

06 June 2024

**IOTC CIRCULAR**  
**2024-31**

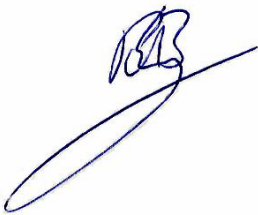
Dear Madam / Sir

**REQUEST FOR OBSERVER STATUS FROM THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MARITIME AFFAIRS (NIMA)**

Please find attached a request letter from the National Institute of Maritime Affairs (NIMA) to participate as an Observer to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission processes.

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

Yours sincerely



Paul de Bruyn  
Executive Secretary

**Attachments:**

- Letter from the National Institute of Maritime Affairs (NIMA)

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



**HEAD OFFICE**

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at Bahria University  
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NIMA/Head Office/2024/ 122

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**Mr. Paul de Bruyn**  
Executive Secretary  
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)  
Le Chantier Mall, P.O. Box 1011 Victoria, Mahé  
Republic of Seychelles

04 June 2024

**REQUEST FOR MEMBERSHIP - THE INDIAN OCEAN TUNA COMMISSION**

References:

- A. IOTC Circular 2024-18 dated 04 April 2024.
- B. German Ocean Foundation letter "Grimm 12"20457 Hamburg dated 27 March 2024.

1. The National Institute of Maritime Affairs (NIMA) serves as a pivotal institution in Pakistan, facilitating multi-disciplinary maritime research aimed at enhancing awareness and providing crucial policy advice to various stakeholders. NIMA, as a co-opted member of the Advisory Board of the National Security Committee (NSC), plays a significant role in advocating matters of paramount importance to the Government, particularly in the realm of maritime affairs. Moreover, NIMA actively engages in fostering awareness on pertinent maritime issues, including the promotion of the Blue Economy, through a series of conferences, seminars, webinars, and roundtable discussions, both at the national and international levels.

2. NIMA has been actively involved in marine research, policy advocacy, and sustainable fisheries management for several decades. Our participation in the IOTC as a permanent member would allow us to contribute more effectively to the Commission's efforts in ensuring the sustainable exploitation of tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean. Moreover, our extensive experience and resources could provide significant support to the Commission's scientific and regulatory activities.

3. We believe that the inclusion of NIMA as a permanent member will enhance the collaborative efforts of the IOTC in addressing the challenges faced in tuna fisheries management. Our commitment to scientific excellence and sustainable practices will bring valuable insights and support to the Commission's work.

4. In accordance with the IOTC Rules of Procedure, we kindly request the Contracting Parties to consider and approve our application for permanent membership or in advisory role. We are confident that our contributions will be beneficial to the Commission and will help in achieving its long-term objectives.

5. Thank you for considering our request. We look forward to the possibility of working more closely with the IOTC and its members.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Baber Bilal Haider', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**BABER BILAL HAIDER SI(M)**  
Commodore (Retd)  
Vice President