



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
Commission des Thons de l'Océan Indien

IOTC-2025-S29-fCR23 (Final)-South Africa [E]

2025 **Final** Compliance Report for: South Africa

Published: 16 April 2025 - 13:55

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)
---------	-------------------------	----------------------	----------	----------------	--------------	-------------	--

1. Implementation obligations

1.2	Rules of Proc. (4.1) (2024)	Compliance Questionnaire	23/1/2025	P/C	Received 07/02/2025 - 14 days after the deadline. STD: YES - Compliance questionnaire provided, in agreed format/at IOTC Standard, all mandatory sections applicable and all sub-sections/questions applicable completed/responded.	-	Capacity building or assistance South Africa is committed to fulfilling its IOTC reporting obligations. The partial compliance status is due to human capacity constraints after the departure of the manager for tuna and tuna-like species, along with several compliance officers.
-----	-----------------------------	--------------------------	-----------	-----	--	---	--

2. Management Standards

2.1	Res. 19/04 (11.c & 17.c) (2024)	Registration certificates, valid authorisation to fish/tranship on board	23/1/2025	P/C	Received 05.02.2025. Submitted 12 days(s) after the deadline. <u>LEG:</u> YES – Regulations In Terms of the Marine Living Resources Act, 1998, Article 80. <u>SP:</u> YES – Provided for i) ii) iii).	-	Capacity building or assistance South Africa is committed to fulfilling its IOTC reporting obligations. The partial compliance status is due to human capacity constraints after the departure of the manager for tuna and tuna-like species, along with several compliance officers.
-----	---------------------------------	--	-----------	-----	--	---	--

2.2	Res. 19/04 (18) (2024)	Marking of vessels	23/1/2025	P/C	Received 05.02.2025. Submitted 12 days(s) after the deadline. <u>LEG:</u> YES – <i>Marine Living Resources Act and the Regulations promulgated thereunder, Large Pelagic Longline and Tuna Pole-line Permit Conditions</i> . Legislation obliges to mark vessels with: IRCS, Name, IMO. <u>SP:</u> YES – Provided for i) ii) iii).	-	Capacity building or assistance South Africa is committed to fulfilling its IOTC reporting obligations. The partial compliance status is due to human capacity constraints after the departure of the manager for tuna and tuna-like species, along with several compliance officers.
2.3	Res. 19/04 (19.a & b) (2024)	Marking passive gear	23/1/2025	P/C	Received 05.02.2025. 12 days after deadline <u>Legislation:</u> YES – "REGULATIONS IN TERMS OF THE MARINE LIVING RESOURCES ACT, 1998 CHAPTER 9 OTHER PROVISIONS - Part 1 Provisions relating to the leaving of objects and dispensing of material in the sea Fishing gear and other implements 86 and Permit Conditions Large Pelagic Longline/Pole Line". Legislation obliges to mark passive fishing gears with : Vessel name. <u>SP:</u> YES – Provided & described for i) ii) iii). Legislation based.	-	Capacity building or assistance South Africa is committed to fulfilling its IOTC reporting obligations. The partial compliance status is due to human capacity constraints after the departure of the manager for tuna and tuna-like species, along with several compliance officers.
2.5	Res. 19/04 (6) (2024)	Official authorisation to fish outside National Jurisdictions (ATF)	23/1/2025	P/C	Received 05.02.2025. 12 days after the deadline. No update for 2024. <u>STD:</u> YES – All information provided according to paragraph 6, Resolution 19/04. National flag vessels registered on the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels are issued authorisations to fish (ATF) outside National Jurisdiction - for high sea.	-	Capacity building or assistance South Africa is committed to fulfilling its IOTC reporting obligations. The partial compliance status is due to human capacity constraints after the departure of the manager for tuna and tuna-like species, along with several compliance officers.
2.8	Res. 17/07 (2) (6) (2024)	Ban on large-scale driftnets IOTC Area & MCS actions large-scale driftnets IOTC Area	12/2/2025	P/C	<u>LEG:</u> NO - Submitted - " Large Pelagic Longline Permit Conditions, p48, Use of large-scale drift-nets is prohibited. Ban implemented exclusively for Large Pelagic Longline via the T&C of their ATF. Other vessel types are not covered. <u>STD:</u> NON - MCS actions NOT provided in e-MARIS, in the agreed format. <u>SP:</u> YES – Provided/described for a), b) and c).	-	Actions proposed by the CPC South Africa is actively addressing these gaps, with a new manager set to be appointed by April 2025 and ongoing recruitment of compliance officers to strengthen our capacity.
2.14	Res. 16/08 (1) (2024) (2024)	Prohibition aircrafts & unmanned aerial vehicles	23/1/2025	P/C	Received 05.02.2025 - 12 days after the deadline. <u>LEG:</u> YES - Submitted. South Africa has Longliners and Pole-Liners in the e-RAV. Ban implemented by Large Pelagic Longline Permit Conditions (p62), and Tuna Pole-Line Permit Conditions (p41). In both, the use of aircrafts and unmanned aerial vehicles as fishing aids is prohibited. <u>STD:</u> N/A. <u>SP:</u> YES – Provided/described for a), b) and c).	-	Actions proposed by the CPC South Africa is actively addressing these gaps, with a new manager set to be appointed by April 2025 and ongoing recruitment of compliance officers to strengthen our capacity.

2.23	Res. 11/02 (2) (2024)	Prohibition intentionally fishing within 1 nautical mile/inter-acting data buoy	23/1/2025	P/C	Received 05.02.2025 - 12 days after the deadline. LEG: YES - Submitted. South Africa has Longliners and Pole-Liners in the e-RAV. Ban implemented by Large Pelagic Longline Permit Conditions (p63), and Tuna Pole-Line Permit Conditions (p41). STD: N/A. SP: YES – Provided/described for a), b) and c).	-	Capacity building or assistance South Africa is committed to fulfilling its IOTC reporting obligations. The partial compliance status is due to human capacity constraints after the departure of the manager for tuna and tuna-like species, along with several compliance officers.
2.24	Res. 11/02 (3) (2024)	Prohibition taking on board data buoy	23/1/2025	P/C	Received 05.02.2025 - 12 days after the deadline. LEG: YES - Submitted. South Africa has Longliners and Pole-Liners in the e-RAV. Ban implemented by Large Pelagic Longline Permit Conditions, and Tuna Pole-Line Permit Conditions . STD: N/A. SP: YES – Provided/described for a), b) and c).	-	Capacity building or assistance South Africa is committed to fulfilling its IOTC reporting obligations. The partial compliance status is due to human capacity constraints after the departure of the manager for tuna and tuna-like species, along with several compliance officers.

3. Reporting on Vessels

3.6	Res. 19/04 (3) (2024)	List of Authorized vessels	23/1/2025	N/C1	Received 05.02.2025 - 13 days after the deadline. LEG: N/A. STD: NO - Mandatory information not provided. SP : N/A.	-	Capacity building or assistance South Africa is committed to fulfilling its IOTC reporting obligations. The partial compliance status is due to human capacity constraints after the departure of the manager for tuna and tuna-like species, along with several compliance officers.
-----	-----------------------	----------------------------	-----------	------	--	---	--

4. Vessel Monitoring System

4.1	Res. 15/03 (1, 11, 12) (2023)	Adoption VMS for vessels >24m and	30/6/2024	P/C	Received 22.10.2024 & 12.02.2023. 113 days after the deadline. LEG: YES - Marine Living Resources Act 18 of 1998. 76.(1) . STD: YES - VMS adopted by law in 1998; Report on the progress of implementation of VMS completed; No technical failure in 2023. SP : YES - Provided & described for I) II) III).	-	Capacity building or assistance South Africa is committed to fulfilling its IOTC reporting obligations. The partial compliance status is due to human capacity constraints after the departure of the manager for tuna and tuna-like species, along with several compliance officers.
-----	-------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------	-----	---	---	--

5. Mandatory statistical requirement – Flag State CPCs

6. Implementation of mitigation measures and bycatch of non-IOTC species

7. Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Vessels

8. Transhipments

9. Observers

9.4	Res. 22/04 (18) (2023)	At sea observer reports	17/11/2024	P/C	STD: NO - Mandatory observer reports NOT provided in the agreed format.	South Africa is in the process of reviewing its observer data collection forms and the observer database. The reporting in 2025 will comply with the revised reporting forms provided through the WPDCS.	Actions proposed by the CPC South Africa submitted the observer data using the ICCAT ST09 reporting template. The IOTC reporting template was discussed at the WPDCS and South Africa will submit the data according to that template in 2025.
-----	---------------------------------	-------------------------	------------	-----	---	--	---

10. Statistical document programme

10.4	Res. 01/06 (2 & 3) (2024)	Information on authorised institutions and personnel	23/1/2025	P/C	Received 05.02.2025. 12 Days after the deadline. STD: YES - Report provided with information on national authorities and authorized officers – Reported 4 new officers. Reported change of seal institution. No update to report in 2024 for officers that are not anymore authorised.	-	Capacity building or assistance South Africa is committed to fulfilling its IOTC reporting obligations. The partial compliance status is due to human capacity constraints after the departure of the manager for tuna and tuna-like species, along with several compliance officers.
------	---------------------------------	--	-----------	-----	--	---	--

11. Port inspection

11.1	Res. 05/03 (8) (2023)	List of foreign vessels landings	1/7/2024	P/C	Received 03.07.2024 - 2 days after the deadline. STD: YES – List of foreign fishing vessels with catch composition by weight and species landed in 2023 provided.	-	Capacity building or assistance South Africa is committed to fulfilling its IOTC reporting obligations. The partial compliance status is due to human capacity constraints after the departure of the manager for tuna and tuna-like species, along with several compliance officers.
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 - Has conducted 45 port inspections. Number of PIRs through e-PSM: 45, of which 12 do not correspond to vessels with IOTC species. Of this, 15 out of 33 PIRs provided within 3 working days. SP : N/A.	-	Actions proposed by the CPC South Africa is actively addressing these gaps, with a new manager set to be appointed by April 2025 and ongoing recruitment of compliance officers to strengthen our capacity.
11.4	Res. 16/11 (10.1,	At least 5% inspection of LAN or TRX	23/1/2025 (Since 2010)	P/C	LEG: NO – No specific provision on the obligation transposed into national legislation/regulations.	-	Actions proposed by the CPC

	19.2, 19.3) (2024)				STD: YES - Has declared a total of 178 landings, 10 transshipments and 18 landing&transshipments, of which a total of 41, 5, 5, respectively, were monitored. A total of 21 were monitored. Result: 10%. SP: YES – Provided & described for a), b) & c).		South Africa is actively addressing these gaps, with a new manager set to be appointed by April 2025 and ongoing recruitment of compliance officers to strengthen our capacity.
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).	-	Actions proposed by the CPC South Africa is actively addressing these gaps, with a new manager set to be appointed by April 2025 and ongoing recruitment of compliance officers to strengthen our capacity.

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 South Africa :

3

The Compliance Action Plan was :

Not required/applicable - Action proposed by South Africa during the CoC

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

-

Summary of South Africa 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 (%)
36	16	1	0	33	0	67.9

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

Having reviewed the 2025 Provisional Compliance Report for South Africa, 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)
3.6	List of Authorized vessels	Received 05.02.2025 - 13 days after the deadline. LEG: N/A. STD: NO - Mandatory information not provided. SP : N/A.	N/C2	N/C1
4.1	Adoption VMS for vessels >24m and	Received 22.10.2024 & 12.02.2023. 113 days after the deadline. <u>LEG</u> :YES - Marine Living Resources Act 18 of 1998. 76.(1) . <u>STD</u> :YES - VMS adopted by law in 1998; Report on the progress of implementation of VMS completed; No technical failure in 2023. <u>SP</u> :YES - Provided & described for I) II) III).	N/C1	P/C
9.4	At sea observer reports	STD: NO - Mandatory observer reports NOT provided in the agreed format.	P/C	P/C
11.3	Inspection report & Report vessels engaged IUU fishing following port inspection	LEG: N/A. STD: NO - Has conducted 45 port inspections. Number of PIRs through e-PSM: 45, of which 12 do not correspond to vessels with IOTC species. Of this, 15 out of 33 PIRs provided within 3 working days. SP : N/A.	P/C	P/C
11.4	At least 5% inspection of LAN or TRX	LEG: NO – No specific provision on the obligation transposed into national legislation/regulations. STD: YES - Has declared a total of 178 landings, 10 transshipments and 18 landing&transshipments, of which a total of 41, 5, 5, respectively, were monitored. A total of 21 were monitored. Result: 10%. SP: YES – Provided & described for a), b) & c).	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

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”).