

IOTC-2025-S29-fCR24 (Final)-Sri Lanka [E]

2025 **Final** Compliance Report for: Sri Lanka

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Notes:

Requirements that do not apply to the CPC (by exclusion) are not included in the PDF version of this report.

Acronyms and definitions can be consulted [on the last page](#) of the Compliance Report.

Req. n°	Source (para n°) (year)	Information required	Deadline	Current status	Observations	CPC remarks	CPC Follow-up and/or Remedial actions/CoC-COM Rec(s)
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1. Implementation obligations

2. Management Standards

2.4	Res. 19/04 (20) (2024)	Fishing logbook on board, bound, consecutive numbered pages, 12 months recording	23/1/2025	P/C	Received 02.12.2024. LEG: Submitted - "Fish Catch Data Collection Regulations, 2014". Legislation obliges FV to carry on board: bound logbook. No provision for logbooks with consecutively numbered pages / original recordings for at least 12 months. SP: YES – Provided & described for i) ii) & iii), based on legislation and National Plan of Control and Inspections of Fishing Vessels Sri Lanka" (NPCISL).	Agree	Amendments to national law This has been already incorporated to the draft new Fisheries Act which is currently has submitted to the Minister
2.8	Res. 17/07 (2) (6) (2024)	Ban on large-scale driftnets IOTC Area & MCS actions	12/2/2025	P/C	LEG: NO - Banned only on the high seas by the "High Seas Fishing Operations Regulations No.1 of 2014" published in Gazette Extraordi-	Agree	Amendments to national law The existing regulation will be amended covering the IOTC area of competence

		large-scale driftnets IOTC Area			nary 1878/12 and by the Terms and Conditions of the ATF. STD: YES - MCS actions provided in e-MARIS, in the agreed format. SP: YES – Provided/described for a), b) and c).		
2.20	Res. 21/01 (21/24) (2024)	Gillnet - Report level implementation paragraphs 21-23	12/2/2025	P/C	LEG: NO - Provided "High Seas Fishing Operations Regulations No. 1 of 2014" and "Circular on implementation of port sampling". Secretariat unable to identify the R21/01 (21-23) provisions/requirements. STD: YES - Although information on the level of implementation of para. 21-23 is provided in section A on System and Procedures, instead of Section B. SP: NO - Provided/described for a), but not for b) and c).	Agree	Amendments to national law Paragraphs 21-23 of Res 21/01 will be incorporated to the proposed amendment given in the 2.8 above.
2.23	Res. 11/02 (2) (2024)	Prohibition intentionally fishing within 1 nautical mile/interacting data buoy	23/1/2025	P/C	LEG: YES – Submitted - " High Seas Fishing Operations Regulations No. 1 of 2014 (x)". Prohibition only applies in high seas, not in the entire IOTC area of competence. STD: N/A. SP: YES – Provided / described for a), b) and c).	Agree	Amendments to national law The existing regulation will be amended covering the IOTC area of competence
2.24	Res. 11/02 (3) (2024)	Prohibition taking on board data buoy	23/1/2025	P/C	LEG: YES – Submitted - " High Seas Fishing Operations Regulations No. 1 of 2014 (x)". Prohibition only applies in high seas, not in the entire IOTC area of competence. STD: N/A. SP: YES – Provided / described for a), b) and c).	Agree	Amendments to national law The existing regulation will be amended covering the IOTC area of competence

3. Reporting on Vessels

3.6	Res. 19/04 (3) (2024)	List of Authorized vessels	23/1/2025	P/C	LEG: N/A. STD: NO - Information not provided at IOTC standard R19/04 (3); mandatory information missing [IMO Number, IRCS, Beneficial Owner Details, Company Details, Fish Hold Volume, Photographs starboard side; Photographs port-side ; Photographs bow]. SP : N/A.	Agree	Additional info or address the issue Actions are ongoing with the Telecommunication Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (TRC) to clear the issues of the vessels (owners) those who are having MOD (Ministry of Defense) clearance to issue IRCS number.
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4. Vessel Monitoring System

5. Mandatory statistical requirement – Flag State CPCs

5.6	Res 15/02 (1, 5) (2023)	Size Frequen- cies Geo-refer- enced – Coastal/sur- face/longline fish- eries	30/6/2024	N/C2	STD: NO - Data NOT provided by IOTC standards, in two or more consecutive years. Less than 1 fish per metric tonne for some species.	Agree	Actions proposed by the CPC Majority of Billfish landings by all billfish species are observed as cut segments instead of whole specimen ,Hence unable to get whole fish length and therefore was not able to provide data as required. However Sri Lanka is working on to create a formula to get the whole length of Billfish based on standard segment (Piece) of the fish.
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6. Implementation of mitigation measures and bycatch of non-IOTC species

6.9	Res. 12/04 (5) (2024)	Report progress im- plementation R12/04	12/2/2025	P/C	LEG: N/A. STD: NO - Report on progress implementation of R12/04 NOT fully completed by IOTC standards. Missing information requirements: Collaborate with IOSEA. SP : N/A.	Agree	Additional info or address the issue Sri Lanka is a party to Convention on the Conserva- tion of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) since 01.09.1990 and signed the Memorandum of Under- standing on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia (IOSEA) in 23.06.2001. The Focal point CMS of Sri Lanka is the Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWLC) and the Department of Fisheries and aquatic Resources (DFAR) is a commit- tee member of the steering committee on conservation of migratory species. Sri Lanka actively participate in the relevant meetings of the Secretariat and also an active member of Northern Indian Ocean Marine Turtle Task Force (NIO-MTTF) DFAR COllaboratively work with DWLC and will further strengthen the corporation in a view to protect the marine turtles in future.
6.11	Res 24/06 (1) (2024)	Retention of tar- get tuna species (YFT/SKJ/ BET) on board vessel	12/2/2025 (Since 2024)	P/C	LEG: YES - Submitted: High Seas Fishing Op- erations Regulations No. 1 of 2014 published in Gazette Extraordinary 1878/12 and Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No.35 of 2013. It affects purse seiners only. The scope of the obligation is limited to high seas and not to the entire IOTC area of competence. STD: N/A. SP: YES – Provided & described for a) b) c).	Agree	Amendments to national law The existing regulation will be amended covering the IOTC area of competence
6.12	Res 24/06 (3) (2024)	Retention of non tar- get species on board vessel	12/2/2025 (Since 2024)	P/C	LEG: NO- Submitted: Specific conditions for fishing operations - XI. It applies the ban for purse seiners only. The scope of the obligation is limited to high seas and not to the entire IOTC area of competence. STD: N/A. SP: YES – Provided & described for a) b) c).	Agree	Amendments to national law The existing regulation will be amended covering the IOTC area of competence

7. Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Vessels

7.1	Res. 24/03 (19) (2024)	IUU listing (at previous sessions)	16/4/2025	N/C2	STD: 3 vessels listed on IOTC IUU vessels list in 2024, in two consecutive years 2024 and 2023 .	Agree	Additional info or address the issue Legal actions have being taken to the all vessel owners and the nationals onboard of the Sri Lankan fishing vessels those reported under res 24/03 by the CPC's. However the time taken for the court proceedings are lengthy and therefore the prosecutions drag for years. This is a fact that beyond the control of Fisheries Administration.
7.2	Res. 24/09 (1) (2024)	Compliance by nationals (at previous sessions)	16/4/2025	N/C2	Nationals on 3 vessels listed on IOTC IUU vessels list in 2024 and 2023.	Agree	Additional info or address the issue Legal actions have being taken to the all vessel owners and the nationals onboard of the Sri Lankan fishing vessels those reported under res 24/09 by the CPC's. However the time taken for the court proceedings are lengthy and therefore the prosecutions drag for years. This is a fact that beyond the control of Fisheries Administration.

8. Transhipments

9. Observers

9.2	Res. 22/04 (3) (2023)	5% Observer coverage mandatory at sea (all vessels)	17/11/2024	P/C	LEG: YES - High Seas Fishing Operations Regulations STD: YES - Mandatory coverage not achieved for all fleet segments; purse seine, longline, pole & line, gillnet & other fisheries. SP: YES - Provided & described for i) ii) iii).	Agree	Actions proposed by the CPC Majority of high sea operating fishing vessels are less than 24m in length. Therefore deploying of onboard observer is not possible due to space and safety issues. Sri Lanka is venturing for a cost effective((low cost) EMS to be installed covering 5% of high seas operating small vessels of Sri Lanka.
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10. Statistical document programme

11. Port inspection

11.3	Res. 16/11 (13.1,15.1) (2024)	Inspection report & Report vessels engaged IUU fishing following port inspection	23/1/2025 (Since 2010)	P/C	LEG: N/A. STD: NO - Declares that conducted 15 port inspections during 2024. Number of PIRs through e-PSM: 15, of which 3 PIRs were not provided within 3 working days. SP : N/A.	Not Agree *The PIR "TERRE_FRA_20240607_34732 PIR_FRANCHE" submitted through using the offline PIR application (Tablet).But there was a system error and couldn't submitted within 3 days. We informed the issue to IOTC on 07.06.2024 through email	Additional info or address the issue Submission of PIR before the deadline.
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						(florian.giroux@iotc.org, epsm@iotc.org, Jose.Acu-na@fao.org,). Problem was solved on 24.09.2024 and submitted the PIR. *Submission of the PIR "YOU_TWN_20240301_33698_PIR_YU" and " NO.212_TWN_20240801_35848 LIH_PIR_JAIN " got late because of a connection error. However without these 3 late submissions we submitted 12 PIR's to IOTC through IOTC e-psm on-time. It covered the 5% coverage according to the IOTC resolution 16/11(Paragraph 10.1)Therefore we complied with the IOTC resolution 16/11. Therefore this "P/C" should be amended as "C"	
11.6	Res. 16/11 (9.3, 9.5) (2024)	Report denial use port / withdrawal denial use port	23/1/2025 (Since 2010)	P/C	LEG: NO - Provided 2024 Permit Conditions: Foreign vessels entering South Africa's EEZ and designated ports. Secretariat unable to identify provision Resolution 16/11 for 9.5 (withdrawal of denial). STD: YES – Nil Report. SP: YES – Provided & described for a), b), c).	Agree	Amendments to national law The existing regulation will be amended

Pursuant to Annex A of Appendix V, of the Rules of Procedure (2023), for all requirements assessed as N/C2, the concerned CPCs “*shall submit, within 3 months from the end of the Commission annual session, a detailed plan and timeline on how it intends to address the non-compliance of category 2 identified*”. The deadline for submission was the 17 August 2024.

The non-compliance of category 2 identified (N/C2) at the previous session of the Compliance Committee (CoC21), were for Sri Lanka :

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The Compliance Action Plan was :

Not required/applicable - Action proposed by Sri Lanka during the CoC

If the submission of the Compliance Action Plan was required/applicable, the date of reception was :

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Summary of Sri Lanka 2025 compliance assessment (CoC22)

Compliant (C)	Partially Compliant (PC)	Non-compliant category 1 (NC1)	Non-compliant category 2 (NC2)	Not Applicable (NA)	Capacity building in progress (CB)	Compliance Rate (%)
37	12	0	3	34	0	71.2

Current issues on the level of implementation by Sri Lanka of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures identified at CoC22 in 2025

Having reviewed the 2025 Provisional Compliance Report for Sri Lanka, the Commission has identified the following significant repeated non-compliance issues and capacity building activities.

Repeated non-compliance issues

Requirement	Information required	Observations	Previous status (2024)	Current status (2025)
2.4	Fishing logbook on board, bound, consecutive numbered pages, 12 months recording	Received 02.12.2024. LEG: Submitted - " <i>Fish Catch Data Collection Regulations, 2014</i> ". Legislation obliges FV to carry on board: bound logbook. No provision for logbooks with consecutively numbered pages / original recordings for at least 12 months. SP: YES – Provided & described for i) ii) & iii), based on legislation and National Plan of Control and Inspections of Fishing Vessels Sri Lanka" (NPCISL).	P/C	P/C
2.8	Ban on large-scale driftnets IOTC Area & MCS actions large-scale drift-nets IOTC Area	LEG: NO - Banned only on the high seas by the "High Seas Fishing Operations Regulations No.1 of 2014" published in Gazette Extraordinary 1878/12 and by the Terms and Conditions of the ATF. STD: YES - MCS actions provided in e-MARIS, in the agreed format. SP: YES – Provided/described for a), b) and c).	P/C	P/C
2.20	Gillnet - Report level implementation paragraphs 21-23	LEG: NO - Provided "High Seas Fishing Operations Regulations No. 1 of 2014" and "Circular on implementation of port sampling". Secretariat unable to identify the R21/01 (21-23) provisions/requirements. STD: YES - Although information on the level of implementation of para. 21-23 is provided in section A on System and Procedures, instead of Section B. SP: NO - Provided/described for a), but not for b) and c).	P/C	P/C
3.6	List of Authorized vessels	LEG: N/A. STD: NO - Information not provided at IOTC standard R19/04 (3); mandatory information missing [IMO Number, IRCS, Beneficial Owner Details, Company Details, Fish Hold Volume, Photographs starboard side; Photographs portside ; Photographs bow]. SP : N/A.	N/C2	P/C
5.6	Size Frequencies Geo-referenced – Coastal/surface/longline fisheries	STD: NO - Data NOT provided by IOTC standards, in two or more consecutive years. Less than 1 fish per metric tonne for some species.	N/C2	N/C2
6.9	Report progress implementation R12/04	LEG: N/A. STD: NO - Report on progress implementation of R12/04 NOT fully completed by IOTC standards. Missing information requirements: Collaborate with IOSEA. SP : N/A.	P/C	P/C
7.1	IUU listing (at previous sessions)	STD: 3 vessels listed on IOTC IUU vessels list in 2024, in two consecutive years 2024 and 2023 .	N/C2	N/C2

7.2	Compliance by nationals (at previous sessions)	Nationals on 3 vessels listed on IOTC IUU vessels list in 2024 and 2023.	N/C2	N/C2
9.2	5% Observer coverage mandatory at sea (all vessels)	LEG: YES - High Seas Fishing Operations Regulations STD: YES - Mandatory coverage not achieved for all fleet segments; purse seine, longline, pole & line, gillnet & other fisheries. SP: YES - Provided & described for i) ii) iii).	P/C	P/C

Note: if the table above is empty, it means there were no repeated compliance issues identified this year.

Comments by the Compliance Committee or Commission

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Reading instructions

(1) Information is to be provided in the Report of Implementation

(2) 24 meters overall length and over, and under 24 meters if they fished outside their EEZ

(Year) = year reporting on/year assessed.

LEG: Legislation - Transposition of Commission decisions, Legislation or administrative orders.

STD : Standard - Reporting format, IOTC standard

SP: System or procedures - Provision of information on system or procedures a) to monitor and ensure compliance of vessels and persons OR b) to prepare and submit information, data, report to the Commission.

i) ii) iii) = a) b) c)

Assessment

Compliance

- **C:** Compliant
- **C/B:** Capacity building
- **N/A:** Not applicable
- **N/C1:** Not compliant 1
- **N/C2:** Not compliant 2
- **P/C:** Partially compliant

CoC/Commission recommendations

- **Additional info or address the issue:** Provide additional information or address the compliance issue within a given period of time, and at the latest before the following annual meeting.
- **Actions proposed by the CPC:** Actions proposed by the CPC and endorsed by the Commission.
- **Investigation by the CPC:** Completion of an investigation by the CPC regarding a compliance issue and reporting back to the Compliance Committee, where required.
- **Enhanced monitoring of fleet:** Enhanced monitoring of the fleet.
- **Amendments to national rules:** Amendments to domestic procedures, legislation or policy including penalties, where required.
- **Detailed plan and timeline:** Submit, within 3 months from the end of the Commission annual session, a detailed plan and timeline on how it intends to address the non-compliance of category 2 identified.
- **Capacity building or assistance:** Provision of capacity building or technical assistance for a specified amount of time.
- **Other remedies:** Other remedies.

“Missing” values:

- **-/-**: no possible value (e.g.: no previous assessment possible because this is the first campaign in which the requirement is assessed);
- **None**: no value provided by the Secretariat (e.g. requirement assessed as Compliant, no text provided in “Observations”);
- **Not assessed**: for timeliness and compliance when no assessment has been made yet or the requirement is not assessable;
- **-**: no information provided by the CPC for this question (e.g. nothing entered in a text entry field, no boxes checked...);
- **Not Submitted**: the value will only be available after submission of the report (e.g. the “Report date”).