**RESOLUTION 18/08**

**GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION OF DRIFTING FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE (DFAD) MANAGEMENT PLANS**

To support obligations in respect of the DFAD Management Plan (DFAD–MP) to be submitted to the IOTC Secretariat by CPCs with fleets fishing in the IOTC area of competence, associated to DFADs, DFAD–MP should include:

1. An objective
2. Scope:

Description of its application with respect to:

* + vessel-types and support and tender vessels
  + DFAD numbers and/or DFADs beacon numbers to be deployed
  + reporting procedures for DFAD deployment
  + incidental bycatch reduction and utilization policy
  + consideration of interaction with other gear types
  + plans for monitoring and retrieval of lost DFADs
  + statement or policy on “DFAD ownership”

1. Institutional arrangements for management of the DFAD Management Plans:
   * Institutional responsibilities
   * application processes for DFAD and /or DFAD beacons deployment approval
   * Obligations of vessel owners and masters in respect of DFAD and /or DFAD beacons deployment and use
   * DFAD and/or DFADs beacons replacement policy
   * reporting obligations
2. DFAD construction specifications and requirements
   * DFAD design characteristics (a description)
   * DFAD markings and identifiers, including DFADs beacons
   * Lighting requirements
   * radar reflectors
   * visible distance
   * radio buoys (requirement for serial numbers)
   * satellite transceivers (requirement for serial numbers)
3. Applicable areas
   * Details of any closed areas or periods e.g. territorial waters, shipping lanes, proximity to artisanal fisheries, etc
4. Applicable period for the DFAD–MP
5. Means for monitoring and reviewing implementation of the DFAD–MP
6. DFAD logbook
   * catch reporting from DFAD sets (consistent with the Standards for the provision of Catch and Effort Data) set out in [Resolution 13/03](#Resolution1303)), including:
7. Any visit on a DFAD\*.
8. For each visit on a DFAD, whether followed or not by a set,
   1. position,
   2. date,
   3. DFAD identifier (i.e., DFAD Marking or beacon ID or any information allowing to identify the owner),
   4. DFAD type (drifting natural FAD, drifting artificial FAD),
   5. DFAD design characteristics (dimension and material of the floating part and of the underwater hanging structure),
   6. type of the visit (deployment, hauling, retrieving, loss, intervention on electronic equipment).
9. If the visit is followed by a set, the results of the set in terms of catch and bycatch.

\* Other FADs encountered at–sea should be monitored in accordance with each CPCs’ domestic regulations.