



06 June 2024

IOTC CIRCULAR 2024-30

Dear Madam / Sir

A COMMUNICATION FROM SRI LANKA

Please find attached a communication from Sri Lanka, regarding a request to remove two vessels from the IOTC IUU Vessels List.

As acknowledged during the proceedings of the 21st Session of the Compliance Committee (May 2024), the Secretariat had unfortunately failed to heed the notification for this submission, which was made well in advance of the abovementioned meeting. Therefore, as was agreed by the proponent of the request, and in accordance with the intersessional procedure outlined in paragraphs 25-28 of IOTC Resolution 18/03, I am circulating this request with all the supporting information submitted, for Members' consideration.

Pursuant to the intersessional procedure, Contracting Parties shall examine the request to remove the vessels and shall notify the IOTC Secretariat, within 30 days of this notification, i.e. **by 5th July 2024**, of their conclusion to either remove the vessels from, or keep the vessels on, the IUU Vessels List. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall, thereafter, ascertain the outcome of the CPCs' decision on the proposal, and proceed to update the IOTC IUU Vessels List, if considered appropriate.

Yours sincerely

Paul de Bruyn Executive Secretary

Attachment:

Communication from Sri Lanka.

Distribution

IOTC Contracting Parties: Australia, Bangladesh, China, Comoros, European Union, France (Territories), India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Rep of), Japan, Kenya, Rep. of Korea, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, United Rep. of Tanzania, Thailand, United Kingdom, Yemen. Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties: Liberia. Intergovernmental Organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations. Chairperson IOTC. Copy to: FAO Headquarters, FAO Representatives to CPCs.

This message has been transmitted by email only



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DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES & AQUATIC RESOURCES

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DFAR/DFO/BIOT-2022-



Dr. Paul De Bruyn **Executive Secretary** Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) PO BOX 1011, Victoria Seychelles IOTC-Secretariat@fao.org Copy: indrajaya123@gmail.com

Dear Dr. Paul

23

Request for the delisting of Sri Lanka fishing vessel IMULA 0846 KLT and IMULA 0730 KLT from the IOTC IUU vessels list 2023.

The two Sri Lanka fishing vessels bearing registration number IMULA 0846 KLT and IMULA 0730 KLT are being listed in the IOTC IUU vessels list since 2021 due to the ongoing prosecutions at the Magistrate Courts against the IUU fishing activity reported by UKOT to the IOTC, Compliance Committee under resolution 18/03.

The legal actions have been taken by the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Sri Lanka. The Magistrate courts of Sri Lanka has imposed, the sanctions as per the provisions of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act No. 2 of 1996 in response to the IUU fishing activity that has been reported by the UKOT.

The vessel Owner and the nationals employed on the two vessels at the time of the illegal operation are made aware on the mandatory obligations within the IOTC Area for species covered by the IOTC Agreement to comply with all IOTC Conservation and Management Measures.

Both vessels were installed new Vessels monitoring Devices for effective monitoring and control of the fishing activities of these vessels once they resume fishing operations.

By producing all relevant documents through e-MARIS reporting system, Sri Lanka would like to make a request to remove the above mentioned two vessels from the IUU vessels list.

I appreciate that the Secretariat circulate this letter to all members of the IOTC.

Yours Sincerely,

HPP

Kalyani Hewapathirana Head of Delegation to IOTC COC and the Commission Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Sri Lanka

Copy: Dr. Indra Jaya - Chair of the Compliance Committee



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11,03.2024



Resolution 18/03 – IUU vessels list (2023) – Information for the removal of vessel from the IUU vessels List

S/N	Reg. Number / Vessel Name	Date of arrested /inspected	Date of arrival to SL	Initial Actions taken by DFAR	Legal Actions taken	Current Status
02	IMULA0730KLT Lakpriya	29.08.2020	17.09.2020	 (i) Detained the vessel after arrival to the port of SL and being kept under the custody of Department of Coast Guard (DCG). (ii) Summoned the skipper and crew to the head office, DFAR and conducted an inquiry at the presence of the vessel owner. (iii) Suspended the fishing operation license, skipper license and seized the registration certificate and the log book issued to the vessel. (iv) The owner informed on the consequences of being listed in the IUU vessel list as per the IOTC Resolution 18/03. 	 (i)Initiated court case at Magistrate Court Colombo accused under section14 F of FARA No. 2 of 1996 amended by FARA No.35 of 2013. Case No: 40533/5/20 on the date of 04.09.2020 (ii)Magistrate ordered to detain the vessel at the Department of Coast Guard. (iii)Trial date was 28th June2021. (iv)Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the trial date shifted to 7th March 2022. (v) The Skipper does not appear at the Courts.Hon. Magistrate issued the warrant to arrest the skipper and DFAR file the plaint sheet on 7th March 2022 (vi) The Hon. Magistrate issued the verdict for accused to pay 1.5 Million penalty. (vii) Verdict on vessel confiscation adjourned to 31st January 2023. 	 (i) Accused to paid the 1.5 Million LKR penalty in three instalments in three months. (ii) Receipt No: N/25 0232258, N/25 02338730, S/25 055169 – (Annex i) (iii) Verdict on vessel confiscation adjourned to 25th April 2023. (iv) Case is over. Suspension lifted. (v) Added to the Risk vessel list of DFAR for strict monitoring. (vi) Installed the VMS (S/N:30161)

03	IMULA0846KLT	30.10.2020	20.11.2020	(i)Detained the vessel at the arrival to SL	(i)Initiated court case at Magistrate Court Colombo	
05	Sampath 12	50110.2020	20.11.2020	and being keptin the custody of Department of Coast Guard (DCG).	accused under section 14 F of FARA No. 2 of 1996 amended by FARA No.35 of 2013. Case No: 17524 on the date of 12.11.2020	(i)Skipper paid the fine (Receipt No.:R 776573,R
				(ii)Summoned the skipper and crew to the head office, DFAR and conducted an inquiry at the presence of the vessel owner.	(ii)Magistrate ordered to detain the vessel at the Department of Coast Guard.	777243 and R/25 256567-Annex ii (y)Owner had make
				(iii)Suspended the fishing operation	(iii)Trial date was04 th June 2021.	an appeal
				license, skipper license and seize the registration certificate and the log book issued to the vessel.	(iv)Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the trial date shifted to 4 th March 2022.	
				(iv)The owner informed of the consequences of being listed in the IUU vessel list as per the IOTC Resolution 18/03.	v) The Skipper does not appear at the Courts.Hon. Magistrate issued the warrant to arrest the skipper and DFAR file the plaint sheet on 4 th March 2022.	
				18/03.	 vi) The skipper pleaded guilty at the trial. Hon. Magistrate has issued the verdict to thel skipper to pay 1.5 Million penalty on 03rd November 2022. (vii) 	
					vii)Court date 10 th March 2023, due for the payment of the penalty and the verdict on the vessel	
					(i)Trial date was 16 th July 2023	

Annex i

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