

OUTCOMES OF THE COMMISSION AND THE 29th SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

PREPARED BY: IOTC SECRETARIAT, 1 JUNE 2025

PURPOSE

To inform participants at the 7th Working Group on FADs (WGFAD07) meeting of the decisions and requests made by the Commission at its 29th session, held from 13-17 April 2024, specifically relating to the work of the WGFAD.

BACKGROUND

At the 29th Session, the Commission **CONSIDERED** and **ADOPTED** 14 proposals as Conservation and Management Measures (consisting of 12 Resolutions and 2 Recommendations) as detailed below (the report of S29 has yet to be finalised)

Resolutions

- Resolution 25/01 *On climate change as it relates to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission* [[download here](#)]
- Resolution 25/02 *On the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) programme* [[download here](#)].
- Resolution 25/03 *On establishing catch limits for skipjack tuna in the IOTC area of competence* [[download here](#)].
- Resolution 25/04 *On establishing catch limits for bigeye tuna in the IOTC area of competence* [[download here](#)].
- Resolution 25/05 *On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels* [[download here](#)].
- Resolution 25/06 *On a Regional Observer Scheme* [[download here](#)].
- Resolution 25/07 *On a management procedure for swordfish in the IOTC area of competence* [[download here](#)].
- Resolution 25/08 *On the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC* [[download here](#)].
- Resolution 25/09 *On the conservation of shortfin and longfin mako sharks caught in association with IOTC fisheries* [[download here](#)].
- Resolution 25/10 *On establishing a Technical Committee on Management Procedures* [[download here](#)].
- Resolution 25/11 *On Port State Measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing* [[download here](#)].
- Resolution 25/12 *On the promotion of the implementation of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures* [[download here](#)].
- Recommendation 25/13 *On promoting the objectives of IOTC through cooperation with the BBNJ Agreement (The agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction* [[download here](#)].
- Recommendation 25/14 *On the limitation of fishing capacity* [[download here](#)].

Current Conservation and Management Measures that include a reference to the year 2025

(Para 55) The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC-2025-S29-10 which provided information on the design and specifications of the IOTC dFAD register which is required under Res 24/02.

(Para 56) The Commission **NOTED** the progress that has been made with the development of the FAD register, **NOTING** that the developer indicated that it should be finalised in time for the 1 January 2026 deadline.

(Para 57) The Commission **AGREED** that an informal discussion group would be formed to help answer questions from the developers, and that the group should be open to any interested party. Discussions would be held online and in a format that the developers would find most useful. Any actions taken should be documented for transparency and accountability.

(Para 58) The Commission **DISCUSSED** the potential for a delay in implementation past 1 January 2026 and **AGREED** that a CPC could request the Commission to consider delaying the implementation of the DFAD register through an intersessional decision.

DISCUSSION

Pursuant to Article IX.4 of the IOTC Agreement, the above-mentioned Conservation and Management Measures shall become binding on Members, 120 days from the date of the notification communicated by the Secretariat.

RECOMMENDATION

That the WGFAD

- 1) **NOTE** paper IOTC–2025–WGFAD07–04 which outlined the main outcomes of the 29th Session of the Commission, specifically related to the work of the WGFAD and **AGREE** to consider how best to provide the SC with the information it needs, in order to satisfy the Commission’s requests, throughout the course of the current and next WGFAD meetings.