



April 3, 2025

ATTN: Heads of Delegation to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)

**23 Environmental Organizations Call on the IOTC to Adopt Robust Management Measures That Implement & Fully Allocate Catch Limits Set for Skipjack, Bigeye, Swordfish**

The 29<sup>th</sup> session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) on 13-17 April 2025 brings an important opportunity to enhance conservation of key species. Specifically, we urge the Commission to **adopt robust management measures that implement and fully allocate the catch limits set by the swordfish, skipjack and bigeye management procedures.**

We also urge the Commission to address several additional issues in 2025 that impact the health of all tuna stocks and the ecosystems in the Indian Ocean, including:

- **Set precautionary, science-based catch limits for yellowfin tuna**, and relaunch the MSE process in order to adopt a management procedure in 2026.
- **Immediately increase observer coverage rates - human and electronic - for industrial tuna vessels** from the current 5% requirement and adopt a timeline to reach 100% coverage.
- **Establish and fully allocate shortfin mako shark catch limits** that result in rebuilding the stock within 10 years with at least a 60% probability.

We the undersigned agree that these critical issues can and must be addressed during the Commission's annual meeting.

As a delegate to the IOTC, we urge your government to support efforts to adopt proposals or take other actions to address the important issues noted above this year.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Kind regards,

