



29 February 2024

IOTC CIRCULAR 2024-10

Dear Madam / Sir

REQUEST FOR OBSERVER STATUS FROM OCEANA

Please find attached a request letter from Oceana to participate as an Observer to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission processes.

In accordance with Rule XIV of the IOTC Rules of Procedure, Contracting Parties of the Commission may wish to allow Oceana to participate as an Observer given their interest in the IOTC as stipulated in the attached letter. Thus, unless any objections are received within 30 days of the date of this Circular, the IOTC Secretariat will consider that approval has been granted for the Executive Secretary to issue an invitation to the potential Observer to attend IOTC meetings accordingly.

Yours sincerely

Paul de Bruyn
Executive Secretary

Attachments:

- Letter from Oceana

Distribution

IOTC Contracting Parties: Australia, Bangladesh, China, Comoros, 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

28 February 2024

Ms. Jung-re Riley Kim
Chairperson of the Commission
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
Victoria Mahé, Seychelles
By email: IOTC-Secretariat@fao.org

RE: Application for Observer Status to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission


Dear Ms. Jung-re Riley Kim:

Please accept this application for observer status on behalf of Oceana, Inc., submitted in accordance with Article VII of the IOTC Agreement. Founded in 2001, Oceana, Inc. (Oceana) is the largest international advocacy organization dedicated solely to ocean conservation with a mission to protect and restore the world's oceans. We are overseen by a multinational board of directors experienced in marine science, governance, business and philanthropy, with a global headquarters in Washington, DC, USA, and offices in twelve fishing nations. Informed by the best available science, Oceana's campaigns have helped secure over 300 significant policy changes around the world.

In particular, Oceana shares with the IOTC the common objective of ensuring sustainable fisheries management. Our mutual goals include advancing the development of precautionary harvest strategies and improving policies aimed at mitigating the impact of international fishing on vulnerable species and ending illegal fishing. This is Oceana's first application to the IOTC Secretariat for observer status. The first meeting in which we would anticipate participating is the 28th Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.

Thank you for your consideration.

With kind regards,



James Simon
President, Oceana Inc.