



**REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS**

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

**No. 11/2023 (18570/46/142V25)**

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 holding of the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee to be held from 4 to 8 December 2023 in Mumbai, India.

The Ministry has the honour to transmit copy of two statements by the Republic of Mauritius on Agenda item 6. 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 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade of the Republic of Mauritius avails itself of this opportunity to renew to Secretariat of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission the assurances of its highest consideration. *ABJ*

**Port Louis, 30 November 2023**

**The Secretariat  
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission  
P.O. Box 1011 Victoria  
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**26<sup>th</sup> Session of IOTC Scientific Committee**  
**4-8 December 2023, Mumbai, India**

**Agenda Item 6: National Reports from CPCs**

**Statement by the Republic of Mauritius**

**National Report submitted by the United Kingdom**

The Republic of Mauritius will not repeat its position on the issues raised in the National Report submitted by the United Kingdom since that position is well known to this Committee.

The Republic of Mauritius would like to take this opportunity to inform this Committee that the Republic of Mauritius and the United Kingdom are currently engaged in negotiations on the exercise of sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago.

However, the Republic of Mauritius wishes to point out that its position with regard to the purported membership of the United Kingdom in the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission as a coastal State and on the issues raised in the National Report of the United Kingdom remains unchanged.

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

**26<sup>th</sup> Session of IOTC Scientific Committee**  
**4-8 December 2023, Mumbai, India**

**Agenda Item 6: National Reports from CPCs**

**Statement by the Republic of Mauritius**

**National Report submitted by France**

The Republic of Mauritius wishes to point out that the Island of Tromelin is not a French territory, as claimed by France in its National Report.

The Republic of Mauritius reiterates that the Island of Tromelin forms an integral part of its territory and rejects France's sovereignty claim over that island as well as France's claim to any sovereign right or jurisdiction over the Exclusive Economic Zone adjacent to that island.

Moreover, the Republic of Mauritius does not recognize the validity of the inclusion of the Island of Tromelin in the French Southern and Antarctic Lands (TAAF) or the Scattered Islands/Iles Eparses.

The Republic of Mauritius reaffirms that it has full and complete sovereignty over the Island of Tromelin, including its maritime zones.

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