

IOTC Agreement – Article X

Report of Implementation for the year 2023 (CoC21)

Deadline for submission: 14/3/2024

READING NOTES:

- This report is composed of 5 sections reporting on the implementation of IOTC Resolutions.
- Answers provided by CPCs are presented in **blue text**.
- A red dash ("-") indicates that no answer was provided.
- Sections in **light grey** are for requirements that do not apply to your CPC

Reporting CPC: Sri Lanka

Date of submission: 12 March 2024 - 12:51

You can consult your previous Implementation Report by [clicking here](#).

Notes:

- All dates in the Implementation report must be in the following format => dd/mm/yyyy
- All laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force must be uploaded in the requirement 1.5 named "Transposition of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures into national legislation".

PART A – LEGAL OBLIGATION

Articles X & XI.2 of the IOTC Agreement - Legal obligation – Transposition of IOTC CMMs into national legislation

Transposition of IOTC CMMs into national legislation

Reporting obligation CR N°1.5, IR

Legal obligation: Provide information on the status of the transposition of all the CMM obligations/reporting requirements into the national legislation.

1. A system or procedures exist to implement this binding obligation to transpose IOTC Resolutions in national legislation:

YES - Sri Lanka has system / procedure to implement this binding obligation: transpose IOTC Resolutions

a. System or procedures to implement this binding obligation - transposition of CMM :

Transposition of IOTC CMMs in national law

- 1)The DFAR administration has five technical divisions such as Fisheries Management, Development, Quality Control, Fishing Operation, Information Technology and Training & Investigation.
- 2)Duties are assigned for each division heads as per the power vested to the Director General in the sectionof the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act (FARA) no.2 of 1996.The progress of the duties assigned are being assessed annually.
- 3)Director fishing Operations has been assigned the duties of with regard to the IOTC such as and the implementation of the resolutions reporting the compliance, submission of annual reports, ,implementation of the resolutions, due reporting and participation in annual meetings.
- 4)Director Investigation conducts has been assigned duties of investigations and enforcement of law against the infringements reported. This includes inspection procedures, identification of infringements, evidence gathering, identification of prohibited fish species and geras, inspection of handling of navigational equipment and recordings etc and court procedures.
- 5)The National Plan of Control and Inspections of Fishing Vessels Sri Lanka (NPCISL) gives the procedure of legal enforcement.
- 6)The section 2 of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act no 02 of 1996 together with the amended made 2013(FARA act no.35 of 2013-attached) provided legal provisions for Sri Lanka to take actions against the violation of CMMS and also give effect to implementation of international and regional agreements.
- 7)Further under section 66 it is specifically defined the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, in which Sri Lanka is a member.

b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding obligation - non transposition of CMMs :

YES - System / procedures to implement this binding measure are specified/described in the below section

- 1)The DFAR administration has five technical divisions such as Fisheries Management, Development, Quality Control, Fishing Operation, Information Technology and Training & Investigation.
- 2)Duties are assigned for each division heads as per the power vested to the Director General in the sectionof the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act (FARA) no.2 of 1996.The progress of the duties assigned are being assessed annually.
- 3)Director fishing Operations has been assigned the duties of with regard to the IOTC such as and the implementation of the resolutions reporting the compliance, submission of annual reports, ,implementation of the resolutions, due reporting and participation in annual meetings.
- 4)Director Investigation conducts has been assigned duties of investigations and enforcement of law against the infringements reported. This includes inspection procedures, identification of infringements, evidence gathering, identification of prohibited fish species and geras, inspection of handling of navigational equipment and recordings etc and court procedures.
- 5)The National Plan of Control and Inspections of Fishing Vessels Sri Lanka (NPCISL) gives the procedure of legal enforcement.
- 6)The section 2 of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act no 02 of 1996 together with the amended made 2013(FARA act no.35 of 2013-attached) provided legal provisions for Sri Lanka to take actions against the violation of CMMS and also give effect to implementation of international and regional agreements.
- 7)Further under section 66 it is specifically defined the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, in which Sri Lanka is a member.

c. Action taken in relation to non-compliance with this binding obligation - non transposition of a CMM :

YES - Actions are described below

- 1)The DFAR administration has five technical divisions such as Fisheries Management, Development, Quality Control, Fishing Operation, Information Technology and Training & Investigation.

- 2) Duties are assigned for each division heads as per the power vested to the Director General in the sectionof the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act (FARA) no.2 of 1996. The progress of the duties assigned are being assessed annually.
- 3) Director fishing Operations has been assigned the duties of with regard to the IOTC such as and the implementation of the resolutions reporting the compliance, submission of annual reports, ,implementation of the resolutions, due reporting and participation in annual meetings.
- 4) Director Investigation conducts has been assigned duties of investigations and enforcement of law against the infringements reported. This includes inspection procedures, identification of infringements, evidence gathering, identification of prohibited fish species and geras, inspection of handling of navigational equipment and recordings etc and court procedures.
- 5) The National Plan of Control and Inspections of Fishing Vessels Sri Lanka (NPCISL) gives the procedure of legal enforcement.
- 6) The section 2 of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act no 02 of 1996 together with the amended made 2013(FARA act no.35 of 2013-attached) provided legal provisions for Sri Lanka to take actions against the violation of CMMS and also give effect to implementation of international and regional agreements.
- 7) Further under section 66 it is specifically defined the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, in which Sri Lanka is a member.
- 8) An evaluation is being done at the end of the year

2. All obligations of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) are fully transposed in the national legislation:

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NO – The transposition of IOTC Resolutions in the legislation of Sri Lanka is partial
Sri Lanka in a venture of bringing a new Fisheries Act by repealing the previous Act. The new act is drafted and to be adopted .
Once the new Act enacted the existing
legislations are to be amended and updated by incorporating the CMMS not
regulated.

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If NO, specify which Resolutions have not yet been transposed in your legislation:

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Attach National Legislation

a. Attach the laws, regulations and administrative instructions in force and ATF T&C with force of law, related to the IOTC Conservation and Management Measures:

[Fisheries and Aquatic Resources \(Amendment\) Act No.27 of 2023.pdf](#) [s Departure and Arrival of Mechanized Fishing Boats Regulations, No. 1 of 2023.pdf](#) [The Issuance of Certificates of Competence for Skippers \(Local Fishing Boats\) Amended Regulations 2024.pdf](#)

b. Comments/remarks about your submission and the implementation of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures:

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Provide additional information on the implementation of this obligation:

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PART B – Actions taken, under national legislation, in the previous year to implement CMMs adopted by the Commission

Actions taken to implement Resolution 23/01

1. Describe the actions taken, under national legislation, in the previous year to implement conservation and management measure "Resolution On Management of Anchored Fish Aggregating Devices (AFADs)"

CPC has transposed the CMM 23/01 into domestic legislation ?

NO - The transposition process in domestic legislation of the CMM 23/01 has not yet started.

2023 Anchored FADs management plan

1. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance with the obligation for vessels implementation of the DFADs management plan:

NO – NIL Report / Not Applicable - Sri Lanka has NO AFADs fishery in the EEZ, fishing for tuna and tuna like species under the IOTC mandate.

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are :

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b. System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance are :

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c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are :

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2. DFADs management plans reported for following year(s):

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3. Reporting/Updating the 2024 DFADs management plan:

AFAD management plan:

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4. The 2024 DFADs management plan is prepared in accordance with the Guideline (Annex I or II):

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Actions taken to implement Resolution 23/03

1. Describe the actions taken, under national legislation, in the previous year to implement conservation and management measure "" adopted by the Commission at its 27th Session (S27):

Sri Lanka has transposed the CMM 23/03 into domestic legislation ?

NO - The CMM 23/03 has not been transposed in domestic legislation.

Actions taken to implement Resolution 23/04

1. Describe the actions taken, under national legislation, in the previous year to implement conservation and management measure "" adopted by the Commission at its 27th Session (S27):

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Sri Lanka has transposed the CMM 23/04 into domestic legislation ?

NO - The transposition process in domestic legislation of the CMM 23/04 has not yet started.

Actions taken to implement Resolution 23/05

1. Describe the actions taken, under national legislation, in the previous year to implement conservation and management measure "" adopted by the Commission at its 27th Session (S27):

For Sri Lankan fishing vessels The fish catch shall be landed only in the ports of Sri Lanka and landing of fish in ports of other states or tranship fish to other boats at sea or in any port is prohibited.

For foreign fishing vessels transshipment is allowed under the regulation Port State Measures to. Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal Unreported and Unregulated Fishing Regulations 2015

Sri Lanka has transposed the CMM 23/05 into domestic legislation ?

YES - The CMM 23/05 has force of law in domestic legislation.

At sea transshipments – CPCs reports participating in the ROP

1. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance of Large Scale Tuna Longline Fishing Vessels (LSTLVs), that are 24 metres length overall and above, with the obligations of the IOTC regional observer programme (ROP) to monitor transhipment at sea:

NO – NIL Report / Not Applicable - Flag LSTLVs did not tranship at sea in 2022

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

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b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding measure are:

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c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

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2. I have participated in the IOTC regional observer programme (ROP) to monitor transhipment at sea in 2022:

NO - NIL report - Flag LSTLVs did not tranship at sea in 2022

3. The report on the list of LSTLVs & the quantities transhipped in 2022, and the report on the assessment of observer reports in 2022, is reported to the IOTC Secretariat:

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4. If YES, provide information on:

Number of LSTLVs having transhipped at sea in 2022: –

Quantities transhipped at sea (kg) in 2022: –

Report on transshipments in foreign ports

1. FOR ALL CPCs:

1.1. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance of Tuna Fishing Vessels (LSTVs) with the obligations of the IOTC regional observer programme - transshipments in foreign ports :

YES - Sri Lanka has systems & procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure, AND to take action in relation to potential infringements.

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

Transshipment in port obligations of Flag LSTVs, monitored and controlled by government fisheries administration with institutional procedures implemented • Control & enforcement regime over vessels with monitoring tools, VMS, logbooks/documentation & compliance observers, EMS

Sri Lankan Multiday Fishing Vessels (MFVs) equipped with the VMS transponders which have been engaged in fishing in Sri Lankan EEZ or beyond the EEZ are being monitored through the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) Software in 24*7 under the supervision of VMS staff. The FMC Staff give the priority for the search and rescue operations to save the fishermen lives at sea.

Sri Lanka prepared the document, which is titled "The National Plan of Control and Inspections of Fishing Vessels Sri Lanka" (NPCISL) for effective enforcement of the regularized CMMs for the National fishing vessels, Nationals and the foreign fishing vessels those enter to the ports of in Sri Lanka. This control and inspection plan includes the effective control over Fishing vessels such as marking of vessel and used gear, registration and licensing, catch data reporting and Verification, data collection as per international standards, vessels inspections on land, at sea, on board, in port and at departure and arrival of fishing trip, conducting on board observer programs, vessel monitoring systems, and radio communications etc

b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding measure are:

Established by national regulation implemented by Government

Sri Lanka prepared the document, which is titled "The National Plan of Control and Inspections of Fishing Vessels Sri Lanka" (NPCISL) for effective enforcement of the regularized CMMs for the National fishing vessels, Nationals and the foreign fishing vessels those enter to the ports of in Sri Lanka. This control and inspection plan includes the effective control over Fishing vessels such as marking of vessel and used gear, registration and licensing, catch data reporting and Verification, data collection as per international standards, vessels inspections on land, at sea, on board, in port and at departure and arrival of fishing trip, conducting on board observer programs, vessel monitoring systems, and radio communications etc

Appointed a dedicated officer (Director-fishing Operations) for coordination and monitoring of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMO)

Director (Fishing Operations) provide necessary reports for RFMOs (IOTC,FAO,EU)

Carrying out relevant activities regarding the existing international conventions regarding Sri Lanka fishing Industry.

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

Suspend/cancel/revoke a licence/ATF • Legal punitives actions - Fine imposed by court on beneficial owner/owner/operator • Administrative punitives actions - Fine imposed by administration on beneficial owner/owner/operator • Legal punitives actions - Fine imposed by court on fishing master and/or master • Administrative punitives actions - Fine imposed by administration on fishing master and/or master

The sanction on violations has been increased under the provisions of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No.35 of 2013

1. 2. Flag LSTVs have transhipped in foreign ports in 2023:

NO - NIL report - Flag LSTVs did not tranship in foreign ports in 2023

1.3. The report on the list of LSTVs & the quantities transhipped in foreign ports in 2023, provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

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Any comments/remarks about your submission and the implementation of this requirement:

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Comments/remarks about your submission and the implementation of this requirement:

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2. FOR MALDIVES ONLY:

2.1. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance of Flag Pole and line fishing vessel(s) and collector vessel(s) with the obligations of the IOTC regional observer programme - transhipments in port for Maldives:

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a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

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b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding measure are:

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c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

2. 2. Flag Pole and line fishing vessel(s) and collector vessel(s) have transhipped in 2023:

2.3. The reports on the list of Pole and line fishing vessel(s) and collector vessel(s) & the quantities transhipped in 2023, reported to the IOTC Secretariat:

Actions taken to implement Resolution 23/06

1. Describe the actions taken, under national legislation, in the previous year to implement conservation and management measure "" adopted by the Commission at its 27th Session (S27):

No Skipper/Master shall intentionally set purse seine around cetaceans and whale shark.

Sri Lanka has transposed the CMM 23/06 into domestic legislation?

YES - The CMM 23/06 has force of law in domestic legislation.

Report on Instances of cetaceans encircled, entangled in 2023

1. A system or procedures exist to implement this binding reporting obligation (Report on Instances of Cetaceans encircled):

YES - Sri Lanka has system / procedure to implement this binding reporting measure

a. System or procedures to implement this binding reporting obligation:

YES - System / procedure are described below

The sanction on violations has been increased to a adequate severity up to Rupees one million under the provisions of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No.35 of 2013

b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

YES - System / procedure are described below

The sanction on violations has been increased to a adequate severity up to Rupees one million under the provisions of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No.35 of 2013

c. Action to be taken in relation to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

YES - Actions are described below

The sanction on violations has been increased to a adequate severity up to Rupees one million under the provisions of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No.35 of 2013

REPORT ON INSTANCES FOR THE 3 CATEGORIES OF VESSEL

2. Cetaceans have been encircled by the purse seine nets as reported by Sri Lanka flag vessels in 2023:

a. Purse seine vessels:

NO - NIL Report - No encirclement instance of cetaceans caught by purse seine net reported by Sri Lanka flag purse seine vessels in 2023

b. Reporting instance by purse seine vessel:

For purse seine vessel, report the total number of instance in 2023:

0

Cetaceans species encircled:

None

c. Not applicable:

In 2023, no Sri Lanka fishing vessel fishing on FAD operating in the IOTC Area of Competence

3. Cetaceans have been entangled by gillnetters as reported by flag vessels in 2023:

a. Gillnetters vessel:

NO - NIL Report - No entanglement instance of cetaceans caught by gillnet reported by Sri Lanka flag gillnet vessels in 2023

b. Reporting instance by gillnet vessel

For gillnet vessel, report the total number of instance in 2023:

0

Cetaceans species entangled:

None

c. Not applicable:

In 2023, no Sri Lanka fishing vessel fishing on FAD operating in the IOTC Area of Competence

4. Cetaceans have been entangled in Fish Aggregating Devices, DFAD/AFAD, as reported by flag vessels in 2023:

a. Vessel fishing on DFAD or AFAD:

NO - NIL Report - No entanglement instance of cetaceans caught in Fish Aggregating Devices as reported by Sri Lanka flag fishing vessels in 2023

b. Reporting instance by vessel fishing on DFAD

For DFAD, report the total number of instances in 2023:

0

Cetaceans species entangled:

None

c. Reporting instance by vessel fishing on AFAD

For AFAD, report the total number of instances in 2023:

0

Cetaceans species entangled:

None

d. Not applicable: In 2023, no Sri Lanka fishing vessel fishing on FAD operating in the IOTC Area of Competence

5. Reporting of cases:

Sri Lanka has national legislation for protecting cetaceans, the data on instances of cetaceans encircled/entangled have been provided to the IOTC Scientific Committee, Compliance Committee and Working Party on the Implementation of Conservation and Management Measures consideration

Comments/remarks about your submission and the implementation of this requirement:

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Actions taken to implement Resolution 23/07

1. Describe the actions taken, under national legislation, in the previous year to implement conservation and management measure "" adopted by the Commission at its 27th Session (S27):

Sri Lanka prepared the document, which is titled "The National Plan of Control and Inspections of Fishing Vessels Sri Lanka" (NPCISL) for effective enforcement of the regularized CMMs for the National fishing vessels, Nationals and the foreign fishing vessels those enter to the ports of in Sri Lanka. This control and inspection plan includes the effective control over Fishing vessels such as marking of vessel and used gear, registration and licensing, catch data reporting and Verification, data collection as per international standards, vessels inspections on land, at sea, on board, in port and at departure and arrival of fishing trip, conducting on board observer programs, vessel monitoring systems, and radio communications etc.

Sea bird catches are not reported in Sri Lanka due to the nature of the fishery and less availability of sea birds species in the high seas around Sri Lanka. Seabirds are not interacting with long liners either line is setting or line hauling mostly due to the low height of the small boats without sophisticated super structure. The National Aquatic Resources and Research Development Agency (NARA) has done two short-term studies on sea birds through comprehensive port sampling and onboard observation study made in research vessels in the high seas of Bay of Bengal. The findings were present at the WPEB in 2014. Thus there is no mitigation measures in applied to prevent seabird interactions and Sri Lanka and has not developed the NPOA-Sea birds. Observers are not deployed in the small vessels due to space and safety restrictions. No vessels operated south of 25°S.

In 2021/22 DFAR has prepared and published leaflets on live release of seabirds in three languages and distributed among fishermen and awareness is being conducted

Keeping the records of shark catches including incidental catches, release/discard in live or dead ones of sharks, mammals, turtles and sea birds is legally mandatory. There is a separate cage in the log book to report incidental catches of sea birds.

Sri Lanka has transposed the CMM 23/07 into domestic legislation?

YES - The CMM 23/07 has force of law in domestic legislation.

Longline vessels to use mitigation measures south of 25°S

1. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance with the obligation, for all Sri Lanka longline vessels, to use at least two of the three mitigation measures:

YES - Sri Lanka has systems & procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure, AND to take action in relation to potential infringements.

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

Obligation longliner use Seabird mitigation measures, monitored and controlled by government fisheries administration with institutional procedures implemented • Control & enforcement regime over vessels with monitoring tools, VMS, logbooks/documentation & compliance observers, EMS • At sea inspection procedures (SOP) implemented by National MCS agencies include verification

of this Obligation longliner use Seabird mitigation measures • In port inspection procedures (SOP) implemented by National MCS agencies include verification of this Obligation longliner use Seabird mitigation measures
Sri Lanka prepared the document, which is titled “The National Plan of Control and Inspections of Fishing Vessels Sri Lanka” (NPCISL) for effective enforcement of the regularized CMMs for the National fishing vessels, Nationals and the foreign fishing vessels those enter to the ports of in Sri Lanka. This control and inspection plan includes the effective control over Fishing vessels such as marking of vessel and used gear, registration and licensing, catch data reporting and Verification, data collection as per international standards, vessels inspections on land, at sea, on board, in port and at departure and arrival of fishing trip, conducting on board observer programs, vessel monitoring systems, and radio communications etc.

In 2022 DFAR has prepared and published leaflets on live release of seabirds in three languages and distributed among fishermen and awareness is being conducted.

Keeping the records of shark catches including incidental catches, release/discard in live or dead ones of sharks, mammals, turtles and sea birds is legally mandatory. There is a separate cage in the log book to report incidental catches of sea birds.

b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding measure are:

Established by national regulation implemented by Government

The sanction on violations has been increased under the provisions of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No.35 of 2013

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

Legal punitives actions - Fine imposed by court on beneficial owner/owner/operator • Administrative punitives actions - Fine imposed by administration on beneficial owner/owner/operator

The sanction on violations has been increased under the provisions of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No.35 of 2013

2. The obligation for all Sri Lanka longline vessels to use at least two of the three mitigation measures:

Is required/implemented by national legislation 01/09/2024

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Actions taken to implement Resolution 23/08

1. Describe the actions taken, under national legislation, in the previous year to implement conservation and management measure "" adopted by the Commission at its 27th Session (S27):

*Pilot project on EMS is being conducted under the technical assistance of EJ/IOTC for the small vessels of Sri Lanka to increase to observer courage.

*One more set of EMS equipment to be installed.

Sri Lanka has transposed the CMM 23/08 into domestic legislation?

NO - The CMM 23/08 has not been transposed in domestic legislation.

Actions taken to implement Resolution 23/09

1. Describe the actions taken in the previous year to implement conservation and management measure "" adopted by the Commission at its 27th Session (S27):

Not applicable

Actions taken to implement Resolution 23/10

1. Describe the actions taken in the previous year to implement conservation and management measure "" adopted by the Commission at its 27th Session (S27):

Sri Lanka has transposed the CMM 23/10 into domestic legislation?

NO - The CMM 23/10 has not been transposed in domestic legislation.

Part C – Actions taken, under national legislation, to implement CMMs adopted by the Commission in previous Sessions which have not been reported previously

1. Actions taken, under national legislation, to implement conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission in previous Sessions, and which have not been reported previously:

[*Most of the Conservation and Management measures adopted by the Commission in previous Sessions are incorporated to the National Legislation of Sri Lanka.](#)

2. We have taken actions, under national legislation, to implement conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission in previous Sessions:

[Yes](#)

Part D – Data and information reporting requirements for CPCs to be included in this report

Resolution 01/03 Establishing a scheme to promote compliance by non-contracting party vessels with resolutions established by IOTC – Observations of non-contracting parties, entities or fishing entities indicating fishing contrary to IOTC CMMs

Information required: Observations of non-contracting parties, entities or fishing entities indicating fishing contrary to IOTC CMM

1. A system or procedures exist to implement this binding reporting obligation: "Report on observations of non-contracting parties, entities or fishing entities indicating fishing contrary to IOTC CMM"

NO – NIL Report / Not Applicable for 2023 – Sri Lanka has no observation of vessel fishing contrary to IOTC Conservation or Management Measures in the IOTC Area of Competence

a. System or procedures to implement this binding reporting obligation :

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b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

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c. Action to be taken in relation to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

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2. Observation/Sightings report of Non-Contracting Party, Entity or fishing Entity vessels, indicating that there are grounds for believing that these vessels are fishing contrary to IOTC Conservation or Management Measures

NO - NIL report for 2023 – Sri Lanka has no observation of vessel fishing contrary to IOTC Conservation or Management Measures in the IOTC Area of Competence

Actions taken & additional information to report?

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Information required: information on the results of inspections of vessels of NCPs

1. A system or procedures exist to implement this binding reporting obligation: "Prepare and report on information on the results of inspections of vessels of NCPs"

NO – NIL Report / Not Applicable for 2023 - no inspection conducted on NCP vessel by Sri Lanka

a. System or procedures to implement this binding reporting obligation:

YES - System / procedure are described below

a) verify, to the extent possible, that the boat identification documentation onboard and information relating to the owner of the boat is true, complete and accurate, including through appropriate contacts with the flag state or international records of boats if necessary

b) verify that the boat's flag and markings (e.g. name, registration number, International Maritime Organisation (IMO) ship identification number, international radio call sign and other markings, main dimensions) are consistent with the information contained in the documentation

c) verify, to the extent possible, that the authorizations for fishing and fishing related activities are true, complete, accurate and consistent with the information provided in accordance with schedule II

d) review all other relevant documentation and records held onboard, including, to the extent possible, those in electronic format and vessel monitoring system (VMS) data from the flag State or Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) Secretariat or other relevant Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs). Relevant documentation may include logbooks, catch, transshipment and trade documents, crew lists, storage plans and drawings, descriptions of fish holds, and documents required pursuant to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

e) examine, to the extent possible, all relevant fishing gear onboard, including any gear stowed out of sight as well as related devices, and to the extent possible, verify that they are in conformity with the conditions of the authorizations. The fishing gear shall, to the extent possible, also be checked to ensure that features such as the mesh and twine size, devices and attachments, dimensions and configuration of nets, pots, dredges, hook sizes

and numbers are in conformity with applicable regulations and that the markings correspond to those authorized for the boat

- f) determine, to the extent possible, whether the fish on board was harvested in accordance with the applicable authorizations
- g) examine the fish, including by sampling, to determine its quantity and composition. In doing so, inspectors may open containers where the fish has been pre-packed and move the catch or containers to ascertain the composition of fish holds. Such examination may include inspections of product type and determination of nominal weight
- h) determine whether there is sufficient evidence to believe that a boat has been engaged in Illegal, Unreported, Unregulated (IUU) fishing or fishing related activities in support of such fishing
- i) provide the master of the boat with the report containing the result of the inspection, including possible measures that could be taken, signed by the inspector and the master. The master's signature on the report shall serve only as acknowledgment of the receipt of a copy of the report. The master shall be given the opportunity to add any comments or objection to the report, and as appropriate, to contact the relevant Authorities of the flag State in particular where the master has serious difficulties in understanding the content of the report. A copy of the report shall be provided to the master
- i) arrange, where necessary and possible, for translation of relevant documentation

b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

YES - System / procedure are described below

c. Action to be taken in relation to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

YES - Actions are described below

Inform to the IOTC secretariat, Flag country and other Relevant RFMO's with regard to non-compliance

2. Reporting on inspections in ports of vessels of Non-Contracting Parties, Entities or fishing Entities:

NO - NIL report 2023 - no inspection conducted on NCP vessel by Sri Lanka

Resolution 01/06 Concerning the IOTC bigeye tuna statistical document programme

Information required: Annual report on the IOTC bigeye tuna statistical document programme in 2022

1. A system or procedures to monitor and to ensure compliance with export of frozen bigeye tuna exists:

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

Export of frozen bigeye tuna monitored by government fisheries administration with institutional procedures implemented

1. Export, import or re-export of fish and fishery products shall be subject to the terms and conditions imposed by the Director-General in accordance with international obligations and to the provisions of the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 235) and the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969.

2. Exporter, importer or re-exporter of any Fish or Fishery product shall fulfill the requirements stipulated in accordance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

3. Any person engaged in Export, import and re-export of any Fish or Fishery products shall register with the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources for that purpose

4. Any person who intends to register an establishment to export, import and re-export of fish or fishery products shall submit an application in Form 1, Form 2 and Form 3 respectively to the Director General subject to terms and conditions issued by him

5. Annual registration fee shall be paid by the applicant together with the application for registration of any establishment.

6. Any authorized officer shall conduct an on site inspection at the relevant establishment or company where applicable according to the guidelines on export, import and re-export of any Fish or Fishery product.

b. System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance are:

System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance are not listed above, we specify and describe them in the below section

Any person contravenes any provisions of Fish and Fishery Products, Export, Import and Re-export Management Regulations 2017, the Director-General shall suspend or cancel the registration for a period not exceeding six months, taking into consideration the magnitude of such contravention.

The Division of fish quality Control and the Division of fishing operations work closely to ensure the legality and the traceability of the fish and fishery products intended for export

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

Actions to potential infringements are not listed above, we specify and describe them in the bellow section

The Division of fish quality Control and the Division of fishing operations work closely to ensure the legality and the traceability of the fish and fishery products intended for export

EXPORT:

2. Frozen bigeye tunas were exported in 2022:

YES - Frozen Bigeye tuna were exported

Total quantity of frozen bigeye tunas exported in 2022 (kg):

-

Country' vessels from which the bigeye tunas were exported:

-

3. If you have exported bigeye tuna in 2022, report the result(s) of the examination between YOUR EXPORT Sri Lanka data and the IMPORT data declared by IMPORTING CPC(s):

- -

- -

- -

- - -

When significant difference(s) were identified between Sri Lanka EXPORT data and the IMPORTING DATA from other CPCs, report the results of the examinations below:

-

Resolution 07/01 To promote compliance by nationals of CPCs with IOTC conservation and management measures

Information required: reports on actions and measures taken to investigate allegations and/or reports on IUU fishing involving nationals

1 - Reporting on actions and measures taken to investigate allegations and/or reports on IUU fishing involving nationals:

YES - Sri Lanka has taken actions/measures to investigate allegations/reports on IUU fishing involving Sri Lanka nationals

Resolution 11/02 Prohibition of fishing on data buoys

Information required: Report on observations of damaged data buoys in 2023

1. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance with the reporting any data buoys observed to be damaged/ inoperable:

NO – NIL Report / Not Applicable - No report received from flag vessels in 2023

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

Reporting data buoys observed to be damaged/ inoperable monitored and controlled by government fisheries administration with institutional procedures implemented

Sri Lanka prepared the document, which is titled "The National Plan of Control and Inspections of Fishing Vessels Sri Lanka" (NPCISL) for effective enforcement of the regularized CMMs for the National fishing vessels, Nationals and the foreign fishing vessels those enter to the ports of in Sri Lanka. This control and inspection plan includes the effective control over Fishing vessels such as marking of vessel and used gear, registration and licensing, catch data reporting and Verification, data collection as per international standards, vessels inspections on land, at sea, on board, in port and at departure and arrival of fishing trip, conducting on board observer programs, vessel monitoring systems, and radio communications etc.

b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

Established by national regulation implemented by Government

Sri Lanka prepared the document, which is titled "The National Plan of Control and Inspections of Fishing Vessels Sri Lanka" (NPCISL) for effective enforcement of the regularized CMMs for the National fishing vessels, Nationals and the foreign fishing vessels those enter to the ports of in Sri Lanka.

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

Suspend/cancel/revoke a licence/ATF • Legal punitives actions - Fine imposed by court on beneficial owner/owner/operator •

Administrative punitives actions - Fine imposed by administration on beneficial owner/owner/operator

2. Reporting observations of damaged data buoys in 2023:

-

NO – NIL Report / Not Applicable - No report received from flag vessels in 2023

Resolution 22/04 On a Regional observer scheme

Information required: description of protocols supporting observer programs (all vessels at sea) and sampling schemes (artisanal vessels landings), the number of fishing vessels & of fishing effort sampled, the coverage achieved by gear type

1. A system or procedures exist to implement this binding reporting obligation:
 i) description of protocols supporting observer programs (all vessels at sea), and
 ii) sampling schemes (artisanal vessels landings), number of fishing vessels & of fishing effort sampled, coverage achieved by gear type.

For observer programs at sea:

[YES - Sri Lanka has system / procedure to implement this binding reporting measure](#)

For sampling schemes (Artisanal / coastal fisheries):

[YES - Sri Lanka has system / procedure to implement this binding reporting measure](#)

- a. System or procedures to implement this binding reporting obligation:

[YES - System / procedure are described below, for both ROS at sea & coastal Please see the following attachments](#)

- b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:
 - -

- c. Action to be taken in relation to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:
 - -

2. Sri Lanka is implementing the regional observer scheme (ROS) at national level for:

[All fishing vessels of 24 meters length overall and above](#)

3. The description of the protocols supporting observer programs (at sea) and sampling schemes (artisanal vessel landings), reported to the IOTC Scientific Committee:

[YES – Complete](#)

4. Describe the protocols supporting observer programs (at sea) and the sampling schemes (artisanal vessel landings):

- a. Protocols - Observer programmes at sea: [Please see the above attachment \(steps to observer programme final\)](#)

- b. Protocols- Sampling schemes for artisanal vessel landings:

[Please see the above attachment \(circular on implementation of port sampling\)](#)

5. Complete the below table or upload your report on the coverage achieved by gear type, in the UPLOAD section:

- a. At sea - all fishing vessels of 24 meters length overall and above, and fishing vessels under 24 meters operating outside the EEZ:

Type of fishing gear	No of vessels and fishing effort monitored in 2022:	Coverage in 2022 (%)
Purse seine	-	-
Longline	02	22
Gillnet	-	-
Baitboats	-	-

Handline	-	-
-----------------	---	---

Comments/remarks about your submission and the implementation of this requirement:

-

b. Sampling schemes (artisanal vessel landings):

Type of fishing gear	Total number of vessel trips or total number of active vessels in 2022:	Coverage in 2022 (%)
Coastal Purse seine	-	-
Longline	3706	13
Gillnet	13	13
Baitboats	-	-
Handline	-	-
Line Trolling	-	-

Other type of fishing gear (Ringnet; Trawl; Beach Seine, etc...):

Type of fishing gear	Total number in 2022:	Coverage in 2022 (%)
-	-	-
Ringnet	1586	11

Comments/remarks about your submission and the implementation of this requirement:

-

Resolution 12/04 On the conservation of marine turtles

Reporting obligation: Report on progress of implementation of Resolution 12/04

1. A system or procedures exist to implement this binding reporting obligation:

YES - Sri Lanka has system / procedure to implement this binding reporting measure

a. System or procedures to implement this binding reporting obligation:

YES - System / procedure are described below

1)The DFAR administration has five technical divisions such as Fisheries Management, Development, Quality Control, Fishing Operation, Information Technology and Training & Investigation.

2)Duties are assigned for each division heads as per the power vested to the Director General in the sectionof the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act (FARA) no.2 of 1996.The progress of the duties assigned are being assessed annually.

3)Director fishing Operations has been assigned the duties of with regard to the IOTC such as and the implementation of the resolutions reporting the compliance, submission of annual reports, implementation of the resolutions, due reporting and participation in annual meetings.

4)Director Investigation conducts has been assigned duties of investigations and enforcement of law against the infringements reported. This includes inspection procedures, identification of infringements, evidence gathering, identification of prohibited fish species and gears, inspection of handling of navigational equipment and recordings etc and court procedures.

5)The National Plan of Control and Inspections of Fishing Vessels Sri Lanka (NPCISL) gives the procedure of legal enforcement.

b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

YES - System / procedure are described below

The sanction on violations has been increased under the provisions of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No.35 of 2013

c. Action to be taken in relation to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

YES - Actions are described below

The sanction on violations has been increased under the provisions of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No.35 of 2013

2. Reporting the progress of implementation of Resolution 12/04:

YES - Reporting progress in section 3 below

3. Report on the requirements of the Resolution 12/04:

a. Collect (through logbooks and observer programs) and provide to the Scientific Committee all data on their vessels interactions with marine turtles,

Furnish information to the Scientific Committee on successful mitigation measures and other impacts on marine turtles (such as the deterioration of nesting sites & swallowing of marine debris):

Yes

*Data collected through port sampling, log books, and observer programme

*Catch data submission to IOTC in every Year June. Including By-catch and discard data submitted

*The summary is included to the National Report LKA 2021

b. Require fishermen to bring aboard, if practicable, any captured hard shelled turtle that is comatose or inactive as soon as possible and foster its recovery, including aiding in its resuscitation, before safely returning it to the water.

Ensure that fishermen are aware of and use proper mitigation and handling techniques and keep on board all necessary equipment for the release of turtles:

Yes

*Catching Turtles intentionally is prohibited withing EEZ and High seas under published regulations.(Fishing operation regulation 1996)

* It is legally mandatory to take line cutters and de-hooks on board, (High seas fishing regulations 2014). Samples equipments provided for the fishermen to prepare and use. Vessels are not allowed to depart for fishing without line cutters and de-hooks on board.

*Awareness on turtle conservation and release of incidental caught turtles is been conducted

*A supplementary (leaflet) is prepared and distributed among fishermen on safe release of incidentally entangled turtles (Copy Attached: Annex (ii)) .

*Dept. of Wild Life Conservation of Sri Lanka also enforce their regulations on conservation of turtles including their nesting habitats.

c. For gillnet vessels: Require vessel to record all incidents involving marine turtles in the logbooks and report incidents to authorities of the CPC:

Yes

- *Maximum length of the drift gill net in high seas restricted to be less than 2.5km seiners (High seas fishing regulations 2014).
- *To be comply with IOTC Resolution 17/07 , Sri Lanka in a process of is phasing out use of gill net within EEZ as explain in the implementation reports of 2018 and 2019 in a view to enforce complete prohibition of gill net >2.5 km with in EEZ by 2022.
- *A regulation was drafted to prohibit use of gill nets larger than 2.5km within EEZ and with the condition of laying of gillnet below 2m depth (the regulation is processing at Legal Draftsmen's Dept.
- *Fishermen make aware on proper disposal of fishing gear/ nets and the repercussion of ghost fishing by nets.
- *Trawling is prohibited (Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (amendment) Act, No.11 of 2017).
- *Collect information through port sampling, log books, and observer programme
- *The fishermen are instructed to keep records of incidental entangles of turtles by giving geographical coordinates and the form of release whether dead or alive.
- *Display of poster on turtle conservation

d. For longline vessels

(a)Ensure that longline vessels carry line cutters & de-hookers to facilitate the handling and release of marine turtles caught or entangled

(b)Encourage use of whole finfish bait;

(c)(c) Require vessel to record all incidents involving marine turtles in the logbooks and report incidents to authorities of the CPC.

Yes

- *It is legally mandatory to take line cutters and de-hooks on board for long lines. (High seas fishing regulations 2014) .
- *Basically use whole fin fish or squids as the bait in longlines. Local production of fin fish for baits has been initiated in 2017.
- *Collect information through port sampling, log books, and observer programme

e. For purse seine vessels:

(a) Ensure that vessels:

- (i) Avoid encirclement of marine turtles, if a marine turtle is encircled/ entangled, take measures to safely release the turtle.
- (ii) Release all marine turtles observed entangled in fish aggregating devices (FADs) or fishing gear.
- (iii) If a marine turtle is entangled in the net, stop net roll as soon as the turtle comes out of the water; disentangle the turtle without injuring it before resuming the net roll; and assist the recovery of the turtle before returning it to the water.
- (iv) Carry and employ dip nets to handle turtles.
- (b)Encourage vessel to adopt FAD designs which reduce the incidence of entanglement of turtles;
- (c)Require vessel to record incidents involving marine turtles in the logbooks and report incidents to authorities of the CPC.

-

*No operating purse seines operating in Sri Lanka.

*However, in a thought of future developments, dip nets onboard is legally mandatory for purse seiners (High seas fishing regulations 2014.)

*Increase of awareness among fishermen

*Instructed to release the Entangled and remained live turtles immediately.

*Collect information through, log books, and observer programme

f. CPCs to undertake research trials of circle hooks, use of whole finfish for bait, alternative FAD designs, alternative handling techniques, gillnet design and fishing practices and other mitigation methods which may improve the mitigation of adverse effects on turtles.

Yes

*Long line fishing is basically conduct using J hooks. However fishermen are encouraged to use circular to reduce incidental catches of Turtles.

*Basically use whole fin fish or squids as the bait in long lines. Local production of fin fish for baits has been initiated in 2017

*In 2021 artificial baits representing live squids is used further reducing the turtle catches.

*Use of monofilament net is banned.

g. CPCs continue to undertake research and development to improve the mitigation of adverse affects on marine turtles & provide research outcomes to the Scientific Committee.

Yes

*Continue undertake research, monitoring and conservation activities and the results are regularly informed.

- *Monitoring nesting sites of turtles in western and southern coasts.
- *Tuttle resources are conserved and encouraged use for Eco tourism.

h. Collaborate with the IOSEA and take into account the IOSEA MoU

Resolution 13/05 On the conservation of whale sharks (*Rhincodon typus*)

Information required: Report on Instances of whale sharks encircled in 2023

1. A system or procedures exist to implement this binding reporting obligation (Report on Instances of whale sharks encircled):

YES - Sri Lanka has system / procedure to implement this binding reporting measure

a. System or procedures to implement this binding reporting obligation:

YES - System / procedure are described below

Catch of whale shark is prohibited by the amended shark fishery management regulation 2015. Fishers are being aware recording of the incidental catches and prompt release in an unharmed condition. There is a separate box in the log book to report incidental catches. The sanction on violations has been increased up to Rupees one million under the provisions of the Amended Act for High Seas Fishing in 2013. Prohibition of intentional surrounding of whale sharks by purse seiners. Mandatory to carry dip nets on board for purse seines to release whale sharks in live form.(High Seas Fishing Operations Regulations 2014). In 2021/22 DFAR has prepared and published leaflets on live release of Sharks and rays in three languages and distributed among fishermen and awareness is being conducted

b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

YES - System / procedure are described below The sanction on violations has been increased up to Rupees one million under the provisions of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No.35 of 2013. Awareness programs are being conducted on the banning of thresher sharks, white tip sharks and whale sharks and recording of the incidental catches and prompt release in an unharmed condition. Prohibition of intentional surrounding of whale sharks by purse seiners. Mandatory to carry dip nets on board for purse seines to release whale sharks in live form.(High Seas Fishing Operations Regulations 2014).

c. Action to be taken in relation to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

YES - Actions are described below The sanction on violations has been increased up to Rupees one million under the provisions of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No.35 of 2013. Prohibition of intentional surrounding of whale sharks by purse seiners. Mandatory to carry dip nets on board for purse seines to release whale sharks in live form.(High Seas Fishing Operations Regulations 2014). Catch, retain onboard, tranship, land,store or sell of thresher sharks species, oceanic white tip shark, whale shark and shark finning on board and landing sharks fins detached both within EEZ and high seas areas is prohibited in the consolidated A regulation. published in March 2015.

2. Whale sharks have been encircled by the purse seine nets as reported Sri Lanka flagged vessels in 2023:

—

3. Report on instances of whale sharks encircled:

For purse seine vessel, total number of instance in 2023:

0

In 2023 , Sri Lanka has no purse seine fishing vessels on the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels or no purse seine fishing vessels active/operating in the IOTC Area of Competence.

Resolution 14/05 Concerning a record of licensed foreign vessels fishing for IOTC species in the IOTC area of competence and access agreement information

Information required: Access agreements information

1. A system or procedures exist to implement this binding reporting obligation: To prepare & submit the information on access agreements information

NO – NIL Report / Not Applicable - Sri Lanka does not have CPC-CPC agreement in 2023

a. System or procedures to implement this binding reporting obligation:

—

b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

—

c. Action to be taken in relation to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

—

2. A system exist to sign Government to Government access agreement for foreign vessels to operate in your waters, within the IOTC Area:

-

3. Foreign vessels were licensed in 2023 under a Government to Government access agreement:

-

4. CPC-to-CPC agreements in 2023 exist and information concerning these agreements submitted to the IOTC Secretariat:

- -

5. For each CPC/CPC agreement:

a. Provide the information: the CPC involved, the start and end dates of the agreement, the number of vessels and the authorised gears in the below table and upload the information about these agreements in the UPLOAD section :

Agreement	CPC/CPC agreement with	Agreement start date	Agreement end date	Number of vessels	Gear authorized
1	-	-	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	-	-

b. Provide the information: the quota or catch limit, MCS measures, data reporting obligation concerning these agreements and complete the below table:

No	Stock/species covered	CPC's quota or catch limit:	Data reporting obligations of the agreement:	MCS measures required by the flag CPC & coastal CPC:
1	-	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	-

6. All the mandatory information has been provided to the IOTC Secretariat for all CPC/CPC access agreement:

-

Specify what mandatory information are not fully provided or missing (tick the appropriate boxes):

—

Specify the reasons for each not fully provided or missing requirement:

—

Resolution 16/05 – Sightings of vessels suspected or confirmed of being without nationality

Information required: Sightings of vessels suspected or confirmed of being without nationality

1. A system or procedures exist to implement this binding reporting obligation:

NO – NIL Report / Not Applicable for 2023 – no sighting of vessel without nationality

a. System or procedures to implement this binding reporting obligation:

—

—

b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

—

—

c. Action to be taken in relation to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

—

—

2. Reporting on vessel without nationality that may be fishing in the high seas of the IOTC area of competence:

NO - NIL report for 2023 – no sighting of vessel without nationality

Resolution 16/08 On the prohibition of the use of aircrafts and unmanned aerial vehicles as fishing aids

Information required: Any occurrence of fishing operation undertaken with the aid of aircraft or unmanned aerial vehicle

1. A system or procedures exist to implement this binding reporting obligation:

YES - Sri Lanka has system / procedure to implement this binding reporting measure

a. System or procedures to implement this binding reporting obligation:

YES - System / procedure are described below

please refer the following paragraph of the Specific conditions for High seas fishing operations and Specific conditions for EEZ fishing operations Use of unmanned or manned air crafts as fishing aids is completely prohibited

b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

YES - System / procedure are described below

c. Action to be taken in relation to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

YES - Actions are described below please refer the following paragraph of the Specific conditions for High seas fishing operations and Specific conditions for EEZ fishing operations Use of unmanned or manned air crafts as fishing aids is completely prohibited

2. Reporting occurrence of a fishing operation undertaken with the aid of aircraft or unmanned aerial vehicle in the IOTC area of competence: Nil report for 2023 – no occurrence of vessel fishing operation with the aid of aircraft or unmanned aerial vehicle

Resolution 17/07 On the prohibition to use large-scale driftnets in the IOTC area

Prohibition from: using large-scale driftnets in the entire IOTC area of competence

1. A system or procedures to monitor and to ensure compliance with the obligation for fishing vessels to not use large scale driftnets in the IOTC area of Competence (High sea and ZEE):

YES - Sri Lanka has systems & procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure, AND to take action in relation to potential infringements.

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

Large scale driftnets use monitored and controlled by government fisheries administration with institutional procedures implemented • Flag State regular inspections are conducted to verify compliance of vessels with the use of large scale driftnet •

Registration/licensing procedures - Prior assessment of vessel's history of compliance & ability to comply with national & IOTC obligations • Maintain national records of all vessels & current beneficial owners/owners/operators authorized to undertake fishing

subject to Sri Lanka jurisdiction • At sea inspection procedures (SOP) implemented by National MCS agencies include verification of this obligation • In port inspection procedures (SOP) implemented by National MCS agencies include verification of this obligation Sri Lanka prepared the document, which is titled “The National Plan of Control and Inspections of Fishing Vessels Sri Lanka” (NPCISL) for effective enforcement of the regularized CMMs for the National fishing vessels, Nationals and the foreign fishing vessels those enter to the ports of in Sri Lanka. This control and inspection plan includes the effective control over Fishing vessels such as marking of vessel and used gear, registration and licensing, catch data reporting and Verification, data collection as per international standards, vessels inspections on land, at sea, on board, in port and at departure and arrival of fishing trip, conducting on board observer programs, vessel monitoring systems, and radio communications etc.

b. System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance are:

Established by national regulation implemented by Government The sanction on violations has been increased under the provisions of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No.35 of 2013

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

Suspends/cancels/revokes a license/ATF • Administrative punitives actions - Fine imposed by administration on beneficial owner/owner/operator • Legal punitives actions - Fine imposed by court on beneficial owner/owner/operator The sanction on violations has been increased under the provisions of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No.35 of 2013

2. Use of large scale driftnets is banned in the IOTC area of competence (high seas and EEZ):

Is implemented (ban) by national legislation 01/09/2014

Is implemented by terms & conditions of authorisation to fish with force of law 01/01/2022

—

Additional information on the implementation of this obligation:

—

Information required: Report on MCS actions related to large-scale driftnet fishing.

1. A system or procedures exist to implement this binding reporting obligation:

YES - Sri Lanka has system / procedure to implement this binding reporting measure

a. System or procedures to implement this binding reporting obligation:

YES - System / procedure are described below

1) Prepared the draft regulation prohibiting the use of gill nets larger than 2.5km within EEZ of Sri Lanka . (Use of large gill nest in High seas is already prohibited)

2) The drafted regulation is processing.

b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

YES - System / procedure are described below

The DFAR Head office has seven divisions such as Fisheries Management, Fisheries Development, Quality Control, Fisheries Operation, Information Technology, Training and Investigation, Administration and Finance Division. DFAR has island wide administration network covering all fifteen (15) coastal Fisheries Districts administered by an Assistant Director and further divided in to one hundred thirty three (133) Fisheries Inspector Divisions. There are twenty (20) harbor monitoring centers have been established at designated fishery harbors where the DFAR officials are on duty. . All vessels greater than twenty-four meter (24m) in length have been deployed with on board observers in complying with the IOTC resolutions. The Monitoring control and surveillance is conducted 24/7 basis at FMC in Head office and twenty-one (21) radio communication centers over the island. The MCS activities are conducted in collaboration with the SLN, Marine Police and the DCG officials. The distress situations at sea are being attended through the communications of Marine Rescue Coordinating Centers (MRCC) of the region.

Division of Fishing Operations (DFO) is in charge of coordination and implementation of NPCI in collaboration with the relevant divisions of DFAR and the external line agencies.

c. Action to be taken in relation to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

YES - Actions are described below

The DFAR Head office has seven divisions such as Fisheries Management, Fisheries Development, Quality Control, Fisheries Operation, Information Technology, Training and Investigation, Administration and Finance Division. DFAR has island wide administration network covering all fifteen (15) coastal Fisheries Districts administered by an Assistant Director and further divided in to one hundred thirty three (133) Fisheries Inspector Divisions. There are twenty (20) harbor monitoring centers have been established at designated fishery harbors where the DFAR officials are on duty. . All vessels greater than twenty-four meter (24m) in length have been deployed with on board observers in complying with the IOTC resolutions. The Monitoring control and surveillance is conducted 24/7 basis at FMC in Head office and twenty-one (21) radio communication centers over the island. The MCS activities are conducted in collaboration with the SLN, Marine Police and the DCG officials. The distress situations at sea are being attended through the communications of Marine Rescue Coordinating Centers (MRCC) of the region.

Division of Fishing Operations (DFO) is in charge of coordination and implementation of NPCI in collaboration with the relevant divisions of DFAR and the external line agencies.

Sri Lanka prepared the document, which is titled “The National Plan of Control and Inspections of Fishing Vessels Sri Lanka” (NPCISL) for effective enforcement of the regularized CMMs for the National fishing vessels, Nationals and the foreign fishing vessels those enter to the ports of in Sri Lanka. This control and inspection plan includes the effective control over Fishing vessels such as marking of vessel and used gear, registration and licensing, catch data reporting and Verification, data collection as per international standards, vessels inspections on land, at sea, on board, in port and at departure and arrival of fishing trip, conducting on board observer programs, vessel monitoring systems, and radio communications etc.

Monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) actions:

2. Monitoring, control, and surveillance actions are applicable to:

Flag vessels

3. Monitoring, control, and surveillance actions are:

Controlling of flag vessels at licensing • Inspection at sea (High sea) of flag vessels • Inspection in port of flag vessels • Actions are included in the national legislation

Additional MCS actions in place:

–

Resolution 18/07 On measures applicable in case of non-fulfilment of reporting obligations in the IOTC

Information required: Report actions taken to implement reporting obligations & improve data collection of catches

1. A system or procedures exist to implement this binding reporting obligation:

For industrial fisheries:

YES - Sri Lanka has system / procedure to implement this binding reporting measure

For artisanal/coastal fisheries:

YES - Sri Lanka has system / procedure to implement this binding reporting measure

a. System or procedures to implement this binding reporting obligation:

YES - System / procedure for Industrial fisheries are described below –

b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

YES - System / procedure for Industrial fisheries are described below –

c. Action to be taken in relation to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

YES - Actions for Industrial fisheries are described below –

2. A system to collect fisheries data exists:

YES - A recording system to collect fisheries data exists

3. Mandatory data/statistics reported:

YES - Mandatory data/statistics reported

For Industrial fisheries:

–

For artisanal/coastal fisheries:

–

4. Action(s) to improve data collection that facilitate improvements in compliance in terms of IOTC mandatory reporting obligations:

a. Development or improvements in the implementation of logbooks:

Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

Paper log book is implemented 100 percent in all multi-day vessels which operate within EEZ and High seas.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries:

Paper log book is implemented 100 percent in all multi-day vessels which operate within EEZ and High seas.

b. Port-based sampling or related fisheries surveys:

Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

Measures have been taken to increase the coverage and representativeness of the samples in the data collection program of coastal fisheries .

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries:

Measures have been taken to increase the coverage and representativeness of the samples in the data collection program of coastal fisheries .

c.National observer scheme:

Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

The training programme (conducted by CapMarine South Africa under the funding assistance of EU/IOTC) completed in July of 2022.

EMS pilot project was completed virtually in September 2021 after installation of four sets of EMS equipment. With regard to the EMS pilot project , there is one set of EMS equipment to be installed. DFAR has requested assistance from IOTC to continue this pilot project.This has been discussed at the last WGEMS and WPDCS.

IOTC (Marine Instruments) conducted a training virtually from 23rd to 28th September 2021 for 8 Dry Observers on the data analysing with data collected from the four Sri Lankan fishing vessels which EMS were already installed.

Sri Lanka presented outcomes, gaps and difficulties identified on this project to IOTC-WGEMS which was held in November 2021 for further development.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries:

–

d.National Vessel registry:

Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

It is legally mandatory to register the vessels those engage in fishing, in Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DFAR).

Maintenance of updated

vessel registry is also mandatory under the said legislation. Accordingly national vessel registry in maintain.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries:

It is legally mandatory to register the vessels those engage in fishing, in Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DFAR).

Maintenance of updated

vessel registry is also mandatory under the said legislation. Accordingly national vessel registry in maintain.

e.Electronic data capture, VMS, or on-board electronic monitoring:

Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

(i) VMS is being installed to all artisanal multiday fishing vessels since 2021(the project is ongoing).

(ii) A pilot project is being implemented with the technical assistance of EU/IOTC for onboard electronic monitoring. (EMS)

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries:

(i) VMS is being installed to all artisanal multiday fishing vessels since 2021(the project is ongoing).

(ii) A pilot project is being implemented with the technical assistance of EU/IOTC for onboard electronic monitoring. (EMS)

5.Action(s) to improve data processing and reporting systems that facilitate submission of data to the IOTC Secretariat:

a.Development of fisheries databases:

Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

(i) Centralized data base has been developed to manage operation licenses.

(ii) All district offices are linked to a single network which increased the efficiency of data processing.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries:

(i) Centralized data base has been developed to manage operation licenses.

(ii) All district offices are linked to a single network which increased the efficiency of data processing.

b.Development of data dissemination systems:

Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

(i) A separate IT division for handling development of data systems is established in 2020.

(ii) Appointed a dedicated officer for each district to coordinate data management, facilitating the disseminating system.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries:

- (i) A separate IT division for handling development of data systems is established in 2020.
- (ii) Appointed a dedicated officer for each district to coordinate data management, facilitating the disseminating system.

c. Frame surveys:

–

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

–

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries:

–

d. Coherence of data with alternative fisheries datasets:

Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

Data verification is being carried out using the data obtained from port sampling, observer program, logbook data and VMS data.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries:

Data verification is being carried out using the data obtained from port sampling, observer program, logbook data and VMS data.

e. Development of automated routines to process and extract IOTC data submission:

–

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

–

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries:

–

f. Steps to minimise data entry errors:

Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

Partially achieved via central data base which has been developed.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries:

Partially achieved via central data base which has been developed.

6. Action(s) to improve the quality and accuracy of data submitted to the IOTC Secretariat:

a. Steps to improve data validation:

Yes

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

1. Data validated by cross checking log book position data Vs VMS data (In Random basis)

2. Catch data (Landing) validation by port inspection. 3. Validation of by-catch data using observer information.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries:

1. Data validated by cross checking log book position data Vs VMS data (In Random basis)

2. Catch data (Landing) validation by port inspection. 3. Validation of by-catch data using observer information.

b. Improvements in sampling coverage:

–

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

A new sampling strategy has been introduced by improving coverage of coastal tuna fisheries.

Number of enumerators has been increased from 36 to 50 covering entire coastal districts since 2020.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries:

–

c. Frame surveys:

–

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

–

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries:

–

d. Coherence of data with alternative fisheries datasets:

–

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

Data verification is being carried out using the data obtained from port sampling, observer program, logbook data and VMS data.

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries:

Data verification is being carried out using the data obtained from port sampling, observer program, logbook data and VMS data.

e. *Comparability of data from previous years:*

—

Measures taken and the implementation progress for artisanal (coastal) IOTC fisheries:

—

Measures taken and the implementation progress for Industrial IOTC fisheries:

—

Resolution 19/02 - Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan 19/02

Information required: 2024 DFAD management

1. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance with the obligation for vessels implementation of the DFADs management plan:

NO – NIL Report / Not Applicable - For 2024 no purse seine vessels / supply or support vessels fishing on Drifting Fish Aggregating Devices.

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

—

—

b. System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance are:

—

—

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

—

—

2. DFADs management plans were implemented and reported for following year(s):

—

Additional information:

—

3. Reporting the 2024 FADs management plan:

—

4. The 2024 FADs management plan has been prepared in accordance with the Guideline (Annex I or II):

—

Information required: Report on progress of implementation of 2023 DFADs management plans

1. A system or procedures exist to implement this binding reporting obligation:

NO – NIL Report / Not Applicable - In 2023 , Sri Lanka has NO purse seine vessels / supply vessels fishing on Drifting Fish Aggregating Devices.

a. System or procedures to implement this binding reporting obligation:

—

—

b. Système ou procédures pour répondre au non-respect de cette obligation de déclaration contraignante:

—

—

c. Action to be taken in relation to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

—

—

2. DFADs management plans were implemented and progress reports on the implementation reported for the years:

—

Additional information:

—

3. Reporting the progress report on implementation of the 2023 DFADs management plan for 2023:

—

Resolution 19/04 Concerning the IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC area of competence

Information required: Report on review of Flag State internal actions & measures, punitive actions and sanctions on flag vessels on the RAV

1. A system or procedures exist i) to review flag State internal actions, measures, punitive actions and sanctions, and ii) to monitor and to ensure compliance by vessels & persons with those obligations of Paragraphs 11 (Resolution 19/04):

YES - Sri Lanka has system / procedure to i) review flag State internal actions and ii) to monitor & to ensure compliance by vessels & persons with those obligations of Paragraphs 11, AND action in relation to potential infringements.

a. i) System / procedures to review flag State internal actions are:

Review flag State internal actions monitored/conducted by government fisheries administration

1) Department of fisheries and Aquatic Resources Sri Lanka provided the designated ports of Sri Lanka to IOTC secretariat through e-PSM and e-MARIS

2) (i) A separate Division (Division of Fishing Operations) for handling Port State Measures to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing is established in DFAR.

(ii) Appointed a dedicated officer (Director-fishing Operations) for coordination and monitoring of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMO)

(iii) Director (Fishing Operations) provide necessary reports for RFMOs (IOTC, FAO, EU)

(iv) Carrying out relevant activities regarding the existing international conventions regarding Sri Lanka fishing Industry.

3) Sri Lanka prepared the document, which is titled "The National Plan of Control and Inspections of Fishing Vessels Sri Lanka" (NPCISL) for effective enforcement of the regularized CMMs for the National fishing vessels, Nationals and the foreign fishing vessels those enter to the ports of in Sri Lanka. This control and inspection plan includes the effective control over Fishing vessels such as marking of vessel and used gear, registration and licensing, catch data reporting and Verification, data collection as per international standards, vessels inspections on land, at sea, on board, in port and at departure and arrival of fishing trip, conducting on board observer programs, vessel monitoring systems, and radio communications etc.

a. ii) System / procedures to monitor & to ensure ii) compliance by vessels/persons with the obligations of Paragraphs 11, are:

Obligations of paragraph 11, monitored and controlled by government fisheries administration with institutional procedures implemented • Flag State regular inspections are conducted to verify compliance of vessels with obligations of paragraph 11 • Registration/licensing procedures - Mandatory information on owners/operators which identifies beneficial owners & operators Sri Lanka prepared the document, which is titled "The National Plan of Control and Inspections of Fishing Vessels Sri Lanka" (NPCISL) for effective enforcement of the regularized CMMs for the National fishing vessels, Nationals and the foreign fishing vessels those enter to the ports of in Sri Lanka. This control and inspection plan includes the effective control over Fishing vessels such as marking of vessel and used gear, registration and licensing, catch data reporting and Verification, data collection as per international standards, vessels inspections on land, at sea, on board, in port and at departure and arrival of fishing trip, conducting on board observer programs, vessel monitoring systems, and radio communications etc.

b. System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance with the binding measures of paragraph 11:

Established in national law implemented by Government The sanction on violations has been increased under the provisions of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No.35 of 2013

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements of measures of paragraph 11:

Suspend/cancel/revoke a licence/ATF • Legal punitive actions - Fine imposed by court on beneficial owner/owner/operator • Administrative punitive actions - Fine imposed by administration on beneficial owner/owner/operator • Legal punitive actions - Fine imposed by court on fishing master and/or master • Accessories sanctions, aside the fine, taken by Government agencies on fishing master and/or master The sanction on violations has been increased under the provisions of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No.35 of 2013

2. Paragraph 11.a):

Fulfil respect of the vessels the requirements and responsibilities under the IOTC Agreement and its Conservation and Management Measures:

Sri Lanka has conducted a review of the internal actions & measures, punitive actions and sanctions for paragraphs 11.a) in 2022 and there is no update to provide for 2023.

If such a review has been conducted, list of measures with, for each the following details:

Measures:

-

Punitive Actions:

-

Sanctions:

-

-

3. Paragraph 11.b):

Ensure that AFVs comply with all the relevant IOTC Conservation and Management Measures:

Sri Lanka has conducted a review of the internal actions & measures, punitive actions and sanctions for paragraphs 11.b) in 2022 and there is no update to provide for 2023.

If such a review has been conducted, list of measures with, for each the following details:

Measures:

-

Punitive Actions:

-

Sanctions:

-

-

4. Paragraph 11.c):

Ensure AFVs on the IOTC Record keep on board valid certificates of vessel registration and valid authorisation to fish and/or tranship:

-

If such a review has been conducted, list of measures with, for each the following details:

Measures:

-

Punitive Actions:

-

Sanctions:

-

Records of measures, punitive actions and sanctions on such violations, not found in my review conducted. This is mainly because the vessels operated for tuna fishing departed at designated fishing harbours and no person allowed to depart without valid certificates of vessel registration and valid authorization

5. Paragraph 11.d):

Ensure AFVs on the IOTC Record have no history of IUU fishing activities or that AFVs are not engaged in or associated with IUU fishing:

-

If such a review has been conducted, list of measures with, for each the following details:

Measures:

-

Punitive Actions:

-

Sanctions:

-

Records of measures, punitive actions and sanctions on such violations, not found in my review conducted. This is mainly because the vessels operated for tuna fishing departed at designated fishing harbours and no person allowed to depart without valid certificates of vessel registration and valid authorization

6. Paragraph 11.e):

Ensure under domestic law the owners/operators of AFVs on the IOTC Record are not engaged in/associated with tuna fishing activities conducted by vessels not entered into the IOTC Record in the IOTC area of competence:

Sri Lanka has conducted a review of the internal actions & measures, punitive actions and sanctions for paragraphs 11.e) in 2022 and there is no update to provide for 2023.

If such a review has been conducted, list of measures with, for each the following details:

Measures:

-

Punitive Actions:

-

Sanctions:

-

-

7. Paragraph 11.f):

Ensure under domestic law the owners of the AFVs on the IOTC Record are citizens or legal entities within the flag CPCs so that any control or punitive actions can be effectively taken against them:

-

If such a review has been conducted, list of measures with, for each the following details:

Measures:

-

Punitive Actions:

-

Sanctions:

-

Under domestic law all owners of the AFV are citizens of Sri Lanka as per the provisions of the No.02 of FARA act 1996. Therefore, records

of measures, punitive actions and sanctions on such violations, not found in my review conducted in 2023.

Information required: report on vessels engaged in fishing or transhipment and not on the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels

1. A system or procedures exist to implement this binding reporting obligation:

NO – NIL Report / Not Applicable for 2023 – Sri Lanka has no factual information

a. System or procedures to implement this binding reporting obligation:

YES - System / procedure are described below

- 1) Department of fisheries and Aquatic Resources Sri Lanka provided the designated ports of Sri Lanka to IOTC secretariat through e-PSM and e-MARIS
- 2) (i) A separate Division (Division of Fishing Operations) for handling Port State Measures to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing is established in DFAR.
- (ii) Appointed a dedicated officer (Director-fishing Operations) for coordination and monitoring of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMO)
- (iii) Director (Fishing Operations) provide necessary reports for RFMOs (IOTC, FAO, EU)
- (iv) Carrying out relevant activities regarding the existing international conventions regarding Sri Lanka fishing Industry.
- 3) Sri Lanka prepared the document, which is titled "The National Plan of Control and Inspections of Fishing Vessels Sri Lanka" (NPCISL) for effective enforcement of the regularized CMMs for the National fishing vessels, Nationals and the foreign fishing vessels those enter to the ports of in Sri Lanka. This control and inspection plan includes the effective control over Fishing vessels such as marking of vessel and used gear, registration and licensing, catch data reporting and Verification, data collection as per international standards, vessels inspections on land, at sea, on board, in port and at departure and arrival of fishing trip, conducting on board observer programs, vessel monitoring systems, and radio communications etc.

b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

YES - System / procedure are described below

- 1) (i) A separate Division (Division of Fishing Operations) for handling Port State Measures to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing is established in DFAR.
- (ii) Appointed a dedicated officer (Director-fishing Operations) for coordination and monitoring of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMO)
- (iii) Director (Fishing Operations) provide necessary reports for RFMOs (IOTC, FAO, EU)
- 2) An evaluation is being done at the end of the year

c. Action to be taken in relation to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

—

- 1) (i) A separate Division (Division of Fishing Operations) for handling Port State Measures to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing is established in DFAR.
- (ii) Appointed a dedicated officer (Director-fishing Operations) for coordination and monitoring of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMO)
- (iii) Director (Fishing Operations) provide necessary reports for RFMOs (IOTC, FAO, EU)
- 2) An evaluation is being done at the end of the year

2. Reporting factual information showing that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting vessels not on the IOTC Record to be engaged in fishing and/or transshipment of tuna and tuna-like species in the IOTC area of competence:

NO - Nil report for 2023 – Sri Lanka has no factual information

Additional information:

—

Resolution 21/01 On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC area of competence

Information required: CPCs subject to catch reductions, over-catch, report on corrective actions taken to adhere to prescribed catch levels

1. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance with corrective actions taken by the CPC to adhere to the prescribed catch levels when subject to catch reductions due to over-catch:

NO – NIL Report / Not Applicable - Sri Lanka is not subject to yellowfin tuna catch reductions in 2022 due to no over-catch in 2021

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

— —

b. System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance are:

— —

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

— —

2. CPC subject to yellowfin tuna catch reductions in 2022, due to over-catch in 2021:

NO - NOT subject to

If Yes, YFT catch declared and over-catch in 2021:

- / -

3. Our catch of yellowfin tuna in 2023 was reduced by the following percentage:

-

4. If the CPC is subject to catch reduction due to over-catch, report on corrective actions taken to adhere to prescribed catch levels:

-

Additional information:

-

Information required: Report on methods for achieving the YFT catch reductions

1. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance with the methods of YFT catch reductions adopted by Sri Lanka:

NO – NIL Report / Not Applicable - Sri Lanka is not subject to yellowfin tuna catch reductions in 2023

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

- -

b. System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance are:

- -

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

- -

2. The CPC is subject to yellowfin tuna catch reductions:

NO - NOT subject to

If Yes, overcatch:

-

3. The report on methods for achieving the yellowfin tuna catch reductions has been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

-

4. The methods for achieving the yellowfin tuna catch reductions implemented at national level are:

-

Additional methods:

-

Information required: Report on plans/status of reducing the use of supply vessels

1. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance with the reduction of supply vessels in purse seine operations (Plan):

-

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

- -

b. System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance are:

- -

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

- -

2. CPC has PS/SP vessels on the Record of authorized vessels:

NO – NIL Report / Not Applicable - No purse seiner (PS) and no supply vessel (SP) on the IOTC Record of authorised vessels

3. The plan for reducing the use of supply vessel was provided for:

-

Information required: Gillnet, Report the level of implementation of paragraphs 21-23

1. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance with i) phasing out/convert gillnetters to other gears, ii) set gillnets at 2m depth, iii) increase observer coverage/ field sampling in gillnetters by 10% :

YES - Sri Lanka has systems & procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure, AND to take action in relation to potential infringements.

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

Phasing out/convert gillnetters, set gillnets at 2m, increase 10% gillnetters observer coverage/ field sampling, monitored and controlled by government fisheries administration with institutional procedures implemented • In port inspection procedures (SOP) implemented by National MCS agencies include verification of Phasing out/convert gillnetters, set gillnets at 2m, increase 10% gillnetters observer coverage/ field sampling

Level of implementation of paragraph 21

1) Conducted a survey to record the number of large scale drift gill nets in Sri Lanka.(District Level)

- 2) Made aware the fishers on resolution; 17/07 during the period of 2018-2020
- 3) Notify the number of authorised vessels operate large scale gill nets in the competent area of IOTC to the Secretariat by 31 December 2020 as per the point 5 of the resolution.
- 4) Prepared the draft regulation prohibiting the use of gill nets larger than 2.5km within EEZ of Sri Lanka . (Use of large gill nest in High seas is already prohibited)
- 5) The drafted regulation is processing.

Level of implementation of paragraph 22

a. Sri Lanka included the factor the depth of laying drift gill net in Sri Lanka to the survey conducted to find the number of large scale drift gill nets in Sri Lanka as per resolution 17/07 to comply with the para 21 of 19/01.

b. Findings of the survey

*Since the surface current wave action is very high sea around Sri Lanka creating rough seas conditions in the off-shore, majority fishermen (65%) lay their drift gill nets about 3m below the surface to avoid wash away the nets from target fishing grounds.

*To lay the net in required depth; they keep the buoy line length 2m to 3m in length from the upper mainline of the net.

c. DFAR conducted awareness on laying of drift long lines in 2m below the surface and laying of Drift gill nets below 2m depth is incorporated to the draft regulation

on prohibition of large Drift gill nets (larger than 2.5km) in the IOTC area of competence which will publish in year late 2023.

Level of implementation of paragraph 23

*The data collection in the small landing sites is strengthen by increasing the field samplers in a view to increase the data collection from 5% to 10% by as per the resolution 11/04 para 4 for the gill net operating artisanal vessels of Sri Lanka.

*Pilot project on EMS is being conducted under the technical assistance of EJ/IOTC for the small vessels of Sri Lanka to increase to observer coverage.

*One more set of EMS equipment to be installed.

b. System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance are:

--

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

--

2. Sri Lanka has gillnet catch in 2023, has gillnet fishing vessels on the IOTC Record of authorised vessels, the gillnet fleet was active in the IOTC Area of Competence:

[YES - Sri Lanka gillnet fleet, on the IOTC Record of authorized Vessels, caught IOTC Species in 2023](#)

3. Report the level of implementation of paragraph 21 - Phasing out or convert gillnet fishing vessels to other gears:

a. Phasing out measures:

--

--

--

[Conduct of awareness programmes on Resolution 21/01 and the ecological impact of gillnet fishing gears 24.11.2022](#)

--

b. Conversion progress:

Number of gillnet vessels converted in 2023:

62

Number of gillnet vessels converted since 2019:

85

Gillnet vessels converted for the following fishing gears:

[Drifting longline and trolling line](#)

4. Report the level of implementation of paragraph 22 - Set gillnets at 2m depth from the surface in gillnet fisheries:

--

--

Other measures

Since the surface current wave action is very high sea around Sri Lanka creating rough seas conditions in the off-shore, majority fishermen (65%) lay their drift gill nets about 3m below the surface to avoid wash away the nets from target fishing grounds.

5. Report the level of implementation of paragraph 23 - Increase observer coverage or field sampling in gillnet fishing vessels by 10% using alternative data collection methodologies (electronic or human):

- %

Increased field sampling 10%

Report of the previous session of the Commission - Response to letter of feedback on compliances issues

Information required: Response to the letter of feedback from the previous CoC

1. A system or procedures exist to implement this binding reporting obligation:

YES - Sri Lanka has system / procedure to implement this binding reporting measure

a. System or procedures to implement this binding reporting obligation:

YES - System / procedure are described below Director fishing Operations has been assigned the duties of with regard to the IOTC such as and the implementation of the resolutions reporting the compliance, submission of annual reports, ,implementation of the resolutions, due reporting and participation in annual meetings.

b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

YES - System / procedure are described below

Director fishing Operations has been assigned the duties of with regard to the IOTC such as and the implementation of the resolutions reporting the compliance, submission of annual reports, ,implementation of the resolutions, due reporting and participation in annual meetings.

An evaluation is being done at the end of the year

c. Action to be taken in relation to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

YES - Actions are described below

Director fishing Operations has been assigned the duties of with regard to the IOTC such as and the implementation of the resolutions reporting the compliance, submission of annual reports, ,implementation of the resolutions, due reporting and participation in annual meetings.

An evaluation is being done at the end of the year

2. The response to the feedback letter on compliances issues (from the 2023 CoC) has been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

YES - The responses to the feedback letter are uploaded in the section UPLOAD

Date of submission of responses to the feedback letter:

12.03.2024

Number of repeated compliance issues:

8

Number of non repeated compliance issues:

5

Number of compliance issues responded:

13

Part E - Data and information reporting requirements for CPCs that have objected to some Resolutions

Resolution 12/12 To prohibit the use of large-scale driftnets on the high seas in the IOTC area

Prohibition from: using large-scale driftnets on the high seas.

APPLIES ONLY TO PAKISTAN

1. A system or procedures to monitor and to ensure compliance with the obligation for fishing vessels to not use large scale driftnets in the high sea:

—
a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

— —
b. System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance are:

— —
c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

—
2. Actions taken to implement conservation and management measures in "Resolution 12/12 to prohibit the use of large-scale driftnets on the high seas in the IOTC area" adopted by the Commission:

— —
3. Use of large-scale driftnets is banned on the high seas in the IOTC Area of competence:

—
—
—
—

Information required: Report on MCS actions related to large-scale driftnet fishing.

APPLIES ONLY TO PAKISTAN

1. A system or procedures exist to implement this binding reporting obligation:

—
a. System or procedures to implement this binding reporting obligation:

— —
b. System or procedures to respond to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

— —
c. Action to be taken in relation to non-compliance with this binding reporting obligation:

—
2. Monitoring, control, and surveillance actions are applicable to:

—
3. Monitoring, control, and surveillance actions are:

—
Additional MCS actions in place:

—

Resolution 18/01 On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC area of competence

Information required: Report on methods for achieving the YFT catch reductions

APPLIES ONLY TO INDIA

1. Actions taken to implement conservation and management measures in "Resolution 18/01 On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC area of competence" adopted by the Commission:

—

2. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance with the methods of YFT catch reductions adopted by India:

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

b. System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance are:

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

3. CPC is subject to yellowfin tuna catch reductions:

If Yes, YFT over-catch:

4. The report on methods for achieving the yellowfin tuna catch reductions has been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

5. The methods for achieving the yellowfin tuna catch reductions implemented at national level are:

Any method implemented and not listed above:



Information required: Report on plans/status of reducing the use of supply vessels

ONLY APPLICABLE TO INDIA

1. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance with the reduction of supply vessels in purse seine operations (Plan):

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

b. System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance are:

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

2. India has purse seiners (PS) and supply vessels (SP) on the IOTC Record of authorized vessels:

2. The plan for reducing the use of supply vessel was provided for:

Information required: Catch limits – Nominal catch of YFT in 2022

APPLIES ONLY TO INDIA

1. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance with the limit of catch of Yellowfin tuna (YFT):

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

b. System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance are:

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

2. CPC is subject to yellowfin tuna catch reductions:

3. The catch of yellowfin tuna in 2022 reported to the IOTC Secretariat and the reductions were:

Fishing gear	Baseline year	YFT catch of baseline year	YFT catch in 2022 (T)	Reduction (%)
--------------	---------------	----------------------------	-----------------------	---------------

Purse seine	-	-	-	-
Longline	-	-	-	-
Gillnet	-	-	-	-
Pole and line	-	-	-	-

Resolution 19/01 On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC area of competence

Information required: Report on methods for achieving the YFT catch reductions

APPLIES ONLY TO INDONESIA, THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, MADAGASCAR, OMAN AND SOMALIA

1. Actions taken to implement conservation and management measures in "Resolution 19/01 On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC area of competence" adopted by the Commission:

-

2. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance with the methods of YFT catch reductions adopted by Sri Lanka:

-

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

-

b. System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance are:

-

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

-

3. The CPC is subject to yellowfin tuna catch reductions:

-

If Yes, overcatch:

-

4. The report on methods for achieving the yellowfin tuna catch reductions has been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

-

5. The methods for achieving the yellowfin tuna catch reductions implemented at national level are:

-

Additional methods:

-

Information required: Purse seiners served by supply vessels in 2024

APPLIES ONLY TO INDONESIA, THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, MADAGASCAR, OMAN AND SOMALIA

1. Actions taken to implement conservation and management measures in "Resolution 19/01 On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC area of competence" adopted by the Commission:

-

2. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance with operations of purse seiners served by supply vessel:

-

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

-

b. System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance are:

-

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

-

3. CPC has PS/SP vessels on the Record of authorised vessels:

-

4. The information on purse seiners served by each supply vessel in 2024 has been provided to the Secretariat:

-

Information required: Report on plans/status of reducing the use of supply vessels

ONLY APPLICABLE TO INDONESIA, THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, MADAGASCAR, OMAN AND SOMALIA

1. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance with the reduction of supply vessels in purse seine operations (Plan):

-

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

-

b. System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance are:

-

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

-

2. CPC has PS/SP vessels on the Record of authorised vessels:

-

3. The plan for reducing the use of supply vessel was provided for:

-

Information required: Catch limits – Nominal catch of YFT in 2022

APPLIES ONLY TO INDONESIA, THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, MADAGASCAR, OMAN AND SOMALIA

1. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance with the limit of catch of Yellowfin tuna (YFT) :

-

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

-

b. System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance are:

-

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

-

2. CPC is subject to yellowfin tuna catch reductions:

-

3. The catch of yellowfin tuna in 2022 reported to the IOTC Secretariat and the reductions were:

Fishing gear	Baseline year	YFT catch of baseline year	YFT catch in 2022 (T)	Reduction (%)
Purse seine	-	-	-	-
Longline	-	-	-	-
Gillnet	-	-	-	-
Pole and line	-	-	-	-

Information required: Gillnet, Report the level of implementation of paragraphs 20-22

APPLIES ONLY TO INDONESIA, THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, MADAGASCAR, OMAN AND SOMALIA

1. A system or procedures exist to monitor and to ensure compliance with i) phasing out/convert gillnetters to other gears, ii) set gillnets at 2m depth, iii) increase observer coverage/ field sampling in gillnetters by 10%:

-

a. System or procedures to monitor compliance with this binding measure are:

- -

b. System or procedures to respond to instances of non-compliance are:

- -

c. Actions in relation to potential infringements are:

- -

2. Sri Lanka has gillnet catch in 2023, has gillnet fishing vessels on the Record of authorised vessels, the gillnet fleet was active in the IOTC Area of Competence:

-

3. Level of implementation of paragraph 20 - Phasing out or convert gillnet fishing vessels to other gears:

a. Phasing out measures:

- -

- -

- -

- -

- -

- -

b. Conversion progress:

Number of gillnet vessels converted in 2023:

0

Number of gillnet vessels converted since 2019:

0

Gillnet vessels converted for the following fishing gears:

-

4. Level of implementation of paragraph 21 - Set gillnets at 2m depth from the surface in gillnet fisheries:

- -

- -

- -

5. Level of implementation of paragraph 22 - Increase observer coverage or field sampling in gillnet fishing vessels by 10% using alternative data collection methodologies (electronic or human):

- %

- %