

Resolution 25-08 On the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC - National Plan of Action under the FAO IPOA Sharks



Information general

Year of adoption: 2025 --- Date of application: 1 January 2026 --- Supersedes Resolutions 18/02, 17/05, 13/05, 13/06 and 12/09.

In line with CoC21 Report (para. 94) the completion of Part A and C is NOT REQUIRED, and the completion of Part B is MANDATORY.

Reporting obligation: National Plan of Action under the IPOA Sharks

Paragraph 36: CPCs should implement the FAO International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks (IPOA Sharks).

Paragraph 37: CPCs should include their National Plans of Action under the IPOA Sharks in their annual Implementation Report.

Year reported on / Year assessed: 2026

Application

This measure is applicable to all fishing vessels targeting and/or authorised to fish for IOTC Species in the IOTC area of competence and supply vessels flying the flag of a CPC. This Resolution shall not apply to non-commercial vessels and conducting research on the efficacy of the management measures contained in this Resolution.

- Vessel: On RAV + Coastal/Artisanal
- Species: Sharks
- Area: IOTC Area of competence
- Fishing gear: ALL fishing gears
- Fishery type: ALL fisheries EXCEPT non-commercial vessels and conducting research

Exclusion / Inclusion

Reason for exclusion: No fishing vessel operating in the IOTC Area of Competence; Only engaged in transshipment activities involving carrier vessels registered on the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels

Included (30): AUS BDG CHN COM EUR FRA OT IND IDN IRN JPN KEN KOR MDG MYS MDV MUS MOZ OMN PAK PHL SYC SOM ZAF LKA SDN TWN CHN TZA THA UK YEM

Excluded (2): LBR PAN

Exclude means: Not applicable for all listed CPCs - Reporting in e-MARIS not possible -> Auto-assessment N/A. CPC excluded will see the requirement (REQ) in the compliance dashboard BUT it will be marked in GREY.

Include means: Applicable for all listed CPCs - Reporting in e-MARIS mandatory. CPC included will see the requirement (REQ) in the compliance dashboard BUT it will be marked in BLACK.

Reporting obligation **CR N°5.13, IR**



Note: Your response to this requirement will be used by e-MARIS to compile your country reports: Compliance Report and Implementation Report (IR)

1. Do you submit the NPOA sharks for this reporting obligation in 2026 ? (IR) :

Check at least one of the options

- ☐ NO - Not submitted
- ☐ YES - Submitted

A - System / procedures

In line with CoC21 Report (para. 94) the completion of Part A and C is NOT REQUIRED, and the completion of Part B is MANDATORY.

94. The CoC21 AGREED that, the IOTC Secretariat shall not require CPC to provide the internal systems and procedures in accordance with paragraph 5.c)ii)2. of Appendix V of the IOTC Rules of Procedure, and national laws & regulations, in accordance with paragraph 5.c)ii)1. of Appendix V of the IOTC Rules of Procedure, to implement reporting obligations that are addressed to CPCs.

B - Reporting data and information



2. Reporting the National Plans of Action under the FAO IPOA Sharks (IR) :

Check at least one of the options

- ☐ YES - CPC implement the FAO International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks (IPOA Sharks) and I submit National Plans of Action under the IPOA Sharks
- ☐ NO - CPC is not implementing the FAO International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks (IPOA Sharks)

Year of development	Implementation period FROM	Implementation period TO
Format YYYY	Select a date	Select a date

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UPLOAD the NPOA Sharks

Report on the progress of implementation:

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Describe and provide additional information on your submission, and how your are implementing the reporting obligation.
(If none, by default NONE is written)
NONE

Capacity Building

Manual and Guidelines:

[IOTC CMMs manual B - Implementation of IOTC CMMs - Entailing reporting obligations](#)

International Plan of Action for Conservation and Management of Sharks

MAP of National and Regional Plans of Action

Objectives

The objective of the IPOA-SHARKS is to ensure the conservation and management of sharks and their long-term sustainable use. The term “sharks” is taken to include all species of sharks, skates, rays and chimaeras (Class Chondrichthyes). The IPOA-SHARKS applies to States in the waters of which sharks are caught by their own or foreign vessels and to States the vessels of which catch sharks on the high seas.

Implementation

- States should adopt and implement a national plan of action for conservation and management of shark stocks (Shark-plan) if their vessels conduct directed fisheries for sharks or if their vessels regularly catch sharks in non-directed fisheries. When developing a Shark-plan, experience of subregional and regional fisheries management organizations should be taken into account, as appropriate.
- States, within the framework of their respective competencies and consistent with international law, should strive to cooperate through regional and subregional fisheries organizations or arrangements, and other forms of cooperation, with a view to ensuring the sustainability of shark stocks, including, where appropriate, the development of subregional or regional Shark-plans
- States which implement the Shark-plan should regularly, at least every four years, assess its implementation for the purpose of identifying cost-effective strategies for increasing its effectiveness.
- States which determine that a Shark-plan is not necessary should review that decision on a regular basis taking into account changes in their fisheries, but as a minimum, data on catches, landings and trade should be collected.
- Where transboundary, straddling, highly migratory and high seas stocks of sharks are exploited by two or more States, the States concerned should strive to ensure effective conservation and management of the stocks.
- States should strive to collaborate through FAO and through international arrangements in research, training and the production of information and educational material.
- States should report on the progress of the assessment, development and implementation of their Shark-plans as part of their biennial reporting to FAO on the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.

Goals of the Shark-plan

- Ensure that shark catches from directed and non-directed fisheries are sustainable
- Assess threats to shark populations, determine and protect critical habitats and implement harvesting strategies consistent with the principles of biological sustainability and rational long-term economic use
- Identify and provide special attention, in particular to vulnerable or threatened shark stocks
- Improve and develop frameworks for establishing and co-ordinating effective consultation involving all stakeholders in research, management and educational initiatives within and between States
- Minimize unutilized incidental catches of sharks
- Contribute to the protection of biodiversity and ecosystem structure and function
- Minimize waste and discards from shark catches in accordance with article 7.2.2.(g) of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (for example, requiring the retention of sharks from which fins are removed)
- Encourage full use of dead sharks
- Facilitate improved species-specific catch and landings data and monitoring of shark catches
- Facilitate the identification and reporting of species-specific biological and trade data

Role of FAO

- FAO will, as and to the extent directed by its Conference, support States in the implementation of the IPOA-SHARKS, including the preparation of Shark-plans.
- FAO will, as and to the extent directed by its Conference, support development and implementation of Shark-plans through specific, in-country technical assistance projects.
- FAO will assist in identifying experts as required and possible means of technical assistance to national departments of fisheries countries in connection with the implementation of Shark fishery management programmes.
- FAO will, through COFI, report biennially on the state of progress in the implementation of the IPOA-SHARKS.

Legal foundation

The IPOA-SHARKS is voluntary. It has been elaborated within the framework of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries as envisaged by Article 2 (d). All concerned States are encouraged to implement it.

Database of measures on conservation and management of sharks

[Review of the Implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks](#)

Implementation Sheet:

Not available

Reporting Template

There is no reporting template for this requirement, the reporting should be made directly in the sections above.

Assessment Criteria

Year reported on: 2026

[New Appendix V - The Compliance Committee – Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure]

Rules of Procedure

The [IOTC Rules of Procedure](#) (12 May 2023) include provisions addressing various operations of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.

[REVISED COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA – APPENDIX V, IOTC RULES OF PROCEDURE \(2023\)](#)

The compliance status determination of a reporting requirement is, where applicable, grounded in the following main elements, as provided by the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2023), Annex V:

- Transposition of Commission decisions - Legislation or administrative orders
- Provision of information on system or procedures to monitor and ensure compliance of vessels and persons
- Reporting deadline, and
- Reporting format – IOTC standard

Year reported on/Year assessed: 2026

- Assessment of legislation (LEG): Not assessed
- Assessment of system and procedures (SP): Not assessed
- Assessment of IOTC standard (STD): Assessed

Notes:

- Result of assessment: Causes mentioned below are not exhaustive and are only examples; other causes can apply depending of the context and information available.
- Observations mentioned below are not exhaustive and are only examples; other observations can apply depending of the context and information available.

IOTC Standard:

The RoP Annex V requires that submissions contain all mandatory information or data required, in the agreed format.

The standard is defined by the Resolution 25/08 paragraph 37. The standard in term of data/information to be provided/completed is: **[National Plan of Action under the IPOA Sharks]**.

Assesment result	CR Observation

Assessment score: Compliant - C

LEG: N/A - Report CoC21 (94). STD: CPC has fishing vessels operaring in the IOTC Area of Competence. The CPC has provided the NPOA sharks. SP : N/A - Report CoC21 (94)	Received [Date] STD: YES – NPOA sharks provided in the agreed format/at IOTC Standard.
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Assessment score: Compliant - P/C

STD: CPC has fishing vessels operaring in the IOTC Area of Competence. The CPC has provided the NPOA sharks. Inform- ation are NOT provided in the agreed format/at IOTC Stan- dard.	Received [Date] STD: NO- NPOA sharks provided but not in the agreed for- mat/at IOTC Standard.
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Assessment score: Compliant - NC1

STD: CPC has fishing vessels operaring in the IOTC Area of Competence. The CPC has NOT provided the NPOA sharks	Received [Date] STD: NO - NPOA sharks NOT provided.
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Assessment score: Compliant - NC2

STD: CPC has fishing vessels operaring in the IOTC Area of Competence. The CPC has NOT provided the NPOA sharks, in two or more consecutive years.	Received [Date] STD: NO - NPOA sharks NOT provided, in two or more consec- utive years.
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Assessment score: Compliant - N/A	
Not applicable	Not applicable

Note: Your response to this requirement may be used to compile other reports as agreed by the Commission and its Committees.