The Ministry would appreciate it if the attached statements by Mauritius could be annexed to the report of the meeting and be posted on the IOTC website. The original statements are being despatched.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade of the Republic of Mauritius avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) the assurances of its highest consideration.

Port Louis, 13 October 2023



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12th Meeting of IOTC Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria
16-19 October 2023, Eden Island, Seychelles

Agenda Item 2: Letter of Credentials and Admission of Observers

Statement by the Republic of Mauritius

The long-standing position of the Republic of Mauritius as regards the United Kingdom's purported membership of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) as a "coastal State situated wholly or partly within the Area [of competence of the Commission]" remains unchanged. This is all the more relevant in the context of the commitment given by the United Kingdom at the last Session of the Commission that it would clarify the status of its IOTC membership before the end of the year.

The Republic of Mauritius would like to take this opportunity to inform this Committee that the Republic of Mauritius and the United Kingdom have decided to begin negotiations on the exercise of sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago.

This statement also applies to other agenda items and to all documents circulated for this meeting.

The Republic of Mauritius requests that this statement be annexed to the report of this meeting.

12th Meeting of IOTC Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria
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Agenda Item 5: Allocation Criteria

Statement by the Republic of Mauritius

The Republic of Mauritius reiterates the statements which it had made with regard to the Chagos Archipelago and the Island of Tromelin under agenda item 6 at the 10th meeting of the Technical Committee held from 20 to 23 June 2022 in Seychelles and which are annexed to the report of that meeting (Document IOTC-2022-TCAC10-R[E], Appendix 4).

The Republic of Mauritius also reaffirms that since the Chagos Archipelago and the Island of Tromelin form an integral part of its territory, no State other than the Republic of Mauritius can be granted any allocations in respect of the Chagos Archipelago and the Island of Tromelin.

The Republic of Mauritius requests that this statement be annexed to the report of this meeting.