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**PROPOSAL TO AMEND RESOLUTION 18/03: ON ESTABLISHMENT A  
LIST OF VESSELS PRESUMED TO HAVE CARRIED OUT ILLEGAL,  
UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING IN THE IOTC AREA OF  
COMPETENCE**

PREPARED BY: CHINA

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**Explanatory Memorandum**

It is recognized that it is the obligation of CPCs under international law and the the Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission to cooperate multilaterally, through IOTC, for the conservation and sustainable use of IOTC resources.

RECALLING that the IOTC adopted Resolution 18/03 to set out rules and procedures for the maintenance and updating by the Commission of the system of lists of vessels considered to be involved in IUU fishing activities. It provides guidelines for CPCs to ensure that compliance assessments are conducted in an equitable, transparent and non-discriminatory way.

It is noted that in 2023, IOTC secretariat has circulated a number of IOTC Circulars related to Vessel Activity Notification from one NGO. However, this NGO does not have IOTC observer status, which may create difficulty for IOTC members to exchange information and views during the sessions of COC and Commission of IOTC.

In light of these concerns, this proposal suggests amending IOTC Resolution 18/03 to include a new subparagraph in paragraph 1 requiring that NGOs submitting vessel activity notifications shall has been obtained observer status within the IOTC framework, i.e.

- 1. h) 'third parties' means any individual or non-governmental organization. In the case of non-governmental organization, it shall have observer status of IOTC.**

Furthermore, based on IOTC Secretariat circulated above-mentioned Circular, noticed that one CPC of IOTC made decision to deny port access of fishing vessels referred in the Vessel Activity Notification from one NGO, even though IOTC has not yet made any decision regarding the fishing vessels in question. To ensure that IOTC, as a Commission, is the only entity authorized to make final decision on IUU vessel listing in terms of tuna fisheries in the IOTC area, this proposal suggests amending Resolution 18/03 to include a new paragraph after paragraph 7 (as adopted by ICCAT in 2023, PWG\_420/2023), i.e.

**7bis. For the cases circulated by the Secretariat that involve activity alleged to have been carried out on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence, no CPCs shall unilaterally make a determination of IUU fishing on the basis of the initiation of the listing process under this Resolution until the Commission has reviewed the investigation report or progress report, if available, as well as any other information referred to in paragraph 5, 6 and 7, and determined whether or not the vessel has been conducting IUU fishing in accordance with this Resolution. This paragraph shall not affect the rights and obligations of CPCs to take action against IUU fishing in accordance with relevant domestic and international laws.**

The proposed amendment reaffirms the authority of the IOTC as the sole entity responsible for making final decisions regarding IUU fishing activities within its area of competence. It maintain the integrity of IOTC framework, promote the consistency, fairness and transparency of IOTC conservation and management measures, and strengthen the CPCs' cooperation obligations under the IOTC framework.

**The proposal also suggest amending the paragraph 41 of Resolution 18/03 from 17/03 to 18/03.**

All amendments are highlighted in red in the existing Resolution [*see below*].

**RESOLUTION ~~1824~~/XX**

**ON ESTABLISHING A LIST OF VESSELS PRESUMED TO HAVE  
CARRIED OUT ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND  
UNREGULATED FISHING IN THE IOTC AREA OF  
COMPETENCE**

**Keywords:** IUU, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

RECALLING that the FAO Council adopted on 23 June 2001 an International Plan of Action to prevent, to deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IPOA-IUU). This plan stipulates that the identification of the vessels carrying out IUU activities should follow agreed procedures and be applied in an equitable, transparent and non-discriminatory way;

RECALLING that the IOTC adopted Resolution 01/07 [superseded by Resolution 14/01] concerning its support of the IPOA-IUU;

RECALLING that IOTC has already adopted measures against IUU fishing activities;

RECALLING that the IOTC adopted Resolution 07/01 to promote compliance by nationals of Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties with IOTC Conservation and Management Measures;

RECALLING ALSO that the IOTC adopted Resolution 07/02 [superseded by Resolution 13/02, then by Resolution 14/04, then by Resolution 15/04, then by Resolution 19/04] to enhance the implementation of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures through establishing a Record of fishing vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC area of competence;

RECOGNISING that IUU fishing activities may be linked with serious and organised crime;

CONCERNED by the fact that IUU fishing activities in the IOTC area of competence continue, and these activities diminish the effectiveness of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures;

FURTHER CONCERNED that there is evidence of a large number of vessel owners engaged in such fishing activities who have re-flagged their vessels to avoid compliance with IOTC Conservation and Management Measures;

DETERMINED to address the challenge of an increase in IUU fishing activities by way of countermeasures to be applied in respect of the vessels engaged in IUU fishing, without prejudice to further measures adopted in respect of flag States under the relevant IOTC instruments;

CONSCIOUS of the need to address, as a matter of priority, the issue of large-scale fishing vessels conducting IUU fishing activities;

NOTING that the situation must be addressed in the light of all relevant international fisheries instruments and in accordance with the relevant rights and obligations established in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Agreement;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the basic principles for adopting measures for cross-listing vessels listed as IUU by other RFMOs endorsed in the recommendations of the 3rd Joint Meeting of the Tuna RFMO, held in La Jolla, California in 2011;

ACKNOWLEDGING the need to preserve the decision-making authority of IOTC in any cross-listing decision by ensuring that members have the opportunity to consider each vessel on a case-by-case basis prior to its inclusion in the IOTC IUU vessel list;

ADOPTS, in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article IX of the IOTC Agreement, that:

**Use of terms**

1. For the purpose of this Resolution:

- a) ‘Owner’ means the natural or legal person registered as the owner of a vessel;
- b) ‘Operator’ means the natural or legal person who is responsible for taking commercial decisions regarding the management and operation of a vessel and includes a charterer of the vessel;
- c) ‘Master’ means any person holding the most responsible position at any given time on-board a fishing vessel;
- d) ‘fishing’ means searching for, attracting, locating, catching, taking or harvesting fish or any activity which can reasonably be expected to result in the attracting, locating, taking or harvesting of fish;
- e) ‘fishing related activities’ means any operation in support of, or in preparation for, fishing, including landing, packaging, processing, transshipment or transport of fish and/or fish products that have not been previously landed at a port, as well as the provisioning of personnel, fuel, gear, food and other supplies at-sea;

- f) 'Information' means suitably and sufficiently documented data which is capable of being presented as evidence to the Compliance Committee and/or Commission of any facts in issue,
- g) the singular also includes the plural.

~~h) 'third parties' means any individual or non-governmental organization. In the case of non-governmental organization, it shall have observer status of IOTC.~~

#### **Application of this measure**

2. This Resolution applies to vessels, together with their Owners, Operators and Masters that undertake fishing and fishing related activities, for species covered by the IOTC Agreement, or by IOTC Conservation and Management Measures, within the IOTC area of competence (IOTC Area).

#### **Objective**

3. This Resolution sets out rules and procedures for the maintenance and updating by the Commission of the system of lists of vessels considered to be involved in illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities and which comprises:
- a) the Draft IOTC IUU Vessel List (Draft IUU Vessel List);
  - b) the Provisional IOTC IUU Vessel List (Provisional IUU Vessel List); and
  - c) the IOTC IUU Vessel List (IUU Vessel List).

#### **Definition of IUU Fishing Activities**

4. For the purposes of this Resolution a vessel is presumed to have engaged in IUU fishing activities when a Contracting Party or Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (hereinafter referred to as "CPCs") has provided information that such a vessel has, within the IOTC Area and in relation to species covered by the IOTC Agreement or by IOTC Conservation and Management Measures:
- a) engaged in fishing or fishing related activities and is neither registered on the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels in accordance with Resolution 15/04 [superseded by Resolution 19/04], nor recorded in the Active list of vessels; or

- b) engaged in fishing or fishing related activities when its flag State is without quota, catch limit, or effort allocation under IOTC Conservation and Management Measures where applicable unless that vessel is flagged to a CPC; or
- c) failed to record or report its catches in accordance with IOTC Conservation and Management Measures or has made false reports; or
- d) taken or landed undersized fish in contravention of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures; or
- e) engaged in fishing or fishing related activities during closed fishing periods or in closed areas in contravention of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures; or
- f) used prohibited fishing gear in contravention of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures; or
- g) transhipped fish to, or otherwise participated in joint operations with, support or re-supply vessels that are not included on the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels or not on the Record of Vessels Authorised to Receive Transhipments At-Sea in the IOTC Area; or
- h) engaged in fishing or fishing related activities in waters that are under the national jurisdiction of a coastal State without the permission or authorisation of that State or in contravention of the laws and regulations of that State (without prejudice to the sovereign rights of the State concerned to undertake enforcement measures against such a vessel)<sup>1</sup>; or
  - i) engaged in fishing or fishing related activities whilst being without nationality; or
- j) engaged in fishing or fishing related activities having intentionally falsified or concealed its markings, identity or registration; or
- k) engaged in fishing or fishing related activities in contravention of any other binding IOTC Conservation and Management Measures

### **Submission of information on IUU Fishing Activities**

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<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this subparagraph, a vessel that is recorded on the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels shall not be presumed to have engaged in IUU fishing activities when a Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) it has deployed has drifted into waters that are under the national jurisdiction of a coastal State without its permission or authorization. However, if the vessel retrieves or fishes on a FAD in a Coastal State's waters without its permission or authorization, the vessel is presumed to have engaged in IUU activities

5. A CPC in possession of information that one or more vessels has engaged in IUU fishing activities within the IOTC Area within a 24 month period prior to the annual meeting of the Compliance Committee shall submit a list of such vessels to the IOTC Executive Secretary. Such submission shall be made at least 70 days before the annual meeting of the Compliance Committee using the IOTC Reporting Form for Illegal Activity (Annex I).
6. A list submitted by a CPC (the nominating CPC) in accordance with paragraph 5, shall be accompanied by information concerning the IUU fishing activity of each of the listed vessels including but not limited to:
  - a) reports regarding the alleged IUU fishing activity from CPCs relating to IOTC Conservation and Management Measures in force;
  - b) trade information obtained on the basis of relevant trade statistics such as those from statistical documents and other national or international verifiable statistics;
  - c) any other information obtained from other sources and/or gathered from the fishing grounds such as:
    - i. information gathered from inspections undertaken in port or at sea; or
    - ii. information from coastal States including VMS transponder or AIS data, surveillance data from satellites or airborne or seaborne assets; or
    - iii. IOTC programmes, except where such a programme stipulates that information gathered is to be kept confidential; or
    - iv. information and intelligence collected by third parties either provided directly to a CPC or via the IOTC Executive Secretary pursuant to paragraph 7.
7. When the IOTC Executive Secretary receives information and intelligence from third parties indicating alleged IUU fishing activities, the IOTC Executive Secretary shall transmit the information to the flag State of the vessel and each CPC. Where the flag State of the vessel is a CPC, if requested by any other CPC through the IOTC Executive Secretary, it shall investigate the allegation and shall report the progress of the investigation to the IOTC Executive Secretary within 60 days. Where the flag State is not a CPC, if requested by any CPC the IOTC Executive Secretary shall request it to investigate the allegation and report the progress of the investigation to the IOTC Executive Secretary within 60 days. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall then, as soon as practicably possible, notify each CPC and the flag State of each vessel concerned, together with such compiled information as has been received. Where the alleged IUU activities occurred in the waters of a coastal State CPC of IOTC, the

CPC concerned may seek to include the vessel on the draft IUU list (paragraph 6(c).iv). Where the alleged IUU activities occurred in areas beyond national jurisdiction within the IOTC Area any concerned CPC may seek to include the vessel on the draft IUU list.

~~7bis. For the cases circulated by the Secretariat that involve activity alleged to have been carried out on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence, no CPCs shall unilaterally make a determination of IUU fishing on the basis of the initiation of the listing process under this Resolution until the Commission has reviewed the investigation report or progress report, if available, as well as any other information referred to in paragraph 5, 6 and 7, and determined whether or not the vessel has been conducting IUU fishing in accordance with this Resolution. This paragraph shall not affect the rights and obligations of CPCs to take action against IUU fishing in accordance with relevant domestic and international laws.~~

#### **Draft IOTC IUU Vessel List**

8. On the basis of the information received pursuant to paragraphs 5, 6 and 7, the IOTC Executive Secretary shall draw up a Draft IUU Vessel List incorporating the information in the format set out in Annex II. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall then transmit the Draft IUU Vessel List together with the compiled information to each CPC and to the flag State of each vessel included on the Draft IUU Vessel List at least 55 days before the Annual Meeting of the Compliance Committee. **The IOTC Executive Secretary shall also request third parties, which provided information in accordance with paragraph 7 to attend the Compliance Committee.**
9. The flag State of a vessel included on the Draft IUU Vessel List shall be requested to:
  - a) notify the Owner, Operator and the Master of the vessel of the fact of its inclusion in the Draft IUU Vessel List and of the consequences that may result from its inclusion being confirmed in the IUU Vessel List adopted by the Commission, and
  - b) closely monitor the vessels included in the Draft IUU Vessel List in order to determine their activities and possible changes of use, name, flag and/or registered Owner.
10. The flag State of a vessel included on the Draft IUU Vessel List may transmit to the IOTC Executive Secretary at least 15 days before the Annual Meeting of the Compliance Committee, any comments and information about listed vessels and their activities, including



information pursuant to Paragraph 9.a) and 9.b) and information showing that the listed vessels either have or have not:

- a) conducted fishing activities in a manner consistent with IOTC Conservation and Management Measures in force; or
  - b) conducted fishing activities in a manner consistent with the laws and regulations of a coastal State when fishing in the waters under the jurisdiction of that State, and with the law and regulations of the flag State and the Authorisation to Fish; or
  - c) conducted fishing activities exclusively for species that are not covered by the IOTC Agreement or IOTC Conservation and Management Measures.
11. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall compile any new information received from CPCs and flag States regarding vessels on the Draft IUU Vessel List and, pursuant to paragraphs 22 and 23, those on the IUU Vessel List and circulate that information to all CPCs and to the flag States of vessels on the lists at least 10 days prior to the annual session of the Compliance Committee together with the completed checklist, Annex III and where applicable, Annex IV.
  12. A CPC may at any time submit to the IOTC Executive Secretary any additional information regarding vessels on the Draft IUU list, which might be relevant to the establishment of the IUU Vessel List. If the IOTC Secretariat receive this information after the Draft IUU Vessel List has been circulated to CPCs, it will circulate the information to all CPCs and to the flag States of listed vessels as soon as practicable.

#### **Provisional IOTC IUU Vessel List**

13. The IOTC Compliance Committee shall each year at its Annual Meeting examine the Draft IUU Vessel List, as well as the information submitted, any comments received from the flag State of a vessel included on the Draft IUU Vessel List together with any additional information submitted by any CPC. If the IOTC Compliance Committee is satisfied that the documented information establishes that the vessel carried out IUU fishing activities, it shall include the vessel or vessels concerned in the Provisional IUU Vessel List.
14. The Compliance Committee shall not include a vessel in the Provisional IUU Vessel List if:
  - a) the nominating CPC did not follow the provisions of paragraphs 5 and 6; or
  - b) on the basis of the information available, the Compliance Committee is not satisfied that the presumption of IUU fishing activities referred to in paragraph 4 has been established; or

- c) the flag State of a vessel included in the Draft IUU Vessel List provides information that demonstrates that the vessel has at all relevant times complied with the rules of the flag State and with its authorisation to fish and:
- i. that the vessel has conducted fishing activities in a manner consistent with the IOTC Agreement and Conservation and Management Measures; or
  - ii. that the vessel has conducted fishing activities within the waters under the jurisdiction of a coastal State in a manner consistent with the laws and regulations of that coastal State; or
  - iii. that the vessel has fished exclusively for species that are not covered by the IOTC Agreement or IOTC Conservation and Management Measures; or
- d) the flag State of a vessel included in the Draft IUU Vessel List provides information that demonstrates that effective action has been taken in response to the IUU fishing activities in question, including prosecution and imposition of sanctions of adequate severity to be effective in securing compliance and deterring further infringements. Every CPC shall report any actions and measures that it has taken in accordance with Resolution 07/01, in order to promote compliance with IOTC Conservation and Management Measures by vessels that fly its flag.
15. In cases where a flag State has not demonstrated the matters referred to in Paragraphs 14.c) or 14.d) or where a flag State has not provided any information under paragraph 10 or during the Compliance Committee meeting, the IOTC Compliance Committee shall include the vessel on the Provisional IUU List and recommend to the Commission that the vessel be included on the IUU Vessel List.
16. Following the examination referred to in paragraph 13 at each IOTC Annual meeting, the IOTC Compliance Committee shall submit the Provisional IUU Vessel List to the Commission for its consideration. If the Compliance Committee cannot agree as to whether a certain vessel shall be included in the Provisional IUU Vessel List, the List shall include the vessel and the Commission shall decide whether the vessel shall be included in the IUU Vessel List.

#### **IOTC IUU Vessel List**

17. The IOTC Compliance Committee shall each year examine the IUU Vessel List and the information circulated under paragraph 11 and shall recommend to the Commission which, if any, vessels should be added to or removed from the IUU Vessel List.

18. The Commission shall each year at its Annual Meeting review the IUU Vessel List as well as the Provisional IUU Vessel List, and the recommendations adopted by the IOTC Compliance Committee to amend the IUU Vessel List, together with the documented information provided under paragraphs 6, 10, 12, and 30. Based on its review, the Commission may decide to amend the IUU Vessel List by:
- a) adding or removing vessels; and/or
  - b) rectifying any incorrect details, or inserting new details, about a vessel already included on the IUU Vessel List in accordance with paragraph 30.a).
19. The Commission, acting in accordance with paragraph 18, may amend the IUU Vessel List by consensus. In the absence of consensus, the Commission shall decide upon any proposed amendment by a vote. Voting may be conducted by a secret ballot if a member requests it and this request is seconded. If two thirds or more of the Contracting Parties present and voting support the proposed amendment it shall be considered approved and brought into effect. The outcome of any decision made by the Commission pursuant to this paragraph shall not affect any domestic prosecution or settlement of any sanctions by the nominating or flag States pursuant to paragraphs 4 and 14.d).

#### **Action against IUU Vessels**

20. Following the adoption of the IUU Vessel List, the IOTC Executive Secretary shall request the flag State of every vessel that is included in the list:
- a) to notify the Owner and Operator of the vessel of its inclusion on the list and the consequences which may result from its inclusion in the list;
  - b) to take all the necessary measures to prevent the vessel from undertaking IUU fishing activities, including withdrawing its fishing licence or the de-registering of the vessel, and to inform the Commission of the measures taken in this respect.
21. A CPC shall take all necessary measures, in accordance with its legislation:
- a) to ensure that no vessel flying its flag, including any fishing vessel, support vessel, refuelling (supply) vessel, mother-ship or cargo vessel, provides assistance to a vessel included in the IUU Vessel List in any way, or engages in fishing processing operations with such a vessel or participates in transshipment or joint fishing operations with such a vessel, except for the purpose of rendering assistance where such a vessel, or any person on that vessel, is in danger or distress;

- b) to refuse entry into its ports by any vessel included on the IUU Vessel List, except in case of force majeure or where the vessel, or any person on that vessel, is in danger or distress, unless vessels are allowed entry into port for the exclusive purpose of inspection and effective enforcement action;
- c) to consider giving priority to the inspection of vessels on the IUU Vessel List, if such vessels are otherwise found in their ports;
- d) to prohibit the chartering of a vessel included on the IUU Vessel List;
- e) to refuse to grant their flag to vessels included in the IUU Vessel List, except if the vessel has changed Owner and the new Owner has provided sufficient information demonstrating the previous Owner or Operator has no further legal, beneficial or financial interest in, or control of, the vessel; or having taken into account and documented all relevant facts, the flag State determines that granting the vessel its flag will not result in IUU fishing;
- f) to prohibit the import, landing or transshipment, of tuna and tuna-like species from vessels included in the IUU Vessel List;
- g) to encourage importers, transporters and other sectors concerned, to refrain from engaging in transactions, including transshipments, relating to tuna and tuna-like species caught by vessels included in the IUU Vessel List;
- h) to collect and exchange with other Contracting Parties or Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties any appropriate information with the aim of detecting, controlling and preventing false import/export certificates for tunas and tuna-like species from vessels included in the IUU Vessel List.

### **Vessel Delisting Procedures**

- 22. The flag State of a vessel included in the IUU Vessel List may request the removal of the vessel from the list at any time, including during the inter-sessional period, by providing information to the IOTC Executive Secretary to demonstrate that:
  - a) i) it has adopted measures such that the vessel Owner and all other nationals employed on that vessel that engage in fishing and fishing related activities within the IOTC Area for species covered by the IOTC Agreement comply with all IOTC Conservation and Management Measures; and
  - ii) it is effectively assuming and will continue to effectively assume its flag State responsibilities with regard to the monitoring and control of the fishing activities of this vessel; and

- iii) it has taken effective action against the Owner, Operator and Master (where appropriate) in response to the IUU fishing activities that resulted in the vessel's inclusion in the IUU Vessel List including prosecution and imposition of sanctions of adequate severity; or
  - b) The vessel has changed ownership and that the new Owner can establish that the previous Owner no longer has any operational, legal, financial or real interests whether direct or indirect in the vessel or exercises control over it and that the new Owner has not participated in any IUU fishing activities in the preceding 5 years; or
  - c) The vessel has been sunk or scrapped; or
  - d) Any prosecution and/or sanctions regarding the vessel that conducted IUU fishing activities has been concluded by both the nominating CPC and the flag State of the vessel.
23. If a request for the removal of a vessel from the IUU Vessel List is received within 55 to 15 days before the annual Compliance Committee meeting, the request shall be considered at that meeting. The Compliance Committee shall examine the request along with any information provided under paragraph 22 and shall recommend to the Commission whether or not the vessel should be removed from the IUU Vessel List.
24. If a request is received more than 55 days before the annual Compliance Committee meeting, the request will be considered in accordance with the intersessional procedure outlined in paragraphs 25-28.
25. On the basis of the information received in accordance with paragraph 22, the IOTC Executive Secretary shall transmit the request for removal together with all the supporting information submitted and the checklist in Annex IV to all CPCs within 15 days following receipt of the request.
26. The Contracting Parties shall examine the request to remove the vessel and shall notify the IOTC Secretariat of their conclusion to either remove the vessel from, or keep the vessel on, the IUU Vessel List, within 30 days following the notification by the IOTC Executive Secretary.
27. At the end of the 30 day period, the IOTC Executive Secretary shall ascertain the outcome of the CPCs' decision on the proposal in accordance with the following:
- a) A Vessel Delisting Procedure shall be deemed valid only if at least 50% of the Contracting Parties with voting rights respond to the proposal;

- b) A proposal shall be considered to have been approved if two thirds or more of the Contracting Parties with voting rights that respond indicate that they support the delisting of the vessel concerned from the IUU Vessel List, and it shall be delisted;
  - c) If fewer than two-thirds of the Contracting Parties with voting rights that respond are in favour of delisting the vessel from the IUU Vessels List it shall not be delisted and the request for delisting shall be considered by the next annual meeting of the Compliance Committee in accordance with the procedure outlined in paragraph 23.
28. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall communicate the result of every decision, along with a copy of the amended IUU Vessel List, to all CPCs, the flag State of the vessel (if not a CPC), and any Non-Contracting Party that may have an interest. The amended IUU Vessel List will have effect immediately after the result of the decision has been communicated.

#### **Publication of the IUU Vessel List**

29. The IOTC Executive Secretary will take any necessary measures to ensure publicity of the IUU Vessel List adopted by IOTC pursuant to paragraph 18, or as amended pursuant to paragraphs 22 to 27, 30, 34, 35 or 36 in a manner consistent with any applicable confidentiality requirements, and through electronic means, including placing it on the IOTC website. Furthermore, the IOTC Executive Secretary shall transmit the IOTC IUU Vessel List as soon as possible to the FAO and to the organisations as set out in Paragraph 31 for the purposes of enhanced co-operation between IOTC and these organisations in order to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing.

#### **Change of details of vessels included on the IUU Vessels List**

30. A CPC with new or changed information for vessels on the IUU Vessel List in relation to the details in paragraphs 1 to 8 of Annex II shall, as soon as practicable, transmit such information to the IOTC Executive Secretary. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall communicate such information to all CPCs and:
- a) where the information indicates incorrect details were included at the time the vessel was added to the IUU Vessel List, refer the matter to the Commission for consideration pursuant to paragraph 18.b);
  - b) where the information indicates a change in details since the vessel was added to the IUU Vessel List, seek to verify the information by reference to other information and, after verification, update the relevant details in the IUU Vessel List and re-publicise it in accordance with paragraph 29. If the Secretariat, after reasonable efforts, is unable to verify the information submitted by the CPC the IUU Vessel List will not be updated.

**Cross-Listing of vessels included on the IUU Vessels List**

31. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall maintain appropriate contacts, inter alia, with the Secretariats of the following organisations in order to obtain their latest IUU vessel lists and any other relevant information regarding the list in a timely manner upon adoption or amendment: the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), the South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO), the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA), the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO) and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).
32. Notwithstanding paragraph 2, IUU vessels listed by the organisations set out in paragraph 31 may be added to or deleted from the IOTC IUU Vessel List, provided that the procedures specified in paragraphs 33 to 38 are followed.
33. In addition to the organisations set out in paragraph 31, the Executive Secretary shall transmit the IOTC IUU Vessel List to a relevant organisation that has expressed an interest to receive such List,
34. Upon receipt of the information outlined in paragraphs 31, the IOTC Executive Secretary shall promptly circulate it to all CPCs for the purpose of amending the IOTC IUU Vessel List.
35. Vessels that have been included in the IUU vessel lists of the organisations set out in paragraph 31 shall be included in the IOTC IUU Vessel List, unless any CPC objects to the inclusion in writing within 30 days of the date of transmittal by the Executive Secretary. The objecting CPC shall explain the reason for the objection.
36. In the event of an objection to the inclusion pursuant to paragraph 35, the case shall be brought to the following session of the Compliance Committee for its examination. The Compliance Committee shall provide a recommendation to the Commission on the inclusion of the relevant vessel/s in the IUU Vessel List.
37. Vessels that have been listed under the procedures specified in paragraphs 34 and 35 and that have been removed from the IUU vessel lists of the relevant organisations set out in paragraph 31 shall be removed from the IOTC IUU Vessel List.
38. Upon the change of the IOTC IUU Vessel List pursuant to paragraphs 34 or 36, the IOTC Executive Secretary shall circulate the amended IOTC IUU Vessel List to all CPCs.

**General Provisions**

39. Without prejudice to the rights of flag States and coastal States to take action consistent with international law, CPCs shall not take any unilateral trade measures or other sanctions against vessels included in the Draft and/or Provisional IUU Vessel Lists, pursuant to paragraphs 8 and 16 on the grounds that such vessels are involved in IUU fishing activities, or against those vessels removed from the IUU vessels list by the Commission.
40. A summary of the timeframe for actions to be taken in respect of this Resolution is provided in **Annex V**
41. Resolution ~~1817~~/03 *On Establishing A List Of Vessels Presumed To Have Carried Out Illegal, Unreported And Unregulated Fishing In The IOTC Area* is superseded by this Resolution.