



AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTIONS 19/03, 25/08 AND 25/12 FROM THE WPICMM09

Prepared by: IOTC Secretariat, 16 April 2026

PURPOSE

This document provides information on the amendments of three Resolutions:

- 19/03 On the Conservation of Mobulid Rays Caught In Association with Fisheries in the IOTC Area of Competence,
- 25/08 On the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC,
- 25/12 On the promotion of the implementation of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures, by the Working Party on the Implementation of Conservation and Management Measures (WPICMM09).

BACKGROUND

At its [9th meeting the WPICMM09](#), made the following recommendation:

The WPICMM09 **RECOMMENDED** that the Secretariat prepares a meeting document for the next Compliance Committee (CoC23), based on its amendments to Resolutions 19/03, 25/08 and 25/12.

DISCUSSIONS

The component 8, sub-component 8.1 and 8.2, of the Work Plan of the WPICMM is tasking CPCs to identify CMMs that are outdated/obsolete and could be easily removed or CMMs that can be amended, for discussion and adoption by the Commission.

- [Resolution 19/03](#) – Update to the Annex I - Live release handling procedures - as adopted by the WPEB

SC28.17 (para. 121) The SC **NOTED** that in 2024, the WPEB recommended the adoption of a revised set of handling guidelines for mobulids while **NOTING** that work was required to further develop the guidelines for gillnets. The SC **NOTED** that the WPEB worked to further develop these guidelines which were revised and adopted. The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider these revised handling guidelines for mobulids for consideration for adoption in 2026. The details of the suggested revisions to the handling procedures can be found in Appendix XXVI of the WPEB report.

The WPICMM09 agreed to the following amendments of Resolution 19/03:

In the Preamble, by adding:

RECALLING The SC **NOTED** that in 2024, the WPEB recommended the adoption of a revised set of handling guidelines for mobulids while **NOTING** that work was required to further develop the guidelines for gillnets. The SC **NOTED** that the WPEB worked to further develop these guidelines which were revised and adopted and these can be found in Annex XXVI of the 2025 WPEB report. The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider these revised handling guidelines for mobulids for consideration for adoption in 2026.

In the main text, by adding:

Paragraph 15:

This Resolution supersedes Resolution 19/03 on the conservation of mobulid rays caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence.

By replacing the Annex 1 Live release handling procedures, and the Illustrations.

The revision of Resolution 19/03 is available [HERE](#).

The *Live Release Handling Procedures For Mobulid* is available [HERE](#).

The CoC23 should note that two CMM proposals to S30, [IOTC-2026-S30-PropC](#), [IOTC-2026-S30-PropK](#), were submitted in relation to the Resolution 19/03.

- [Resolution 25/08](#) – Review and replace the Annex III, as adopted by the WPEB:

SC28.16 (para. 120) The SC **NOTED** that the WPEB had **REVIEWED** the minimum standards set out in Annex III of Resolution 25/08 and **ADOPTED** the revisions made by members of the group which can be found in Annex XXVII of the WPEB report. The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider these standards for adoption in 2026. The SC further **NOTED** that work on best practice handling guidelines is ongoing and frequently evolves. The SC therefore **SUGGESTED** that the Commission consider adopting a master document containing handling guidelines for all taxa, rather than requiring Resolutions containing such guidelines to be updated when new information becomes available. Future Resolutions could then refer back to this master document adopted by the SC. The SC **AGREED** that a small working group will work on compiling these intersessionally for review by the SC.

The WPICMM09 agreed to the following amendments of resolution 25/08:

In the Preamble, by adding:

RECALLING the WPEB had **REVIEWED** the minimum standards set out in Annex III of Resolution 25/08 and **ADOPTED** the revisions made by members of the group which can be found in Annex XVII of the WPEB report. The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider these standards for adoption in 2026.

In the main text, by adding:

Paragraph 46:
This Resolution supersedes the following Resolutions:
f) Resolution 25/08 *On The Conservation Of Sharks Caught In Association With Fisheries Managed By IOTC*.

By replacing the Annex III Minimum Standards For Safe Handling And Live Release Procedures.

The revision of Resolution 25/08 is available [HERE](#).

The *Live Release Handling Procedures For Sharks* is available [HERE](#).

The CoC23 should note that a CMM proposal to S30, [IOTC-2026-S30-PropN](#), was submitted in relation to the Resolution 25/08.

- [Resolution 25/12](#) – include provision to repeal Resolution 24/08:

Information received from the European Union indicates that Resolution 24/08 ON A MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE FOR SWORDFISH IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE was not repealed by Resolution 25/07 ON

A MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE FOR SWORDFISH IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE. The two Resolutions are duplicated. It is suggested to amend Resolution 25/12 to repeal Resolution 24/08.

The proposed amendments of Resolution 25/12 is:

Adding Alinea f) to paragraph9:

f) Resolution 24/08 On A Management Procedure For Swordfish In The IOTC Area of Competence.

The revision of Resolution 25/12 is available [HERE](#).

The CoC23 should note that a CMM proposal to S30, [IOTC-2026-S30-PropA](#), was submitted in relation to the Resolution 25/12.

RECOMMENDATION/s

That the CoC23:

- **NOTE** meeting document IOTC-2026-CoC23-14 - *Amendments to Resolutions 19/03, 25/08 and 25/12 from the WPICMM09*.
- **NOTE** that two CMM proposals to S30, [IOTC-2026-S30-PropC](#), [IOTC-2026-S30-PropK](#), were submitted in relation to the Resolution 19/03.
- **NOTE** that a CMM proposal to S30, [IOTC-2026-S30-PropN](#), was submitted in relation to the Resolution 25/08.
- **NOTE** that a CMM proposal to S30, [IOTC-2026-S30-PropA](#), was submitted in relation to the Resolution 25/12.