



# Report of the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission

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Thailand, 13-17 May 2024

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## ACRONYMS

AFAD	Anchored fish aggregating device
“BIOT”	“British Indian Ocean Territory”
BMSY	Biomass which produces MSY
CMM	Conservation and Management Measure (of the IOTC; Resolutions and Recommendations)
CNCP	Cooperating Non-Contracting Party, of the IOTC
CoC	Compliance Committee of the IOTC
CPs	Contracting Parties
CPCs	Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties
DFAD	Drifting fish aggregating device
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
FAD	Fish aggregating device
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FMSY	Fishing mortality at MSY
GEF	Global Environment Facility
HCR	Harvest control rule
ICRU	Improved Cost Recovery Uplift
IOC	Indian Ocean Commission
IOTC	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
IPNLF	International Pole and Line Foundation
ISSF	International Seafood Sustainability Foundation
IUU	Illegal, unreported and unregulated
LRP	Limit reference point
LSTLV	Large-scale tuna longline vessel
MPF	Meeting participation fund, of the IOTC
MSC	Marine Stewardship Council
MSE	Management Strategy Evaluation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OFCF	Overseas Fishery Cooperation Foundation of Japan
OIG	Office of the Inspector General
OPRT	Organisation for the Promotion of Responsible Tuna Fisheries
OT	Overseas Territories
PEW	PEW Charitable Trust
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organisation
SC	Scientific Committee of the IOTC
SCAF	Standing Committee on Administration and Finance of the IOTC
SIOFA	Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
SBMSY	Spawning or ‘adult’ equilibrium biomass at MSY
SWIOFC	Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission
TCAC	Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria of the IOTC
TCMP	Technical Committee on Management Procedures
TCPR	Technical Committee on Performance Review
TRP	Target referent point
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System
WPEB	Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch of the IOTC
WPICMM	Working party on the Implementation of Conservation and Management Measures
WPM	Working Party on Methods of the IOTC
WPTmT	Working Party on Temperate tunas of the IOTC
WPTT	Working Party on Tropical Tunas of the IOTC
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature (a.k.a World Wildlife Fund)

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## HOW TO INTERPRET TERMINOLOGY CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT

This report uses the following terms and associated definitions.

Level 1: From a subsidiary body of the Commission to the next level in the structure of the Commission:

**RECOMMENDED, RECOMMENDATION:** Any conclusion or request for an action to be undertaken, from a subsidiary body of the Commission (Committee or Working Party), which is to be formally provided to the next level in the structure of the Commission for its consideration/endorsement (e.g. from a Working Party to the Scientific Committee; from a Committee to the Commission). The intention is that the higher body will consider the recommended action for endorsement under its own mandate, if the subsidiary body does not already have the required mandate. Ideally this should be task specific and contain a timeframe for completion.

Level 2: From a subsidiary body of the Commission to a CPC, the IOTC Secretariat, or other body (not the Commission) to carry out a specified task:

**REQUESTED:** This term should only be used by a subsidiary body of the Commission if it does not wish to have the request formally adopted/endorsed by the next level in the structure of the Commission. For example, if a committee wishes to seek additional input from a CPC on a particular topic, but does not wish to formalise the request beyond the mandate of the Committee, it may request that a set action be undertaken. Ideally this should be task specific and contain a timeframe for the completion.

Level 3: General terms to be used for consistency:

**AGREED:** Any point of discussion from a meeting which the IOTC body considers to be an agreed course of action covered by its mandate, which has not already been dealt with under Level 1 or level 2 above; a general point of agreement among delegations/participants of a meeting which does not need to be considered/adopted by the next level in the Commission's structure.

**NOTED/NOTING:** Any point of discussion from a meeting which the IOTC body considers to be important enough to record in a meeting report for future reference.

**Any other term:** Any other term may be used in addition to the Level 3 terms to highlight to the reader of an IOTC report, the importance of the relevant paragraph. However, other terms used are considered for explanatory/informational purposes only and shall have no higher rating within the reporting terminology hierarchy than Level 3, described above (e.g. **CONSIDERED; URGED; ACKNOWLEDGED**).

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**CONTRACTING PARTIES OF THE INDIAN OCEAN TUNA COMMISSION****TWENTY NINE, AS OF 17 MAY 2024**

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AUSTRALIA  
BANGLADESH  
CHINA  
COMOROS  
EUROPEAN UNION  
FRANCE (OT)  
INDIA  
INDONESIA  
IRAN, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF  
JAPAN  
KENYA  
KOREA, REPUBLIC OF  
MADAGASCAR  
MALAYSIA  
MALDIVES  
MAURITIUS  
MOZAMBIQUE  
OMAN  
PAKISTAN  
PHILIPPINES  
SEYCHELLES  
SOMALIA  
SOUTH AFRICA, REP. OF  
SRI LANKA  
SUDAN  
UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
THAILAND  
UNITED KINGDOM  
YEMEN

**COOPERATING NON-CONTRACTING PARTIES OF THE INDIAN OCEAN TUNA COMMISSION****ONE, AS OF 17 MAY 2024**

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LIBERIA

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) was opened and chaired by the IOTC Chairperson Ms Jung-re Riley Kim (Rep. of Korea). Letters of Credentials were received from 28 Contracting Parties and 1 Cooperating Non-contracting Party (Liberia). The Commission also admitted 25 Observers (including the invited experts).

The Commission **NOTED** that at SC26, no nominations were received for the new Scientific Committee chair, and Dr. Kitakado continued as chair for another term as an interim measure. The Commission **NOTED** that some CPCs expressed a preference for an SC chair from a developing coastal nation. However, the Commission **AGREED** that the selection of the Scientific Committee chair should remain the decision of the SC itself. The Commission also **AGREED** that an election for the SC chair should take place at the next session of the SC in 2024.

The Commission **NOTED** that in 2023, the SC endorsed new data reporting forms to enhance clarity and to facilitate the reporting of mandatory fishery statistics as per Resolutions 15/01 and 15/02. The Commission **NOTED** two regional workshops have been organized in 2024 to train CPCs in using the new forms. The Commission **NOTED** that adaptation to the new reporting forms may require time and **AGREED** that implementation should start in 2025.

**NOTING** the call for a Special Session (SS) on yellowfin tuna from Pakistan, the Commission **AGREED** that a SS be held in the first half of 2025 should no yellowfin tuna management measure be adopted during the regular session of the Commission in April 2025.

The Commission **AGREED** that Vice-Chairs for the TCAC would be elected from CPCs, with the aim of supporting the independent chair, at the start of the TCAC13 meeting in Oman.

The Commission **NOTED** that a number of CPCs have contested their compliance assessments ([Appendix 6](#)) and **AGREED** not to publish the 2024 Final Compliance Reports of CPCs in the public part of the IOTC website. The Commission **FURTHER AGREED** to include a notation in the 2024 Final Compliance Reports, specifying which assessments were contested by CPCs.

The Commission **ADOPTED** the [IOTC IUU Vessels List](#). All CPCs shall be required to take the necessary measures regarding the IUU Vessels List in accordance with paragraph 21 of [Resolution 18/03](#).

The Commission **NOTED** the application for renewal of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (CNCP) status from the Republic of Liberia. The Commission **FURTHER NOTED** the presence of Liberia in the Compliance Committee and Commission meetings and **AGREED** to renew the CNCP status of Liberia, until the end of the Commission meeting in 2025.

The Commission **ADOPTED** the programme of work and budget for 2025, the indicative budget for 2026 ([Appendix 7](#)), and the schedule of contributions for 2025 as provided in [Appendix 8](#).

The Commission **ADOPTED** the schedule of meetings for its subsidiary bodies for 2025 as detailed in [Appendix 9](#), noting the Scientific Committee will, in December 2024, finalise the dates of the science meetings.

The Commission **AGREED** that the first session of the WPSE be held back-to-back with the TCAC in October 2024.

The Commission **ADOPTED** the following eleven Conservation and Management Measures:

[Resolution 24/01](#) *On climate change as it relates to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.*

[Resolution 24/02](#) *On management of drifting fish aggregating devices (FADS) in the IOTC area of competence.*

[Resolution 24/03](#) *On establishment of a list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the IOTC area of competence.*

[Resolution 24/04](#) *On a regional observer scheme.*

[Resolution 24/05](#) *On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels.*

[Resolution 24/06](#) *On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna, and non-targeted species caught by vessels in the IOTC record of authorisation that operate in the IOTC area of competence.*

[Resolution 24/07](#) *On a management procedure for skipjack tuna in the IOTC area of competence.*

[Resolution 24/08](#) *On a management procedure for swordfish in the IOTC area of competence.*



[Resolution 24/09](#) *To promote compliance by nationals of contracting parties and cooperating non-contracting parties with IOTC conservation and management measures.*

[Resolution 24/10](#) *On the promotion of the implementation of IOTC conservation and management measures.*

[Recommendation 24/11](#) *On conservation and management measure on marine pollution.*

## 1. Opening of the session

1. The 28th Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) was opened and chaired by the IOTC Chairperson Ms Jung-re Riley Kim (Rep. of Korea).
2. Mr Bancha Sukkaew, Director-General of the Department of Fisheries, Thailand, made the opening address. Statements were also read out by the delegations of the European Union and Oman.
3. The 28th Session of the Commission was held in a hybrid format, with delegations present physically in the meeting room, and other participants attending by videoconference.

## 2. Letters of credentials

4. Letters of Credentials were received from 28 Contracting Parties and 1 Cooperating Non-contracting Party (Liberia). Neither Yemen nor Sudan participated, although Yemen expressed their regret at not being able to participate just prior to the meeting having sent their credentials previously. The list of CPC participants is provided in [Appendix 1](#).
5. The Executive Secretary reminded CPCs that the content of the letters of credentials should be in accordance with the template provided in Appendix I of the IOTC Rules of Procedure.

## 3. Admission of Observers

6. Pursuant to Article VII of the Agreement establishing the IOTC, the Commission admitted 25 Observers (including the invited experts), in accordance with Rule XIV of the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014).
7. The list of participants, as listed in the letters of credentials, is provided in [Appendix 1](#).

## 4. Adoption of the agenda and arrangements for the session

8. The adopted agenda (IOTC-2024-S28-01b) is provided in [Appendix 2](#). The documents presented to the Commission are listed in [Appendix 3](#).

## 5. Determination of the status of the membership of United Kingdom in the IOTC

9. The Commission **NOTED** the statements from the United Kingdom and Mauritius, which are included in [Appendix 4](#), and deferred a decision on the status of the membership of the United Kingdom in the IOTC to its next session.

## 6. Update on the implementation of decisions of the Commission in 2023 (S27)

10. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC-2024-S28-02 which provided the Commission with information on the progress made during the inter-sessional period on the requests for action made at its 27th Session in 2023.

## 7. Amendments to the IOTC Rules of Procedure

11. The Commission **NOTED** that no requests for amendments to the IOTC Rules of Procedure had been received in 2024, however, feedback on a small Working Group tasked with amending the Rules of Procedure for the Meeting Participation Fund (MPF) is provided under Section 13.

## 8. Report of the Scientific Committee

12. The Commission **NOTED** the report of the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the Scientific Committee (SC) (IOTC-2023-SC26-R) which was presented by the SC Chair, Dr. Toshihide Kitakado (Japan). A total of 106 delegates and other participants, comprising 92 delegates from 21 Contracting Parties and 14 delegates from 11 observer organisations, including Invited Experts participated in SC26.
13. The Commission **NOTED** that all scientific working group and working party meetings taking place in 2023 had been successfully held, utilizing a hybrid format. The Commission also **NOTED** that the Scientific Committee meeting had been held in India and that the MPF was used to support the attendance of participants to that meeting.

14. The Commission **NOTED** that 25 National Reports were submitted to the IOTC Secretariat in 2023 by CPCs and that this was a slight decrease when compared with the 26 reports provided by CPCs in 2022.

***The status of tropical and temperate tunas***

15. The Commission **NOTED** that the current status of tropical and temperate tunas are as follows:

<p><b>Bigeye tuna</b></p> <p>No new stock assessment was carried out for bigeye tuna in 2023 and so the advice of status of stock is based on the 2022 assessment. On the weight-of-evidence available, the bigeye tuna stock is determined to be <b>overfished</b> and <b>subject to overfishing</b>. A bigeye Management Procedure (Res. 22/03) was used to provide is a recommendation on the TAC for 2024-2026.</p>
<p><b>Yellowfin tuna</b></p> <p>No new stock assessment was carried out for yellowfin tuna in 2023 and so the advice is based on the 2021 assessment. On the weight-of-evidence available since 2018, the yellowfin tuna stock is determined to remain <b>overfished</b> and <b>subject to overfishing</b>.</p>
<p><b>Skipjack tuna</b></p> <p>A new stock assessment was conducted in 2023 and the outcome of the assessment model is more optimistic than the previous assessment despite the high catches recorded in the period 2021-2022. On the weight-of-evidence available in 2023, the skipjack tuna stock is determined to be: (i) above the adopted biomass target reference point; (ii) <b>not overfished</b> (<math>SB_{2022} &gt; SB_{40\%SB0}</math>); (iii) with fishing mortality below the adopted target fishing mortality, and; (iv) <b>not subject to overfishing</b> (<math>E_{2022} &lt; E_{40\%SB0}</math>).</p>
<p><b>Albacore tuna</b></p> <p>No new stock assessment was carried out for albacore tuna in 2023 and so the advice is based on the 2022 assessment. Based on the weight-of-evidence available, the stock status of albacore tuna in relation to the Commission's interim <math>B_{MSY}</math> and <math>F_{MSY}</math> target reference points indicates that the stock is <b>not overfished</b> and is <b>not subject to overfishing</b>.</p>

16. Full stock status summaries are available [\[here\]](#).
17. The Commission **NOTED** a question regarding the necessity of a catch limit for SKJ, given that the species has been assessed as neither overfished nor subject to overfishing and that the stock is very productive. The Commission **NOTED** that the current productivity might result from favorable environmental conditions, which may not persist. The catch limit was set by the HCR specified in Resolution 21/03, which simulations have shown to perform effectively over a longer term, on average, under a range of uncertainty.
18. The Commission **NOTED** the YFT stock assessment external peer review workshop was held in February 2023. The report of that workshop was presented to the WPTT in October 2023 including the recommendations from the expert panel. The SC Chair further clarified that some of the expert panel's recommendations would be explored and addressed in the 2024 YFT stock assessment as well as to guide future research planning for YFT work.

***The status of neritic tunas***

19. The Commission **NOTED** that the current status of neritic tunas are as follows:

<p><b>Kawakawa</b></p> <p>A new stock assessment was carried out in 2023 using data-limited assessment techniques (CMSY). Based on the weight-of-evidence available, the kawakawa stock for the Indian Ocean is classified as <b>overfished</b> but <b>not subject to overfishing</b>.</p>
<p><b>Longtail tuna</b></p> <p>A new assessment was carried out in 2023 using data-limited assessment techniques (CMSY). Based on the weight-of-evidence currently available, the stock is considered to be both <b>overfished</b> and <b>subject to overfishing</b>.</p>
<p><b>Indo-Pacific king mackerel</b></p>

No new assessment was conducted in 2023 so results are based on the assessment conducted in 2021 using the data-limited techniques (CMSY and LB-SPR). Based on the weight-of-evidence currently available, the stock is considered to be **not overfished** and **not subject to overfishing**.

#### **Narrowed-Barred Spanish mackerel**

A new assessment was conducted for narrow-barred Spanish mackerel in 2023 which examined a number of data-limited methods including CMSY, OCOM, and JABBA models.

Based on the CMSY assessment, the stock appears to be **overfished** and **subject to overfishing**.

#### **Bullet tuna**

No new assessment was conducted in 2023. An assessment was carried out in 2022 using data-limited techniques, however the catch data for bullet tuna are very uncertain given the high percentage of the catches that had to be estimated due to a range of reporting issues. Stock status in relation to the Commission's BMSY and FMSY reference points remains **unknown**.

#### **Frigate tuna**

No new assessment was conducted in 2023. A new assessment was carried out in 2022 using the data-limited techniques (CMSY and LB-SPR), however the catch data for frigate tuna are very uncertain given the high percentage of the catches that had to be estimated due to a range of reporting issues. Stock status in relation to the Commission's BMSY and FMSY reference points remains **unknown**.

20. Full stock status summaries are available [\[here\]](#).
21. The Commission **NOTED** that the quality of the catch and associated data for neritic species remain poor and highly uncertain, which hampers the effective assessment and management of these species. The Commission **NOTED** that extensive discussion of data-related issues took place at the WPNT, WPDCS, and SC, and several coastal countries have been identified as priorities for data support missions to enhance the reporting of catch statistics.
22. The Commission further **NOTED** that last year, a training workshop on CPUE standardization was conducted during the WPNT to improve the capacity of scientists from CPCs to develop abundance indices for these species. The Commission **ENCOURAGED** the continuation of such capacity-building workshops in the future.
23. The Commission **NOTED** that, in some coastal fisheries, several neritic tuna species are captured together, therefore a multi-species approach would be more appropriate for effective management. The Commission **SUGGESTED** that the Scientific Committee should consider such an approach for the neritic tunas.

#### ***The status of billfish***

24. The Commission **NOTED** that the current status of billfish are as follows:

#### **Swordfish**

A new assessment was undertaken in 2023 using stock synthesis with fisheries data up to 2021. On the weight-of-evidence available in 2023, the stock is determined to be **not overfished** and **not subject to overfishing**.

#### **Striped Marlin**

No new assessment was conducted in 2023 and so the advice is based on the 2021 assessment. On the weight-of-evidence available in 2021, the stock status of striped marlin is determined to be **overfished** and **subject to overfishing**.

#### **Blue Marlin**

No new assessment was conducted in 2023 and so the advice is based on the 2022 assessment. On the weight-of-evidence available in 2022, the stock is determined to be **overfished** and **subject to overfishing**.

#### **Black Marlin**

No new assessment was conducted in 2023. A stock assessment based on JABBA, was conducted in 2021 for black marlin. Since 2018, there has been no discernible improvement in the data available for black marlin and the subsequent assessment outputs remain uncertain and should be interpreted with caution. As such, there is no reasonable justification to change the stock status from “**Not assessed/Uncertain**”.

#### **Indo-Pacific sailfish**

No new assessment was conducted in 2023 and so the advice is based on the 2022 assessment. On the weight-of-evidence available in 2022, the stock status of Indo-Pacific sailfish is determined to be **not overfished nor subject to overfishing**.

25. Full stock status summaries are available [\[here\]](#).

#### **Matters related to ecosystems, bycatch and the status of sharks**

26. The Commission **NOTED** that the current status of sharks are as follows:

#### **Blue shark**

No new stock assessment was carried out for blue sharks in 2023 and so the results are based on the assessment carried out in 2021 using an integrated age-structured model (SS3) (using data up to 2019). On the weight-of-evidence available in 2021, the stock status is determined to be **not overfished and not subject to overfishing**.

#### **Oceanic whitetip shark**

There is no quantitative stock assessment and limited basic fishery indicators currently available for oceanic whitetip sharks in the Indian Ocean therefore the stock status is **unknown**.

#### **Shortfin mako shark**

No new stock assessment was carried out for blue sharks in 2023. An assessment of shortfin mako sharks in 2020 was inconclusive. There is no quantitative stock assessment currently available for shortfin mako sharks in the Indian Ocean therefore the stock status is **unknown**.

27. Full stock status summaries are available [\[here\]](#).

#### **Scientific Committee Recommendations**

28. The Commission **NOTED** the stock status summaries for species of tuna and tuna-like species under the IOTC mandate, as well as other species impacted by IOTC fisheries and considered the recommendations made by the Scientific Committee to the Commission. The Commission **ENDORSED** the Scientific Committee’s 2023 list of recommendations as its own.
29. The Commission **ENDORSED** those officials elected for the SC and its subsidiary (scientific) bodies for the coming years, as listed in Appendix 7 of the 2023 Scientific Committee Report.
30. The Commission **NOTED** that at SC26, no nominations were received for the new Scientific Committee chair, and Dr. Kitakado continued as chair for another term as an interim measure. The Commission **NOTED** that some CPCs expressed a preference for an SC chair from a developing coastal nation. However, the Commission **AGREED** that the selection of the Scientific Committee chair should remain the decision of the SC itself. The Commission also **AGREED** that an election for the SC chair should take place at the next session of the SC in 2024.
31. The Commission **NOTED** that Resolution 16/07 *On the use of artificial lights to attract fish* (which prohibits using artificial lights for the purpose of aggregating tuna and tuna-like species) requires further clarifications as to which fishery/gear this measure should apply. The Commission **REQUESTED** the CPCs to provide proposals to revise the Resolution next year.
32. The Commission **NOTED** that some of, the IOTC CMMs apply to vessels targeting tuna and tuna like species that exceed 24 meters in length or operate outside the EEZ when shorter than 24 meters. The Commission further **NOTED** that nominal catch data submitted to the IOTC Secretariat are provided without distinction by vessel class or size; consequently, it is not possible, for example, to estimate accurately catches specifically by vessels less than 12 meters.

33. The Commission **NOTED** that in 2023, the SC endorsed new data reporting forms to enhance clarity and to facilitate the reporting of mandatory fishery statistics as per Resolutions 15/01 and 15/02. The Commission **NOTED** two regional workshops have been organized in 2024 to train CPCs in using the new forms. The Commission **NOTED** that adaptation to the new reporting forms may require time and **AGREED** that implementation should start in 2025.
34. The Commission **NOTED** that the SC suggested a consultancy to evaluate the feasibility of developing gillnet CPUE across the Indian Ocean. The Commission **NOTED** that the gillnet fishery accounted for a significant proportion of catches for key IOTC species, but they lack geo-referenced catch effort data. The Commission tasked the SC with drafting a plan to engage a consultant to develop indices from the gillnet fishery.
35. The Commission **NOTED** that WWF has pledged funds to participate and assist in the proposed yellowfin CKMR project. The Commission **THANKED** WWF for its support.

## 9. Conservation and Management Measures

### 9.1 *Current Conservation and Management Measures that include a reference to the year 2024.*

36. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC-2024-S28-03 which provided the Commission with information on the current Conservation and Management Measures that include a reference to the year 2024.

### 9.2 *Review of objections received under Article IX.5 of the IOTC Agreement (IOTC-2024-S28-04)*

37. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC-2024-S28-04 which provided the Commission with information on the objections to several IOTC Resolutions (received under Article IX.5 of the IOTC Agreement) and how these Resolutions are therefore subsequently applied.

### 9.4 *Proposals for new or revised Conservation and Management Measures (noting that, some proposals will be considered under other agenda items, as relevant).*

38. The Commission **ADOPTED** the following eleven Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs):

Resolution 24/01 *On climate change as it relates to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission* [[download here](#)]

39. The basis of this resolution was Proposal B which provided a revision to Resolution 22/01.

Resolution 24/02 *On management of drifting fish aggregating devices (FADS) in the IOTC area of competence* [[download here](#)].

40. The basis of this resolution was Proposals R, A, K and E which provided revisions to Resolution 19/02.

Resolution 24/03 *On establishment of a list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the IOTC area of competence* [[download here](#)].

41. The basis of this resolution was Proposal F which provided a revision to Resolution 18/03.

Resolution 24/04 *On a regional observer scheme* [[download here](#)]

42. The basis of this resolution was Proposal I which provided a revision to Resolution 22/04.

Resolution 24/05 *On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels* [[download here](#)].

43. The basis of this resolution was Proposals D, N and S which provided revisions to Resolution 23/05.

Resolution 24/06 *On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna, and non-targeted species caught by vessels in the IOTC record of authorisation that operate in the IOTC area of competence* [[download here](#)].

44. The basis of this resolution was Proposal Q.

Resolution 24/07 *On a management procedure for skipjack tuna in the IOTC area of competence* [[download here](#)].

45. The basis of this resolution was Proposal H which provided a revision to Resolution 21/03. The measure was discussed and adopted under section 11 (see below).

Resolution 24/08 *On a management procedure for swordfish in the IOTC area of competence* [[download here](#)].

46. The basis of this resolution was Proposal G. The measure was discussed and adopted under section 11 (see below).

Resolution 24/09 To promote compliance by nationals of contracting parties and cooperating non-contracting parties with IOTC conservation and management measures [[download here](#)].

47. The basis of this resolution was Proposal X which provided a revision to Resolution 07/01.

Resolution 24/10 On the promotion of the implementation of IOTC conservation and management measures [[download here](#)].

48. The basis of this resolution was Proposal T which provided revisions, clarifications and simplifications to Resolutions 14/01 and 16/01. The Commission **NOTED** the suggestion that the WPICMM continue identifying CMMs that could be revised, merged or revoked to make the IOTC regulatory framework clearer for CPCs and stakeholders.

Recommendation 24/11 On conservation and management measure on marine pollution [[download here](#)]

49. The basis of this recommendation was Proposal C.

50. The Commission also **CONSIDERED** the following proposals:

IOTC-2024-S28-PropV&J On the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC (cf Res 17/05).

51. It was noted that the provisions under proposals V & J were similar and as such, the proponents were encouraged to work together to merge the two proposals.

52. After several revisions, no consensus could be reached on the requirement for sharks, including their landing with fins naturally attached and the use of wire tracers/leaders and shark lines.

53. The proponents noted their disappointment that despite strong support for the proposal, consensus could not be reached on Management Measures for species assessed by the SC to be extremely vulnerable. The UK made a statement provided in [Appendix 5](#). The proposal was deferred to allow more scientific advice to be provided.

54. The Commission **REQUESTED** the Scientific Committee to initiate management strategy evaluation (MSE) simulations for blue shark with the aim of developing an MP for the species.

IOTC-2024-S28-PropL On a high seas boarding and inspection scheme.

55. This proposal was revised several times to incorporate comments by CPCs, however, a request to make the measure voluntary was not accepted by consensus.

56. A few CPCs expressed concern about the safety of crew during boarding operations as well as the difficulty in implementing the measures due to complicated political relationships with their neighbouring countries, followed by a clarification that the measures apply to the high seas only.

57. Despite the revisions, there was no agreement to adopt this proposal and it was deferred, although a CPC noted that unless the IOTC agreement is revised to take into consideration the provisions of the proposal, it would not be in a position to accept the proposal in the future.

IOTC-2024-S28-PropM On establishing a fishing closure in the Indian ocean for the conservation of tropical tunas (cf Res 23/03).

58. The proposal was based on the analysis presented in 2023 to the working group on FADs (IOTC-2023-WGFAD05-13) and the conclusion of the Scientific Committee.

59. Several CPCs noted their dependency on fisheries for both their economy as well as food security and noted that a complete closure for all gears would place a disproportionate burden on them. Other CPCs noted that they already enforced seasonal fishing bans in their coastal waters and requested that the timings of these bans be incorporated into the proposal.

60. The proponents stopped pursuing the adoption of their proposal when it became clear to them that the Commission would not be able to adopt it by consensus. The proponents requested that the SC be tasked with evaluating an effective common period for a fishing ban.

IOTC-2024-S28-PropO *Mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC contracting parties and cooperating non-contracting parties (CPCS)(cf Res 15/02).*

61. The basis for this proposal was Resolution 15/02. This proposal increased the scope of the current resolution and included elements of the legal scrubbing exercise as well as advice from the SC.

62. Despite revisions made, the proponents withdrew the proposal when it became apparent that no consensus could be reached.

IOTC-2024-S28-PropP *On the recording and reporting of catch and effort data by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence (cf Res 15/01).*

63. The basis for this proposal was Resolution 15/01. As with PropP, this proposal increased the scope of the current resolution and included elements of the legal scrubbing exercise as well as advice from the SC.

64. Despite revisions made, the proponents withdrew the proposal when it became apparent that no consensus could be reached.

IOTC-2024-S28-PropU *On an interim yellowfin tuna rebuilding plan (cf Res 21/01).*

65. The proposal sought to revise Resolution 21/01.

66. The Commission **NOTED** with concern the current status of the yellowfin tuna stock and there was general agreement that this should be urgently addressed.

67. The Commission **NOTED** the opinion of several CPCs that the adoption of a Resolution for yellowfin in 2024 would be premature as the new stock assessment for the species is scheduled for October. These CPCs expressed their opinion that the findings of the new assessment should be incorporated into any updated management measure.

68. There was disagreement on several components of the proposal, including the reference years for determining catch limits, the proposed catch limits per country as well as the application of the Resolution (high seas and EEZ).

69. Despite numerous revisions being made, the proponents deferred the proposal when it became apparent that no consensus would be reached.

70. **NOTING** the call for a Special Session (SS) on yellowfin tuna from Pakistan, the Commission **AGREED** that a SS be held in the first half of 2025 should no yellowfin tuna management measure be adopted during the regular session of the Commission in April 2025.

71. The Commission also **NOTED** the offer from Pakistan to host the SS in Islamabad, Pakistan at a date to be determined intersessionally.

IOTC-2024-S28-PropW *On measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (cf 07/01 and 18/03).*

72. The proposal sought to revise Resolution 07/01 and 18/03.

73. Several CPCs disagreed with the definition of IUU fishing, particularly with regards to FADs drifting into EEZs, and expressed their concern that the measure focused mainly on a particular gear type. The proponents disagreed with this sentiment, noting that the proposal had been revised to remove exclusions for certain gears, making it more inclusive.

74. The proponents expressed their disappointment that the proposal could not be adopted by consensus and subsequently withdrew the proposal.

## 10. Report of the Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria

### 10.1 Overview of the TCAC12 Report



75. The Commission **NOTED** that the Independent Chairperson of the TCAC, Ms Nadia Bouffard, had resigned after the last session of the TCAC in October 2023. As such the Secretariat presented a summary of the report of TCAC12 which was held in the Seychelles, from 16 to 19 October 2023 (IOTC-2023-TCAC12-R). Delegates from 25 Contracting Parties (China, Republic of Korea, Kenya and Philippines participated virtually) and 10 observer organisations including invited experts participated in the session.
76. The Commission **NOTED** that the outgoing Chair had circulated a 6th version of an allocation proposal for the TCAC12 to consider.
77. The Commission **EXPRESSED** its frustration that advice sought from the FAO Legal department in March had not been provided to the TCAC meeting in October 2023. The Commission **NOTED** that feedback from the FAO legal department needs to be timely and clear so that the Commission can fully understand and make use of FAOs position on key matters when taking management decisions.

### **10.2. Future Direction of the TCAC**

78. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC-2024-S28-07 which provided an outline presented by a CPC for working towards further progress on the development of an allocation of fishing opportunities for IOTC species. The text of the document included a revision to the allocation proposal distributed by the outgoing independent Chair of the TCAC.
79. The Commission **THANKED** the authors of the document for providing a document to advance the allocation process and many CPCs expressed their commitment to contribute to improving the text before the next TCAC meeting.
80. The Commission also **THANKED** the Secretariat for developing the simulation tool, which allowed CPCs to effectively visualise the effects that changing some of the parameters in the proposal would have on individual CPC allocations. The UK recalled its suggestion that it would be helpful to have another meeting of the online working group prior to TCAC13 to give delegations another opportunity to discuss the simulation tool, the simulations developed so far and any remaining input required, and to ensure all delegations understand how it works in advance of TCAC13.
81. Somalia reiterated that it had sent an objection to the allocation process. This objection was circulated to all CPCs as [Circular 2024-22](#).

### **10.3. Election of TCAC Chair**

82. Due to the resignation of the previous independent Chair, the Commission had undertaken an intersessional process to identify suitable candidates to take over as the new independent Chair of the TCAC.
83. Dr Quentin Hanich was elected as the new independent Chair of the TCAC by secret ballot.
84. The Commission **AGREED** that Vice-Chair(s) for the TCAC would be elected from CPCs, with the aim of supporting the independent chair, at the start of the TCAC13 meeting in Oman.

## **11. Report of the Technical Committee on Management Procedures**

85. The Commission **NOTED** the report of the 8th meeting of the Technical Committee on Management Procedures (TCMP) (IOTC-2024-TCMP08-R) and **ENDORSED** the following TCMP recommendations:
- Considering that all Skipjack MPs tested show good performance with respect to stock status (e.g., all showing stock biomass above the LRP with high probability) and little difference among them in other performances measures under the reference set, the TCMP **NOTED** that all MPs ensure the skipjack will be managed within safe biological limits. Therefore, the TCMP **RECOMMENDED** the Commission to consider for adoption the EU proposal for the MP that has the following properties: (i) 50% probability of being at the skipjack target reference point in 2034-2038 (i.e., 40% B<sub>0</sub>), (ii) the stable type MP parameterisation, and (iii) an asymmetric TAC change clause.
  - The TCMP **NOTED** that increased catches of skipjack will also affect yellowfin and bigeye stocks which are overfished and subject to overfishing. The TCMP **RECOMMENDED** that the SC investigate and incorporate

ecosystem effects in the next skipjack revision of the MP since the fishery of skipjack will impact catches in other species, such as yellowfin, bigeye, and sharks.

- Moreover, considering that in the past skipjack catches have been greater than the recommended limits, the TCMP **RECOMMENDED** the Commission to take the necessary actions to ensure that catches do not exceed the TAC when the MP is applied.
- After considering the performance and trade-off between management objectives of the six candidate management procedures of swordfish, the TCMP **RECOMMENDED** the Commission to consider for adoption the Australian proposal for a swordfish MP: MP1 or MP2. These have the following properties: a fast reacting, data-based type MP, with either 60% (MP1) or 70% (MP2) probability of being at the target reference point in 2034-2038.
- The TCMP also **NOTED** that changes in swordfish catch will also affect other species, particularly shark species. The TCMP **RECOMMENDED** that the SC investigate and incorporate ecosystem effects in the next swordfish revision of the MP.

86. The Commission also **NOTED** the TCMP recommendation on the arrangements for TCMP meetings in 2025:

- Considering the progress on MSE for IOTC species, the TCMP **RECOMMENDED** that a virtual TCMP be convened early in 2025 with a special focus on albacore tuna if the SC agrees that sufficient progress has been made, and a one-day TCMP be convened back-to-back with the Commission's Session in 2025. The TCMP also **RECOMMENDED** that the WPM(MSE) be held in March/April, and that the next TCMP meeting should include a capacity building component, taking into consideration the options suggested by the small Working Group.

87. However, **NOTING** that it was unlikely that any Management Procedure would be ready for adoption in 2025, the Commission proposed that the first meeting of the TCMP in February should only be held if deemed necessary by the SC. The Commission **AGREED** that the second meeting of the TCMP could be shortened to one day.

88. The Commission **THANKED** the SC Chair, Dr Toshi Kitakado for his commendable work in leading the preparation of TCMP and his contribution to the progress of IOTC MSE.

89. Following the adoption of the management procedure proposals for skipjack and swordfish, along with the timeline for the future implementation of the measures, the Commission **NOTED** that the SC, via its WPM was tasked to review the schedule of MSE work for IOTC species and to provide an update to the TCMP in 2025 for endorsement.

## 12. Report of the Compliance Committee

### 12.1 Overview of the CoC21 Report

90. The Commission **NOTED** the report of the 21st Session of the Compliance Committee (IOTC-2024-CoC21-R), which was presented by the Compliance Committee's Chairperson, Dr Indra Jaya (Indonesia). Delegates from 26 Contracting Parties (CPs), one Cooperating Non-Contracting Party and 11 Observers, including Invited Experts, participated in the meeting.

91. The Commission **NOTED** the IOTC 2023 Provisional IUU Vessels List and the recommendations of the Compliance Committee for the Commission to adopt an IUU Vessels List. The Commission **FURTHER NOTED** the recommendations to update the information of eight vessels which were previously included in the IOTC IUU Vessels List and to cross-list six vessels from the SIOFA and ICCAT IUU Vessels Lists.

92. The Commission **CONSIDERED** the additional information provided by Indonesia during the Commission meeting, which included information on administrative sanctions against master of the BELMETI and **AGREED** not to include the vessel BELMETI in the IOTC IUU Vessels List.

93. Noting the discrepancies between the Somali legislation at the time of the activities of the CHOTCHAINAVEE 35 and the results of the judgement of Thailand's Supreme Court which found that the vessel CHOTCHAINAVEE 35 had legally fished in the waters of Puntland, Federal Republic of Somalia, Somalia was requested to provide

clarification on the legality of those fishing activities. The Commission **NOTED** the statement of Somalia that fishing with trawl gear in all waters under the jurisdiction of Somalia (including in the 0-24 nautical miles area) was prohibited by the Somali legislation at the time of the activities and remains strictly prohibited under their current legislation. The Commission also **NOTED** the statement of Thailand that the vessel was provided with a fishing authorisation by Somalia.

94. With the exception of the recommendation that Iran should proceed with submitting preliminary data on the due date, that is, in accordance with date defined in paragraph 7 (b) of IOTC Resolution 15/02, and submit final data two (2) months after the due date, the Commission **ENDORSED** the remaining recommendations arising from the Report of the 21st Session of the Compliance Committee as its own.

### **12.2 Review of CPC's Compliance Reports**

95. The Commission **NOTED** that a number of CPCs have contested their compliance assessments ([Appendix 6](#)) and **AGREED** not to publish the 2024 Final Compliance Reports of CPCs in the public part of the IOTC website. The Commission **FURTHER AGREED** to include a notation in the 2024 Final Compliance Reports, specifying which assessments were contested by CPCs.
96. The Commission **AGREED** to create an ad hoc Working Group to discuss and propose improvements to the procedures outlined in the IOTC Rules of Procedures (Appendix V), notably paragraphs 4, 5 and 6. The Commission **FURTHER AGREED** that the sessions of the ad-hoc Working Group shall be convened virtually during the intersessional period, with the objective of presenting any clarifications and proposed changes to the Rules of Procedures (RoP) to the WPICMM, and a formal proposal for amending the RoP at the Commission's annual session in 2025.
97. The Commission **NOTED** the intervention of Somalia on their failure to participate in the work of the 21<sup>st</sup> Session of the Compliance Committee and the difficulties that they faced to provide the mandatory reports that would allow the Compliance Committee to fully assess their compliance status.

### **12.3 Adoption of the List of IUU Vessels**

98. The Commission **AGREED** that the ten Indian flagged vessels (IND-TN-15-MM-5477 (AVE MARIA), IND-TN-15-MM-7154 (ST ANNES), IND-TN-15-MM-3793 (ST MARYS), IND-TN-15-MM-8001 (SEA ANGEL), IND-TN-15-MM-8997 (ST ANTHONY), IND-TN-15-MM-5383 (MOTHER OF JESUS), IND-TN-15-MM-6756 (MARIYAL), IND-TN-15-MM-4683 (MANJUMATHA), IND-TN-15-MM-5344 (MAN JUMATHA) and IND-TN-15-MM-8696 (GODS GIFT)) be included in the IOTC IUU Vessels List.
99. The Commission **AGREED** that the three Sri Lankan flagged vessels (IMUL-A-1053-TLE (HAMBAN TOTA EXPRESS), IMUL-A0867-KLT (SAMPATH) and IMUL-A-2159-CHW (SANJANA PUTHA)) be included in the IOTC IUU Vessels List.
100. The Commission **AGREED** to update the details of eight vessels (AVEMARIYA, FU LIEN No. 1, ISRAR 1, ISRAR 2, ISRAR 3, NEPTUNE, YU FONG 168, FREEDOM 7 (ex-ZHI MING)) previously included in the IOTC IUU Vessels List.
101. The Commission **ADOPTED** the IOTC [IUU Vessels List](#). All CPCs shall be required to take the necessary measures regarding the IUU Vessels List in accordance with paragraph 21 of [Resolution 18/03](#).

### **12.4 Requests for the accession to the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party**

102. The Commission **NOTED** the application for renewal of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (CNCP) status from the Republic of Liberia. The Commission **FURTHER NOTED** the presence of Liberia in the Compliance Committee and Commission meetings and **AGREED** to renew the CNCP status of Liberia, until the end of the Commission meeting in 2025.

## **13. Report of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance**

### **13.1 Overview of the SCAF20 report**

103. The Commission **NOTED** the report of the 21st Session of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF) (IOTC-2024-SCAF21-R), which was presented by the SCAF Chairperson, Mr Farhan Khan (Pakistan). Delegates from 27 Contracting Parties and 6 Observers participated in the meeting.
104. The Commission **NOTED** the clarification from the SCAF that in the future, only one participant (excluding Chairs and Vice-Chairs) would be supported by the MPF per CP.
105. The Commission **ENDORSED** the SCAF21 list of recommendations as its own, **NOTING**:
- The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Chair along with the Chair of the Commission draft and send a letter to the Director General of FAO to express concern about the annual fees and request a reduction, noting that these funds are required for other important activities. The SCAF **NOTED** that the Committee on Fisheries of FAO in July could be an opportunity for CPCs to convey their concerns on this matter to FAO.
  - The SCAF **NOTED** that the MPF is administered according to FAO rules and procedures which do not provide the flexibility for the Secretariat to organise the most convenient travel and accommodation options for participants. The SCAF therefore **RECOMMENDED** that the Chair of the Commission request that FAO allow the Secretariat greater flexibility when administering this fund and providing travel and accommodation solutions for participants.
  - In the short-term the SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission encourage that IOTC meetings be held in FAO Preferred Hotel Programme (PHP) venues (where applicable and/or possible) with the intention of ensuring that MPF recipients are not disadvantaged by having to travel from PHP hotels to the meeting venue. This should be done without prejudice to national market competition rules and procurement processes.
  - The SCAF **NOTED** that due to the expected increased demand and higher travel costs in 2024 that the funds available in the MPF for the remainder of 2024 may not be sufficient to cover demand and **RECOMMENDED** the use of the Working Capital Fund to supplement the MPF on an exceptional basis.
  - The SCAF **NOTED** that the 2025 MPF budget may not be sufficient to meet the expected increased demand and higher travel costs and **AGREED** to an increase in the MPF funding under the Regular budget in 2025. The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** the use of the Working Capital Fund (WCF) to supplement the MPF on an exceptional basis, should the MPF require additional funds in 2025. The SCAF **AGREED** that the MPF should not be exclusively funded from the WCF. The SCAF **ALSO NOTED** the potential budgetary consequences, should the policy of covering one person per qualifying CPC be changed.
  - The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** to the Commission that, on an exceptional basis, and pending a review of the SWG, the current 75%:25% allocation of the MPF to science and non-science meetings (Rule XVI.5: of the IOTC Rules of Procedure) not be applied in 2025, while **NOTING** that given the relevance of Scientific meetings, a sufficient proportion of the MPF should be maintained for those meetings.
  - The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt the Programme of Work and Budget and the scheme of contributions for 2025 and 2026 (indicative) as outlined in Appendix 5 and Appendix 6, respectively, while **NOTING** that the Program of Work for the IOTC Secretariat is based on the assumption that the nature and extent of the activities undertaken by the IOTC Secretariat will remain within the current scope. Any new activities agreed to during the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission (S28) that have budgetary consequences, will require an amendment of the figures.

### **13.2 SCAF feedback on draft rules of Procedure for the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund**

106. The Commission were **INFORMED** that a preliminary meeting of the small group to review the rules of Procedure for the Meeting Participation Fund had met in early 2024. The Commission **NOTED** that further meetings of this group were planned to be held intersessionally and that it would report back to the SCAF in 2025.

### **13.3 Adoption of the Programme of Work and Budget of the Commission**

107. The Commission **ADOPTED** the programme of work and budget for 2025, the indicative budget for 2026 ([Appendix 7](#)), and the schedule of contributions for 2025 as provided in [Appendix 8](#).

#### **13.4 Schedule of meetings for 2025**

108. The Commission **ADOPTED** the schedule of meetings for its subsidiary bodies for 2025 as detailed in [Appendix 9](#), noting the Scientific Committee, in December 2024, will finalise the dates of the science meetings.

### **14. Any Other Business**

#### **14.1 Cooperation with other organisations and institutions**

109. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC-2024-S28-05 that listed the bodies with which it is currently collaborating.

110. The Secretariat informed the Commission that the previous instrument used for collaborations with other organisations, the Collaboration Agreement, was no longer suitable unless the organisation already has an MoU in place with the FAO. As such future agreements would need to be developed as MoUs with FAO and then CAs could be used to define the technical aspects of the collaborations between the organisation and the IOTC.

111. The Commission **EXPRESSED** its dissatisfaction with the arrangement and noted that collaborations are necessary for the Commission's functioning and that having to process these arrangements continuously through FAO was not efficient.

112. The Commission **REQUESTED** that FAO provide legal representation at future IOTC meetings so that issues of this nature could be discussed during the meetings and time-consuming intersessional consultations with the FAO legal department would not be necessary. A CPC also suggested that a paper be drafted expressing these concerns and the functioning of IOTC under the FAO, for presentation at the next session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) that is due to be held in July 2024.

#### **14.2 Proposal for a Code of Conduct for IOTC Meetings**

113. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC-2024-S28-06 that provided a proposed Code of Conduct for participants to IOTC meetings.

114. The Commission **THANKED** the Chair, Vice-Chairs and Secretariat for developing the proposed document and **INVITED** CPCs to provide feedback and comments that could be taken into account for future revisions and possible adoption at the next meeting of the Commission in 2025.

#### **14.3 Date and place of the first session of the Working Party on Socio Economics (WPSE)**

115. The Commission **AGREED** that the first session of the WPSE be held back-to-back with the TCAC in October 2024 while having both meetings for a maximum of five days in total.

#### **14.4 Date and place of the 29<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission in 2025**

116. The Commission unanimously **THANKED** the Government of Thailand for hosting the 28<sup>th</sup> Session and for the warm welcome, the excellent facilities and assistance provided to the IOTC Secretariat and Commission in the organisation and running of the Session.

117. The Commission **THANKED** the European Union for its generous offer to host the 29<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Compliance Committee, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance, and the 8<sup>th</sup> Session of the Technical Committee on Management Procedures in La Réunion from 7 to 17 April 2025.

118. The Commission also **THANKED** the Maldives for its generous offer to host the 30<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission and associated meetings (dates to be confirmed) in 2026 and to Pakistan for offering to host the 31<sup>st</sup> Session of the Commission in 2027.

### **15. Adoption of the report of the 28th Session of the Commission**

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119. The report of the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC-2024-S28-R) was **ADOPTED** by correspondence on 16 July 2024.

**APPENDIX 1.**  
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**APPENDIX 2.****AGENDA OF THE 28TH SESSION OF THE INDIAN OCEAN TUNA COMMISSION**

- 1. OPENING OF THE SESSION**
- 2. LETTERS OF CREDENTIALS**
- 3. ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS**
- 4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION**
- 5. DETERMINATION OF THE STATUS OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN THE IOTC**
- 6. UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS OF THE COMMISSION IN 2023 (S27)**
- 7. AMENDMENTS TO THE IOTC RULES OF PROCEDURE**
- 8. REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**
  - 8.1.** Overview of the 2023 SC26 Report (SC Chairperson)
  - 8.2.** Discussion on any related conservation and management measures
- 9. CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES**
  - 9.1.** Current Conservation and Management Measures that require action by the Commission in 2024
  - 9.2.** Review of objections received under Article IX.5 of the IOTC Agreement
  - 9.3.** Proposals for new or revised Conservation and Management Measures (noting that, some proposals will be considered under other agenda items, as relevant).
- 10. REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON ALLOCATION CRITERIA**
  - 10.1.** Overview of the TCAC12 Report (TCAC Chairperson)
  - 10.2.** Future Direction of the TCAC
  - 10.3.** Election of TCAC Chair
- 11. REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES**
  - 11.1.** Overview of the TCMP07 Report (TCMP Chairpersons)
- 12. REPORT OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**
  - 12.1.** Overview of the CoC21 Report (CoC Chairperson)
  - 12.2.** Adoption of the List of IUU Vessels
  - 12.3.** Requests for accession to the status of Cooperating non-Contracting Party
  - 12.4.** Review of CPCs Compliance Reports
- 13. REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
  - 13.1.** Overview of the SCAF21 Report (SCAF Chairperson)
  - 13.2.** SCAF feedback on draft rules of Procedure for the IOTC Working Capital Fund
  - 13.3.** Adoption of the Programme of Work and Budget of the Commission
  - 13.4.** Schedule of meetings for 2025-2026
- 14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
  - 14.1.** Cooperation with other organisations and institutions
  - 14.2.** Proposal for a Code of Conduct for IOTC Meetings
  - 14.3.** Date and place of the first session of the Working Party on Socio Economics
  - 14.4.** Date and place of the 29<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission and the meetings of its associated subsidiary bodies in 2025
- 15. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 28th SESSION OF THE COMMISSION**

**APPENDIX 3.**  
**LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

Document	Title
IOTC-2024-S28-01a	Provisional agenda for S28 (March).
IOTC-2024-S28-01b	Provisional agenda for S28 (April).
IOTC-2024-S28-01c	Provisional agenda for S28 (May)
IOTC-2024-S28-02	Progress on the requests for action made by the Commission in 2023
IOTC-2024-S28-03	Report on current CMMs that include a reference to the year 2024
IOTC-2024-S28-04	Review of objections received under Article IX.5 of the IOTC Agreement
IOTC-2024-S28-05	IOTC collaborative arrangements - an overview
IOTC-2024-S28-06	IOTC Code of Conduct - draft
IOTC-2024-S28-07	Working towards further progress on the development of an allocation of fishing opportunities for IOTC species (South Africa)
IOTC-2024-S28-08	Information from Indonesia (and additional information)
IOTC-2024-S28-PropA	On management of drifting fish aggregating devices (DFADs) in the IOTC area of competence (cf Res 19/02) – Korea
IOTC-2024-S28-PropB	On climate change as it relates to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (cf Res 22/01) – Korea
IOTC-2024-S28-PropC	On conservation and management on marine pollution – Korea
IOTC-2024-S28-PropD	On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels (cf Res 23/05) – Korea
IOTC-2024-S28-PropE	On the biodegradability of drifting fish aggregating devices (DFADs) in the IOTC area of competence – European Union
IOTC-2024-S28-PropF	On establishing a list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the IOTC area of competence (cf Res 18/03) – China
IOTC-2024-S28-PropG	On a management procedure for swordfish in the IOTC area of competence – Australia
IOTC-2024-S28-PropH	On a management procedure for skipjack tuna in the IOTC area of competence (cf Res 21/03) - European Union
IOTC-2024-S28-PropI	On a regional observer scheme (cf 22/04) - European Union
IOTC-2024-S28-PropJ	On the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC (cf Res 17/05) - European Union
IOTC-2024-S28-PropK	On management of drifting fish aggregating devices (FADS) in the IOTC area of competence (cf Res 19/02) - European Union

<b>Document</b>	<b>Title</b>
IOTC-2024-S28-PropL	On a high seas boarding and inspection scheme – European Union
IOTC-2024-S28-PropM	On establishing a fishing closure in the Indian ocean for the conservation of tropical tunas (cf Res 23/03) – European Union
IOTC-2024-S28-PropN	On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels (cf 23/05) – Japan
IOTC-2024-S28-PropO	Mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC contracting parties and cooperating non-contracting parties (CPCS)(cf Res 15/02) - Seychelles
IOTC-2024-S28-PropP	On the recording and reporting of catch and effort data by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence (cf Res 15/01)- Seychelles
IOTC-2024-S28-PropQ	On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna, and non-targeted species caught by vessels in the IOTC record of authorisation that operate in the iotc area of competence - Seychelles
IOTC-2024-S28-PropR	On management of drifting fish aggregating devices (DFADs) in the IOTC area of competence (cf. Res 19/02) – (Indonesia, Pakistan, Somalia and South Africa)
IOTC-2024-S28-PropS	On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels (cf. Res 23/05) (Indonesia)
IOTC-2024-S28-PropT	On the promotion of the implementation of IOTC conservation and management measures (cf Res 14/01, Res 16/10) – South Africa
IOTC-2024-S28-PropU	On an interim yellowfin tuna rebuilding plan (cf Res 21/01) – Pakistan, South Africa and Iran)
IOTC-2024-S28-PropV	On the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC (cf Res 12/09, 13/05, 13/06, 17/05 and 18/02) – Maldives and Pakistan
IOTC-2024-S28-PropW	On measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (cf 07/01 and 18/03) – Somalia
IOTC-2024-S28-PropX	To promote compliance by nationals of contracting parties and cooperating non-contracting parties with IOTC conservation and management measures (cf Res 07/01) – United Kingdom
<b>Reference documents</b>	
IOTC-2024-SC28-REF01	Statement from the United Kingdom (UK)
IOTC-2024-SC28-REF02	Statement from Mauritius (Mauritius)
IOTC-2024-SC28-REF03_Rev1	Lists of contested assessments during CoC21/S28
IOTC-2024-S28-DFAD_Comparisons_V2	DFAD proposal comparison tables
IOTC-2024-S28-Facilitator's Draft - DFADs_Plenary	Version 3 Facilitator's Draft on DFADs proposals
<b>Relevant reports from other meetings</b>	
IOTC-2024-CoC21-R	Report of the 21 <sup>st</sup> session of the IOTC Compliance Committee.

Document	Title
IOTC-2024-SCAF21-R	Report of the 21 <sup>st</sup> session of the IOTC Standing Committee on Administration and Finance.
IOTC-2024-TCAC12-R	Report of the 12th session of the Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria.
IOTC-2023-SC26-R	Report of the 26th Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee
IOTC-2024-TCMP07-R	Report of the 7 <sup>th</sup> session of the Technical Committee on Management Procedures
IOTC-2024-TCMP08-R	Report of the 8 <sup>th</sup> session of the Technical Committee on Management Procedures
<b>Information papers</b>	
IOTC-2024-SC28-INF01	Update on the Common Oceans Tuna Project (FAO)
IOTC-2023-S27-INF02	Schedule Day 1 (13 May)
IOTC-2023-S27-INF03	IOTC S28 Day 1 Recap and Plan for Day 2 (Monday, May 13)
IOTC-2023-S27-INF04	IOTC S28 Day 2 Recap and Plan for Day 3 (Tuesday, May 14)
IOTC-2023-S27-INF05	IOTC S28 Day 3 Recap and Plan for Day 4 (Wednesday, May 15)
IOTC-2023-S27-INF06	IOTC S28 Day 4 Recap and Plan for Day 5 (Wednesday, May 16)
<b>NGO Statements</b>	
IOTC-2024-S28- NGO01	ANCORS - Advancing tuna catch allocation negotiations: An analysis of sovereign rights and fisheries access arrangements
IOTC-2024-S28- NGO02	WWF - Position for the 28th Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
IOTC-2024-S28- NGO03	Shark Guardian - Shark Guardian Observer Statement on 28th IOTC Commission Meeting
IOTC-2024-S28- NGO04	ISSF - Position statement
IOTC-2024-S28- NGO05	Thai Union Indian Ocean tuna FIP Position Statement
IOTC-2024-S28- NGO06	Bumble Bee/FCF Indian Ocean tuna FIP Position Statement
IOTC-2024-S28- NGO07	WWF Coalition - Call for the IOTC to support stronger transparency and anti-IUU measures
IOTC-2024-S28- NGO08	PEW - Statement to the 28th Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
IOTC-2024-S28- NGO09	Global Tuna Alliance 2024 Position Statement
IOTC-2024-S28- NGO10	International Game Fish Association Position Statement
IOTC-2024-S28-NGO11	WWF and GTA Position statement
IOTC-2024-S28-NGO12	Joint Statement to the 28th Session of the IOTC in Support of Prop V, including Management Procedures for Blue Sharks
IOTC-2024-S28-NGO13	WWF Policy brief - Shark fisheries: A policy blind spot

Document	Title
IOTC-2024-S28-NGO14	WWF Policy Brief - dFAD Management
IOTC-2024-S28-NGO15	WWF Policy Brief - Yellowfin tuna
IOTC-2024-S28-NGO16	Europêche - Position Statement
IOTC-2024-S28-NGO17	21 Environmental Organizations Call on the IOTC to End Overfishing of Yellowfin Tuna & Rebuild Stock
IOTC-2024-S28-NGO18	Sharkproject Position Statement
IOTC-2024-S28-NGO19	BLOOM position statement
IOTC-2024-S28-NGO20	SWIOTUNA position statement
IOTC-2024-S28-NGO21	Blue Marine Foundation Statement

**APPENDIX 4.**  
**STATEMENTS BY THE UK AND MAURITIUS**

OFFICIAL



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

Seacole Building  
2 Marsham Street,  
London  
SW1P 4DF

7 May 2024

Dear IOTC Executive Secretary,

**UPDATE ON AGENDA ITEM 5, 28<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE IOTC**

Further to my previous contact, I am writing to provide an update on the above.

At the May 2023 IOTC Annual Session, the United Kingdom committed to clarifying the status of its IOTC membership before the end of the year. This was made in good faith and to align with an expected conclusion of the negotiations between the UK and Mauritius on the exercise of sovereignty over the British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT)/ Chagos Archipelago.

Talks between the UK and Mauritius are ongoing. The UK remains committed to providing clarification on its membership status at the earliest opportunity once negotiations have concluded.

Ahead of the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the IOTC I would be grateful if you could kindly circulate this letter to the members of the Commission for their information.

Yours sincerely,

**Jess Keedy**  
**UK Delegate to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission**

OFFICIAL



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
MISSION PERMANENTE DE LA REPUBLIQUE DE MAURICE AUPRES DES NATIONS UNIES

10 May 2024

Dear Executive Secretary,

Mauritius has taken note of the United Kingdom's update on Agenda Item 5 of the 28<sup>th</sup> session of the IOTC on the status of its membership of the IOTC.

It will be recalled that at the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission, the UK took a commitment to clarify before the end of last year the status of its membership to the IOTC. It is a matter of regret that it has so far not done so and now, with its recent letter still does not provide an exact date by which it will do so.

While it is correct to say that talks between the UK and Mauritius are ongoing, there is no indication as to when these talks will conclude, nor is there any guarantee that they will lead to an agreement.

In any case, the conclusion of an agreement is not necessary for the UK to clarify its status, since as a matter of international law, as recognized by the United Nations, the International Court of Justice and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, the Chagos Archipelago is an integral part of the territory of Mauritius. It is therefore clear that Mauritius is the only coastal State that can represent the Chagos Archipelago in the IOTC. This is further supported by the advice provided by the FAO Legal Counsel on 6 May 2022 in relation to Agenda item 4 of the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission, which confirms that the United Kingdom is not entitled to be a member of the IOTC as a coastal State.

As a matter of fact, as the UK has pointed out in its letter, the talks between Mauritius and the UK concern the **exercise** of sovereignty and not sovereignty *per se*.

Be it as it may, Mauritius is prepared not to press for a decision on this issue at this session of the Commission but will definitely seek one at the next session of the Commission unless UK clarifies the status of its membership by then.



I should be grateful if you could kindly circulate this letter to the members of the Commission for their information.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jagdish D. Koonjul', with a horizontal line underneath.

**Jagdish D. Koonjul, G.C.S.K, G.O.S.K  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative  
Delegate to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission**

**Executive Secretary  
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission**

**Cc: Chairperson of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission**

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**APPENDIX 5.****UK STATEMENT ON SHARK CONSERVATION PROPOSALS – S28, 17 MAY 2024**

The UK is committed to shark conservation globally, and thanks Maldives and Pakistan for their leadership on the topic at this year's IOTC meeting. We were very happy to see the original PropV, and supported its robust provisions to introduce clear and unambiguous provisions on shark finning, and its prohibition on the use of wire leaders and shark lines.

Landing sharks with their fins naturally attached has been recommended by the Scientific Committee (paragraph 66, Report of the 26th Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee) to extend measures to prevent finning of sharks. A fins naturally attached policy is the simplest and most straightforward approach to removing the potential for misidentification or high-grading, and greatly reduces enforcement burden. Both PropV, and Prop J by the European Union, included a clear, fins naturally attached requirement.

The Scientific Committee specified that alternative measures (for example, fins artificially attached) might be possible *“providing they had been assessed and endorsed by the Scientific Committee and Compliance Committee as being equally or more likely to meet the conservation benefit (of a fins naturally attached measure) and are logistically feasible from a compliance monitoring perspective.”*

The Rev1 of PropV presented on the last day of S28 – the result of concerted efforts to try to gain agreement - unfortunately clearly went against this advice. Accepting it would have allowed open-ended use of alternatives to fins naturally attached from 2026, with no endorsement from the Scientific Committee of either their conservation benefit or their feasibility from a control and enforcement perspective. This significant watering down of the original proposal would have set a dangerous precedent for shark conservation, and was not something we could agree to.

The IOTC continues to gather information on the status of sharks in the IOTC area, but the indications we already have are of increasing concern – particularly as regards vulnerable shark species. It is therefore important that we take a sufficiently precautionary approach, and that we implement prohibitions on the use of gears aimed at maximising shark catches without delay. We look forward to the advice of the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch later this year on this important topic, and to the IOTC adopting these prohibitions as soon as possible. Finally, we reiterate our support for the need to develop a comprehensive approach for the management of blue shark, and hope we can take that forward collectively from next year.

The UK remains committed to working intersessionally with other IOTC members to pave the way for an agreement on a robust measure to protect sharks next year.

**APPENDIX 6.**  
**LISTS OF CONTESTED ASSESSMENTS DURING CoC21/S28**

CPCs	Comments
Australia	No contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21.
Bangladesh	No contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21.
China	Contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21 for the requirement(s) number 3.6.
Comoros	Contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21 for the requirement(s) number 5.9.
European Union	Contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21 for the requirement(s) number 1.3, 2.6, 2.8, 3.4, 10.3.
France(OT)	No contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21.
India	Contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21 for the requirement(s) number 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.5, 2.8, 2.9, 2.23, 2.24, 2.27, 2.28, 3.1, 4.1, 5.1-5.6, 6.1-6.6, 6.9, 6.11, 6.12, 6.15, 6.16, 9.1 - 9.4, 10.4.
Indonesia	No contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21.
Iran	Contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21 for the requirement(s) number 1.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.6, 2.16, 2.19, 2.20, 2.22, 2.24, 2.25, 2.26, 2.27, 3.1, 3.6, 3.7, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.9, 5.10, 5.16, 5.18, 5.20, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.15.
Japan	Contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21 for the requirement(s) number 2.8, 2.9, 2.22, 3.4, 3.5, 5.5, 8.1.
Kenya	Contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21 for the requirement(s) number 1.5, 3.1, 2.8, 2.23 - 2.24, 6.3, 6.8, 6.9.
Korea	No contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21.
Liberia	No contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21.
Madagascar	Contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21 for the requirement(s) number 3.8, 3.9, 3.10, 6.9, 10.3, 11.10, 11.7, 11.8, 11.2.
Malaysia	No contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21.
Maldives	No contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21.
Mauritius	Contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21 for the requirement(s) number 2.17, 2.19, 9.4.
Mozambique	Contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21 for the requirement(s) number 1.3, 2.9, 3.2, 3.3, 3.5, 3.8, 10.4.

CPCs	Comments
Oman	Contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21 for the requirement(s) number 1.1- 1.5, 2.1, 2.2 - 2.7, 2.8 - 2.10, 2.14 - 2.16, 2.19, 2.22, 4.3.
Pakistan	Contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21 for the requirement(s) number 2.8, 2.13, 2.21, 2.22 - 2.24, 3.12, 6.1, 6.2.
Philippines	No contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21.
Seychelles	No contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21.
Somalia	Absent.
South Africa	Contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21 for the requirement(s) number 3.6, 3.7, 8.3.
Sri Lanka	No contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21.
Sudan	Absent.
Tanzania	No contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21.
Thailand	No contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21.
United Kingdom	Contestation of compliance assessment during the CoC21 for the requirement(s) number 1.3, 1.5.
Yemen	Absent.

## APPENDIX 7.

## IOTC BUDGET FOR 2025 AND INDICATIVE BUDGET FOR 2026 (USD)

		Actuals 2023	2024	2025	2026
<b>1</b>	<b>Staff costs</b>				
<b>1.1</b>	<b>Professional</b>				
	Executive Secretary (D1)	172,963	193,955	167,082	170,423
	<i>Science</i>				
	Science Manager (P5)	75,897	153,979	146,135	149,057
	Stock Assessment Expert (P4)	132,357	135,007	135,179	137,882
	Fishery Officer (Science P3)	103,363	103,832	108,413	110,581
	<i>Compliance</i>				
	Compliance Manager (P5)	147,433	148,581	154,372	157,459
	Compliance Coordinator (P4)	137,450	140,209	143,076	145,937
	Compliance Officer (P3)	98,730	101,421	105,957	108,076
	<i>Data</i>				
	Data Coordinator (P4)	132,357	135,007	137,766	140,522
	Statistician (P3)	103,166	103,832	108,413	110,581
	Fishery Officer (P2) Data	-	85,680	79,388	80,976
	Fishery Officer (P1/NPO) Data	68,390	68,140	62,424	63,672
	<i>Admin.</i>				
	Administrative Officer (P3/P4)	121,247	123,073	128,044	130,605
<b>1.2</b>	<b>General Service</b>				
	Administrative Assistant	23,277	23,682	23,378	23,846
	Office Associate	21,031	20,870	21,298	21,724
	Database Assistant	23,277	23,682	23,378	23,846
	Office Assistant	15,496	15,766	16,145	16,467
	Driver	-	0	0	0
	Overtime	2,596	5,100	5,100	5,202
	<b>Total Salary Costs</b>	<b>1,379,030</b>	<b>1,581,818</b>	<b>1,565,547</b>	<b>1,596,858</b>
1.3	Employer Pension and Health	423,055	484,028	501,121	511,143
1.4	Employer FAO Entitlement Fund	592,732	700,000	650,411	663,419
1.5	Adjustment entitlement fund	(93,485)			
1.6	Improved Cost Recovery Uplift	66,663	80,210	78,795	80,371
	<b>Total Staff Costs</b>	<b>2,367,996</b>	<b>2,846,055</b>	<b>2,795,874</b>	<b>2,851,791</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Operating Expenditures</b>				
2.1	Capacity Building	33,288	65,000	104,885	104,885
2.2	Consultants/Service Providers	250,354	422,180	442,180	442,180
2.3	Duty travel	159,123	145,000	165,000	165,000
2.4	Meetings	105,060	84,000	90,000	90,000
2.5	Interpretation	151,400	220,000	140,000	140,000
2.6	Translation	94,434	105,000	115,000	115,000
2.7	Equipment	19,938	20,000	10,000	10,000
2.8	General Operating Expenses	57,795	83,350	79,800	79,800
2.9	Contingencies	0	10,000	10,000	10,000
	<b>Total OE</b>	<b>871,391</b>	<b>1,154,530</b>	<b>1,156,865</b>	<b>1,156,865</b>
	<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>3,239,387</b>	<b>4,000,585</b>	<b>3,952,739</b>	<b>4,008,656</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Additional Contributions Seychelles</b>	-32,160	-28,750	-28,750	-28,750
<b>4</b>	<b>FAO Servicing Costs</b>	144,325	180,026	177,873	180,390
<b>5</b>	<b>Meeting Participation Fund</b>	300,179	250,000	300,000	250,000
				-	-
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>3,651,731</b>	<b>4,401,862</b>	<b>4,401,862</b>	<b>4,410,296</b>

0%

**APPENDIX 8.**  
**IOTC CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2025 (USD)**

Country	World Bank Classification in 2022	OECD Membership	Average catch for 2020-2022 ( in metric tons)	Base Contribution	Operations Contribution	GNI Contribution	Catch Contribution	Total Contribution (in USD)
Australia	High	Yes	4,637	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$156,511	\$13,695	\$203,726
Bangladesh	Middle	No	14,477	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$39,128	\$8,552	\$81,200
China	Middle	No	65,139	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$39,128	\$38,479	\$111,127
Comoros	Middle	No	14,338	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$39,128	\$8,470	\$81,118
European Union	High	Yes	229,268	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$156,511	\$677,166	\$867,196
France(Terr)	High	Yes	0	\$15,179	\$0	\$156,511	\$0	\$171,689
India	Middle	No	152,997	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$39,128	\$90,378	\$163,026
Indonesia	Middle	No	462,291	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$39,128	\$273,085	\$345,732
Iran, Islamic Republic of	Middle	No	270,902	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$39,128	\$160,027	\$232,675
Japan	High	Yes	11,515	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$156,511	\$34,009	\$224,040
Kenya	Middle	No	2,216	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$39,128	\$1,309	\$73,957
Korea, Rep of	High	Yes	18,903	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$156,511	\$55,832	\$245,862
Madagascar	Low	No	8,508	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$0	\$5,026	\$38,546
Malaysia	Middle	No	20,548	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$39,128	\$12,138	\$84,786
Maldives	Middle	No	148,389	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$39,128	\$87,657	\$160,304
Mauritius	Middle	No	25,178	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$39,128	\$14,873	\$87,521
Mozambique	Low	No	17,837	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$0	\$10,536	\$44,056
Oman	High	No	124,793	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$156,511	\$73,718	\$263,749
Pakistan	Middle	No	39,813	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$39,128	\$23,519	\$96,166
Philippines	Middle	No	0	\$15,179	\$0	\$39,128	\$0	\$54,306
Seychelles	Middle	No	133,171	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$39,128	\$78,667	\$151,314
Somalia	Low	No	0	\$15,179	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,179
South Africa	Middle	No	905	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$39,128	\$534	\$73,182
Sri Lanka	Middle	No	90,406	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$39,128	\$53,405	\$126,052
Sudan	Low	No	153	\$15,179	\$0	\$0	\$91	\$15,269
Tanzania	Middle	No	12,119	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$39,128	\$7,159	\$79,807
Thailand	Middle	No	23,306	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$39,128	\$13,767	\$86,415
United Kingdom	High	Yes	74	\$15,179	\$0	\$156,511	\$218	\$171,907
Yemen	Low	No	31,210	\$15,179	\$18,341	\$0	\$18,436	\$51,956
			<b>Total</b>	<b>440,186</b>	<b>440,186</b>	<b>1,760,745</b>	<b>1,760,745</b>	<b>4,401,862</b>

**APPENDIX 9.**  
**CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR 2025**

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria (TCAC)	TBC
Catch Documentation Scheme Working Group (CDSWG)*	10 February
Vessel Monitoring System Working Group (VMSWG)*	11 February
Working Party on Implementation of Conservation and Management Measures (WPICMM)	12 – 14 February
Technical Committee on Management Procedures (TCMP)	TBC
Working Party on Temperate Tunas – data preparation (WPTmT-DP)	24 – 26 February
Management Strategy Evaluation Task Force of the Working Party on Methods (WPM)	1 – 4 April
Compliance Committee (CoC)	7 – 9 April
Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF)	10 April
Technical Committee on Management Procedures (TCMP)	12 April
<b>Commission (S29)</b>	<b>13 – 17 April</b>
Working Party on Socio-Economics (WPSE)	24 – 25 April
Ad hoc Working Group on Electronic Monitoring Standards (WGEMS)	5 – 6 May
Working Party on Tropical Tunas – data preparation (WPTT-DP) and Working Group on FADs (WGFAD)	9 – 13 June
Working Party on Neritic Tunas (WPNT)	7 – 11 July
Working Party on Temperate Tunas (WPTmT)	21 – 25 July
Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB)	9 – 13 September
Working Party on Billfish (WPB)	15 – 17 September
Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria (TCAC)	6 – 10 October
Working Party on Methods (WPM)	23 – 25 October
Working Party on Tropical Tunas (WPTT)	27 October – 1 November
Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics (WPDCS)	25 – 29 November
Scientific Committee (SC)	1 – 5 December