

## OUTCOMES OF THE FIFTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

PREPARED BY: IOTC SECRETARIAT, 30 JUNE 2011

### PURPOSE

To inform the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB) of the decisions and requests made by the Commission at its Fifteenth Session, held from 18–22 March 2011, specifically relating to the work of the WPEB.

### BACKGROUND

At the 15<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission, Members considered a wide range of topics related to the work of the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB), including seven proposals for new or revised Conservation and Management Measures. Of these seven proposals, two were adopted:

- 1) The Commission **adopted** Resolution 11/04 *On a Regional Observer Scheme* (provided at [Attachment A](#)). This Resolution introduced amendments to Resolution 10/04 *On a Regional Observer Scheme* to extend the period for providing observer trip reports to the Secretariat from 90 to 150 days (para. 114 of the S15 report).
- 2) The Commission **adopted** Recommendation 11/06 *Concerning the Recording of Catch by Fishing Vessels in the IOTC Area of Competence* (provided at [Attachment B](#)). This Recommendation consolidates Resolution 08/04 *Concerning the Recording of Catch by Longline Fishing Vessels in the IOTC Area* and Resolution 10/03 *Concerning the Record of Catch by Fishing Vessels in the IOTC Area*, but does not supersede them, as well as setting agreed minimum standards for data requirements for all pole-and-line and gillnet fleets operating in the IOTC area of competence, in order to harmonize data gathering and provide a common basis for scientific analysis for all IOTC CPCs. Some CPCs indicated that they would not be in a position to implement the proposal (para. 116 of the S15 report).

In addition, the Commission considered the following proposals as Conservation and Management Measures relating to the work of the WPEB, but consensus could not be reached:

- 1) The Commission considered a proposal *on a catch documentation scheme* (provided at [Attachment C](#)), but no consensus could be reached. The proposal aimed to support the implementation of the IOTC Conservation and Management Measures by providing a scheme to identify the origin of tunas and tuna-like species and other species of fish taken by vessels fishing for tunas and tuna-like species within the IOTC area of competence (para. 118 of the S15 report).
- 2) The Commission considered a proposal *on a catch documentation programme* for tropical tuna (provided at [Attachment D](#)), but no consensus could be reached. Several Members noted that this proposed programme was different from the programme that they have recently implemented to comply with the EU–IUU regulations (notably Council Regulation (EC) No. 1005/2008), and applying only to the three tropical tuna species, therefore creating difficulties and confusion in the CPCs currently exporting fish to the EU market. Some Members expressed their interest in discussing an IOTC Catch Documentation Scheme draft Resolution modelled in the EU IUU regulation and certification, considering their familiarity with this system. The EU will likely propose in 2012 a draft Resolution along these lines, including a section addressing the concerns expressed for artisanal fisheries (para. 119 of the S15 report).
- 3) The Commission considered a proposal *on the conservation of Oceanic Whitetip shark caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence* (provided at [Attachment E](#)), but no consensus could be reached. The proposal aimed to prohibit the retention onboard, transshipment, landing, storing, selling or offering for sale any part or whole carcass of oceanic whitetip sharks in any fishery. The proposal also called for CPCs to record through their observer programs the number of discards and releases of oceanic whitetip sharks with indication of status (dead or alive) and report it to the IOTC (para. 121 of the S15 report).
- 4) The Commission considered a proposal *on the conservation of Hammerhead Sharks caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence* (provided at [Attachment F](#)), but no consensus could be reached. This proposal aimed to prohibit the retention onboard, transshipment, landing, storing, selling or offering for sale any part or whole carcass of hammerhead sharks, taken in the IOTC area of competence. The proposal also called for CPCs to release, to the extent possible, any hammerhead sharks when brought alongside the vessel. Some coastal states could not agree to the proposal given the high artisanal catches of these shark species (para. 122 of the S15 report).

- 5) The Commission considered a proposal *on the conservation of shark caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC* (provided at [Attachment G](#)), but no consensus could be reached. The proposal included a ban on the use of wire trace. Several Members noted that this proposal which called for fins to be landed attached, either naturally or by other means, was not operationally feasible at this point in time and that no scientific justification for the ban on wire trace was provided to the Fifteenth Session of the Commission (para. 123 of the S15 report).

## DISCUSSION

At the 15<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission, Members also made several requests to CPCs, the Scientific Committee and directly to the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB), which participants are asked to consider:

- 1) The Commission expressed concern that data and statistics for gillnet fisheries are still poor, while those fisheries are catching approximately 14% of the total catch in the Indian Ocean. The Commission **noted** that these fisheries are also believed to have substantial impacts on bycatch species and associated ecosystems (para. 33 of the S15 report).
- 2) The Commission **reminded** CPCs of the importance of timely reporting of data and **requests** that each CPC review the data reporting requirements contained in IOTC Conservation and Management Measures (para. 34 of the S15 report).
- 3) The Commission **requests** that all CPCs improve compliance with the various statistical reporting requirements and deadlines in order for the necessary analyses and assessments to be completed, on which the advice of the Scientific Committee will be based (para. 35 of the S15 report).
- 4) The Commission **requests** that the Secretariat attend the Circle Hook symposium that will be held in May in Miami and report the key findings to the Scientific Committee (para. 42 of the S15 report).
- 5) The Commission **requests** that an Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA) approach be applied to the various shark species considered at risk by fishing activities in the Indian Ocean, and for the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch to undertake appropriate analyses under the guidance of relevant experts (para. 44 of the S15 report).
- 6) The Commission **requests** the Scientific Committee in its 2011 Session, to evaluate the data provision needs for longline, purse seine, gillnet and pole-and-line gear types, notably regarding information relating to the vessel characteristics and the definition of the pole-and-line fishing event. The evaluation is requested in order to ensure that consistent and uniform information is collected to assist the IOTC to fulfil its mandate. The Scientific Committee should make appropriate recommendations to the 2012 Commission meeting (para. 45 of the S15 report).
- 7) The Commission **agreed** that if possible, the Chairperson of the Scientific Committee and the Chairperson of the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch should attend the Joint Bycatch Working Group to be held in conjunction with the Kobe III meeting in La Jolla, California from 11 to 15 July, 2011 (para. 10 of the S15 report).

Of particular interest for the WPEB are points 5 and 6 above, which should be discussed and responded to by the WPEB.

## RECOMMENDATION

That the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch **NOTE** the outcomes of the Fifteenth Session of the Commission, and consider how best to provide the Scientific Committee with the information it needs, in order to satisfy the Commission's requests.

## ATTACHMENTS

**Attachment A:** Resolution 11/04 *On a Regional Observer Scheme*

**Attachment B:** Recommendation 11/06 *Concerning the Recording of Catch by Fishing Vessels in the IOTC Area of Competence*

**Attachment C:** Proposal by Japan *on a catch documentation scheme*

**Attachment D:** Proposal by the EU on a *catch documentation programme* for tropical tuna

**Attachment E:** Proposal by the EU *on the conservation of Oceanic Whitetip shark caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence*

**Attachment F:** Proposal by the EU *on the conservation of Hammerhead Sharks caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence*

**Attachment G:** Proposal by Australia concerning *the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC*



## **ATTACHMENT A**

### **RESOLUTION 11/04 ON A REGIONAL OBSERVER SCHEME**

#### **The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the need to increase the scientific information, in particular to provide the IOTC Scientific Committee working material in order to improve the management of the tuna and tuna-like species fished in the Indian Ocean;

REITERATING the responsibilities of flag States to ensure that their vessels conduct their fishing activities in a responsible manner, fully respecting IOTC conservation and management measures;

CONSIDERING the need for action to ensure the effectiveness of the IOTC objectives;

CONSIDERING the obligation of all IOTC Members and Co-operating Non-contracting Parties (hereinafter CPCs) to fully comply with the IOTC conservation and management measures;

AWARE of the necessity for sustained efforts by CPCs to ensure the enforcement of IOTC's conservation and management measures, and the need to encourage non-Contracting Parties (NCPs) to abide by these measures;

UNDERLINING that the adoption of this measure is intended to help support the implementation of conservation and management measures as well as scientific research for tuna and tuna-like species;

CONSIDERING the provisions set forth in Resolution 10/04 *on a Regional Observer Scheme*, adopted by the Commission;

CONSIDERING the deliberations of the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee held in Victoria, Seychelles from 30 November to 4 December 2009

ADOPTS, in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, paragraph 1 of the IOTC Agreement, the following:

#### **Objective**

1. The objective of the IOTC observer scheme shall be to collect verified catch data and other scientific data related to the fisheries for tuna and tuna-like species in the IOTC area.

#### **Observer Scheme**

2. In order to improve the collection of scientific data, at least 5 % of the number of operations/sets for each gear type by the fleet of each CPC while fishing in the IOTC Area of 24 meters overall length and over, and under 24 meters if they fish outside their EEZs shall be covered by this observer scheme. For vessels under 24 meters if they fish outside their EEZ, the above mentioned coverage should be achieved progressively by January 2013.
3. When purse seiners are carrying an observer<sup>1</sup> as stated in paragraph 1, this observer shall also monitor the catches at unloading to identify the composition of bigeye catches. The requirement for the observer to monitor catches at unloading is not applicable to CPCs already having a sampling scheme, with at least the coverage set out in paragraph 2.
4. The number of the artisanal fishing vessels landings shall also be monitored at the landing place by field samplers<sup>2</sup>. The indicative level of the coverage of the artisanal fishing vessels should progressively increase towards 5% of the total levels of vessel activity (i.e. total number of vessel trips or total number of vessels active).

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<sup>1</sup> Observer: a person that collects information on board fishing vessels. Observer programmes can be used for quantifying species composition of target species, bycatch, by-products and dead discards, collecting tag returns, etc.

<sup>2</sup> Field sampler: a person that collects information on land during the unloading of fishing vessels. Field sampling programmes can be used for quantifying catch, retained bycatch, collecting tag returns, etc.

5. CPCs shall:
  - a) Have the primary responsibility to obtain qualified observers. Each CPC may choose to use either deployed national or non–national of the flag State of the vessel on which they are deployed;
  - b) Endeavour that the minimum level of coverage is met and that the observed vessels are a representative sample of the gear types active in their fleet;
  - c) Take all necessary measures to ensure that observers are able to carry out their duties in a competent and safe manner;
  - d) Endeavour to ensure that the observers alternate vessels between their assignments. Observers are not to perform duties, other than those described in paragraphs 10 and 11 below;
  - e) Ensure that the vessel on which an observer is placed shall provide suitable food and lodging during the observer's deployment at the same level as the officers, where possible. Vessel masters shall ensure that all necessary co–operation is extended to observers in order for them to carry out their duties safely including providing access, as required, to the retained catch, and catch which is intended to be discarded.
6. The cost of the observer scheme in paragraph 2 and 3 shall be met by each CPC.
7. The sampling scheme referred in paragraph 4 will be covered by the Commission's accumulated funds and voluntary contribution on a provisional basis. The Commission will consider an alternative for the financing of this scheme.
8. If the coverage referred in paragraphs 2 and 3 is not met by a CPC, any other CPC may, subject to the consent of the CPC who has not met its coverage, place an observer to fulfill the tasks defined in the paragraphs 1 and 2 until that CPC provides a replacement or the target coverage level is met.
9. CPCs shall provide to the Executive Secretary and the Scientific Committee annually a report of the number of vessels monitored and the coverage achieved by gear type in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution.
10. Observers shall:
  - a) Record and report fishing activities, verify positions of the vessel;
  - b) Observe and estimate catches as far as possible with a view to identifying catch composition and monitoring discards, by–catches and size frequency;
  - c) Record the gear type, mesh size and attachments employed by the master;
  - d) Collect information to enable the cross–checking entries made to the logbooks (species composition and quantities, live and processed weight and location, where available); and
  - e) Carry out such scientific work (for example, collecting samples), as requested by the IOTC Scientific Committee.
11. The observer shall, within 30 days of completion of each trip, provide a report to the CPCs of the vessel. The CPCs shall send within 150 days at the latest each report, as far as continuous flow of report from observer placed on the longline fleet is ensured, which is recommended to be provided with 1°x1° format to the Executive Secretary, who shall make the report available to the Scientific Committee upon request. In a case where the vessel is fishing in the EEZ of a coastal state, the report shall equally be submitted to that Coastal State.
12. The confidentiality rules set out in the resolution 98/02 Data confidentiality policy and procedures for fine–scale data shall apply.
13. Field samplers shall monitor catches at the landing place with a view to estimating catch–at–size by type of boat, gear and species, or carry out such scientific work as requested by the IOTC Scientific Committee.
14. The funds available from the IOTC balance of funds may be used to support the implementation of this programme in developing States, notably the training of observers and field samplers.
15. The elements of the Observer Scheme, notably those regarding its coverage, are subject to review and revision, as appropriate, for application in 2012 and subsequent years. Basing on the experience of other Tuna RFMOs, the Scientific Committee will elaborate an observer working manual, a template to be used for reporting (including minimum data fields) and a training program.

This Resolution supersedes Resolution 10/04 *on a Regional Observer Scheme*.

## **ATTACHMENT B**

### **RECOMMENDATION 11/06**

#### **CONCERNING THE RECORDING OF CATCH AND EFFORT BY FISHING VESSELS IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE**

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

RECALLING the commitment made by members under Article V of the IOTC Agreement to keep under review the conditions and trends of the stocks and to gather, analyse and disseminate scientific information, catch and effort statistics and other data relevant to the conservation and management of the stocks and to fisheries based on the stocks covered by the Agreement;

CONSIDERING the provisions set forth in Resolution 10/02 Mandatory Statistical Requirements for IOTC Members and Co-operating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs), and in particular paragraph 3, which sets out the catch and effort reporting requirements for surface fisheries, longline and coastal fisheries;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the IOTC Science Committee has repeatedly stressed the importance of the timeliness and accuracy of data submissions for members;

ALSO RECALLING the outcomes of the 9th Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee held in Victoria, Seychelles from 6 to 10 November 2006 where it was agreed that a standardised logbook would be advantageous and agreed on the minimum requirements for all purse seine and bait boat fleets operating in the IOTC Area of competence in order to harmonize data gathering and provide a common basis for scientific analysis for all IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CPCs);

FURTHER RECALLING the recommendations adopted by the KOBE II Workshop on Bycatch, held in Brisbane, Australia, 23–25 June 2010; in particular that RFMOs should consider adopting standards for bycatch data collection which, at a minimum, allows the data to contribute to the assessment of bycatch species population status and evaluation of the effectiveness of bycatch measures, and that the data should allow the RFMOs to assess the level of interaction of the fisheries with bycatch species;

ALSO CONSIDERING the deliberations of the 12th Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee held in Victoria, Seychelles from 30 November to 4 December 2009;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the deliberations of the 13th Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee held in Victoria, Seychelles from 6 to 10 December 2010, that recommended three options, one of which is mandatory reporting of a revised list of shark species in logbooks to improve the data collection and statistics on sharks in the IOTC Area of competence;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the works of the small task force created by the IOTC Scientific Committee during its 10th Session held in Seychelles in November 2007, to harmonise the various forms currently used by the fleets and the IOTC Scientific Committee agreement on the minimum standard requirements for all purse seine, longline and gillnet fleets as well as the produced logbook template;

RECOMMENDS in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement Establishing the IOTC, that:

- 1 Each flag CPC should ensure that all purse seine, longline, gillnet and pole and line fishing vessels flying its flag and authorized to fish species managed by IOTC be subject to a data recording system.
- 2 Within the IOTC Area of competence, all purse seine, longline, gillnet and pole and line fishing vessels over 24 metres length and those under 24 metres if they fish outside the EEZs of their flag States should keep a bound or electronic logbook to provide data for use by

Working Parties and the Scientific Committee that includes, as a minimum requirement, the information and data in the logbook set forth in Annex I and II.

- 3 The logbooks format consists of two parts, Annex I and Annex II, and logbook templates are provided for illustrative purposes only for all gears (Annex III, IV, V and VI):

Annex I includes information on vessel, trip and gear configuration, and need only be completed once for each trip, unless the gear configuration changes during the trip.

Annex II contains information of purse seine, longline, gillnet and pole and line operations and catch, which must be completed for each set of the fishing gear.

- 4 The logbook data should be provided by the fishing masters to the flag State administration, as well as to the coastal State administration where the vessel has fished in that coastal State's EEZ. The flag State and the States which receive this information should provide all the data for any given year to the IOTC Secretariat and the Scientific Committee by June 30<sup>th</sup> of the following year on an aggregated basis. The confidentiality rules set out in Resolution 98/02 *Data Confidentiality Policy and Procedures* for fine-scale data shall apply.

- 5 The Commission will review this recommendation at its 2012 annual meeting, taking into account the recommendations of the Scientific Committee, with the view of adopting a resolution to implement reporting requirements across all gear types.

ANNEX I

Record once per trip (unless gear configuration changes)

**1.1 REPORT INFORMATION**

- 1) Date of the submission of logbook
- 2) Name of reporting person

**1.2 VESSEL INFORMATION**

- 1) Vessel name and/or registration number
- 2) IOTC number, where available
- 3) Call sign: if call sign is not available, other unique identifying code such as registration or fishing licence number should be used
- 4) Vessel size: gross tonnage and/or overall length (meters)

**1.3 CRUISE INFORMATION**

For multiday fishing operations record the

- 1) Departure date and port
- 2) Arrival date and port

**1.4 OTHER REQUIRED INFORMATION**

**Longline (Gear Configuration):**

- 1) Average branch line length (meters): straight length in meters between snap and hook (Figure 1)
- 2) Average float line length (meters): straight length in meters from the float to the snap
- 3) Average length between branch (meters): straight length of main line in meters between successive branch lines
- 4) Main line material classified into four categories:
  - a. Thick rope (Cremona rope)
  - b. Thin rope (PE or other materials)
  - c. Nylon braided
  - d. Nylon monofilament

**Purse Seine (Search Information):**

- 1) Days searched
- 2) Spotter plane used (Yes/No)

**Gillnet (Gear Configuration):**

- 1) Minimum and maximum fishing depth of assembled net (meters): record the maximum and minimum of the depth range fished
- 2) Mesh size of net (millimetres): record the size of the mesh size used during the trip
- 3) Height of assembled net (meters): height on assembled net in meters
- 4) Netting material: e.g. nylon braid, nylon monofilament, etc
- 5) Total length of net lost and not recovered (meters): record the total length lost during the trip

**Pole and line**

- 1) Activity: reported each day from the start of the trip to the end of the trip. Activities should include “a day fishing or search with bait onboard”, “no fishing – collecting bait”, “no fishing – in transit”; no fishing – gear breakdown”; no fishing – bad weather” and no fishing – in port

## ANNEX II

**Record once per set/shot/operation****2.1 OPERATION****For longline:**

- 1) Date of set (YYYY/MM/DD)
- 2) Position in latitude and longitude: either at noon (local time) position or position of start of gear, area code of operation (e.g. Seychelles EEZ, High seas, etc) may be optionally used
- 3) Local Time (24 hr) of starting setting the gear
- 4) Sea surface temperature at noon with one decimal point, if available (XX.X°C)
- 5) Number of hooks between floats: if there are different hooks counts between floats in a single set then record the most representative (average) number
- 6) Total number of hooks used in the set
- 7) Number of light–sticks used in the set
- 8) Type of bait used in the set

**For purse seine:**

- 1) Date of fishing activity (YYYY/MM/DD)
- 2) Position in latitude and longitude: for each set or at noon (local time) position
- 3) Details of the set or deployment of FAD: specify if the set was successful, nil, time, well
- 4) Type of school: FAD association (specify the type e.g. object, beacon, whale shark, whale, etc) and/or free swimming school
- 5) Sea surface temperature at noon with one decimal point, if available (XX.X°C)
- 6) Current speed (knots) and direction (degrees)

**For gillnet:**

- 1) Date of set (YYYY/MM/DD): record the date for each set of day at sea (for days without sets)
- 2) Total length of net (meters): length floatline used for each set in meters
- 3) Start fishing time: record the UCT time (24 hr) when starting each set
- 4) Start and end position in latitude and longitude: record start and end latitude and longitude that represent the area that your gear is set between. Record the latitude and longitude at noon for days with no set.
- 5) Depth at which net is set (meters): approximate depth at which the gillnet is set
- 6) Start Haul Time: record the UCT time (24 hr) when hauling starts
- 7) Finish Haul Time: record the UCT time (24 hr) when hauling ends

**For Pole and Line**

- 1) Date of fishing: record the day of fishing. Each fishing day should be recorded separately.
- 2) Number of fishermen: record the number of fishermen on the boat by fishing day (fishing event)
- 3) Number of fishing gears used: Record the number of fishing gears used during the day (fishing event)
- 4) Start fishing time: record the UCT time (24 hr) immediately after bait fishing is complete and the vessel heads to the ocean for fishing. For multiple days, the time at which search starts should be recorded
- 5) End fishing time: record the UCT time (24 hr) immediately after fishing is complete from the last school. This is the time that the captain decides to head home. On multiple days this is the time fishing stopped from the last school.
- 6) Position of the catch: record the latitude and longitude at the start of the fishing event, record the latitude and longitude at noon for non–fishing days. Where information is recorded by day, record the average 1° x 1° area(s) where fishing took place.
- 7) Type of school: FAD associated and/or free school

**2.2 CATCH**

- 1) Catch weight (kg) or number by species per set/shot/fishing event for each of the species and form of processing in section 2.3:



- a. For longline by number and weight;
- b. For purse seine by weight;
- c. For gillnet by weight;
- d. For pole and line by weight or number

### 2.3 SPECIES

For Longline:

<b>Fish Species</b>	<b>Other Species</b>
Southern Bluefin Tuna ( <i>Thunnus maccoyii</i> )	Blue Shark ( <i>Prionace glauca</i> )
Albacore Tuna ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )	Mako Sharks ( <i>Isurus</i> spp.)
Bigeye Tuna ( <i>Thunnus obesus</i> )	Porbeagle Shark ( <i>Lamna nasus</i> )
Yellowfin Tuna ( <i>Thunnus albacores</i> )	Oceanic Whitetip Shark ( <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> )
Skipjack Tuna ( <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> )	Hammerhead Sharks ( <i>Sphyrna</i> spp.)
Swordfish ( <i>Xiphius gladius</i> )	Other sharks
Striped marlin & blue marlin ( <i>Tetrapturus audax</i> & <i>Makaira indica</i> )	<b>Optional species to be recorded</b>
Swordfish ( <i>Xiphius gladius</i> )	
Black Marlin ( <i>Makaira mazara</i> )	Thresher Sharks ( <i>Alopias</i> spp.)
Striped marlin & blue marlin ( <i>Tetrapturus audax</i> & <i>Makaira indica</i> )	
Shortbilled spearfish ( <i>Tetrapturus angustirostris</i> )	Tiger Shark ( <i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i> )
Black Marlin ( <i>Makaira mazara</i> )	
Indo–Pacific Sailfish ( <i>Istiophorus platypterus</i> )	Crocodile Shark ( <i>Pseudocarcharias kamoharai</i> )
Shortbilled spearfish ( <i>Tetrapturus angustirostris</i> )	
Other bony fishes	Other Requiem sharks ( <i>Carcharhinus</i> spp.)
Indo–Pacific Sailfish ( <i>Istiophorus platypterus</i> )	
Other bony fishes	Great White shark ( <i>Carcharodon carcharias</i> )
	Pelagic stingray ( <i>Pteroplatytrygon violacea</i> )

For Purse Seine:

<b>Fish Species</b>	<b>Others Optional</b>
Albacore Tuna ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )	Whale Shark ( <i>Rhincodon typus</i> )
Yellowfin Tuna ( <i>Thunnus albacores</i> )	Oceanic Whitetip Shark ( <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> )
Skipjack Tuna ( <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> )	Silky sharks ( <i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i> )
Bigeye Tuna ( <i>Thunnus obesus</i> )	Other sharks
Other fishes	

For Gillnet:

<b>Fish Species</b>	<b>Other Species</b>
Albacore Tuna ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )	Blue Shark ( <i>Prionace glauca</i> )
Bigeye Tuna ( <i>Thunnus obesus</i> )	Mako Sharks ( <i>Isurus</i> spp.)
Longtail Tuna ( <i>Thunnus tonggol</i> )	Porbeagle Shark ( <i>Lamna nasus</i> )
Yellowfin Tuna ( <i>Thunnus albacores</i> )	Oceanic Whitetip Shark ( <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> )
Skipjack Tuna ( <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> )	Hammerhead Sharks ( <i>Sphyrna</i> spp.)
Frigate Tuna ( <i>Auxis thazard</i> )	Other sharks
Kawakawa ( <i>Euthynnus affinis</i> )	<b>Optional species to be recorded</b>
Narrow banded Spanish Mackerel ( <i>Scomberomorus comerson</i> )	Thresher Sharks ( <i>Alopias</i> spp.)
Indo–Pacific King Mackerel ( <i>Scomberomorus guttatus</i> )	Tiger Shark ( <i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i> )

Marlins ( <i>Tetrapturus</i> spp, <i>Makaira</i> spp)	Crocodile Shark ( <i>Pseudocarcharias kamoharai</i> )
Indo–Pacific Sailfish ( <i>Istiophorus platypterus</i> )	Other Requiem sharks ( <i>Carcharhinus</i> spp.)
Shortbilled spearfish ( <i>Tetrapturus angustirostris</i> )	Great White shark ( <i>Carcharodon carcharias</i> )
Swordfish ( <i>Xiphius gladius</i> )	
Other fishes	

For Pole and Line:

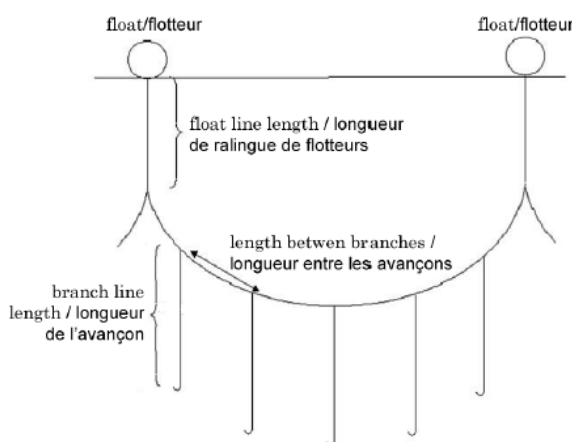
<b>Fish Species</b>
Skipjack Tuna ( <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> )
Yellowfin Tuna ( <i>Thunnus albacores</i> )
Bigeye Tuna ( <i>Thunnus obesus</i> )
Albacore Tuna ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )
Frigate Tuna ( <i>Auxis thazard</i> )
Kawakawa ( <i>Euthynnus affinis</i> )
Longtail Tuna ( <i>Thunnus tonggol</i> )
Narrow banded Spanish Mackerel ( <i>Scomberomorus comerson</i> )
Other fishes

**2.4 REMARKS**

- 1) Discard Weight (kg) or number
  - a. For longline by number and weight
  - b. For purse seine estimate weight for each species
  - c. For gillnet by weight
  - d. For pole and line by weight or number
- 2) Any interactions with whale sharks (*Rhincodon typus*) and marine mammals are encouraged to be recorded
- 3) Discard of tuna, tuna–like fish and sharks, turtles and seabirds should be recorded in the remarks
- 4) Other information is also written in the remarks
- 5) Recall the Recommendation 10/13 *On the Implementation of a Ban on Discards of Skipjack Tuna, Yellow Fin Tuna, Bigeye Tuna and Non Targeted Species Caught by Purse Seiners*

**Note:** The species included in the logbooks are regarded as minimum requirement. Optionally other frequently caught shark and/or fish species should be added as required across different areas and fisheries.

Figure 1. Schematic diagram of longline gear / Diagramme schématique d'une palangre.



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**ATTACHMENT C**

**PropA[E]**

**ON A CATCH DOCUMENTATION SCHEME**

**SUBMITTED BY JAPAN**

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**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

CONCERNED that illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fisheries are still one of the factors hampering sustainable use of fishery resources;

RECOGNIZING that the ICCAT Catch Documentation Scheme for Atlantic bluefin tuna is working effectively to prevent IUU products from entering the market;

RECALLING that one of the reasons why some countries proposed to list several shark species in CITES Appendix II at the COP 15 of CITES in Doha was lack of information on shark;

FURTHER RECALLING that participants to the Joint Tuna RFMO workshop on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance held in Barcelona from June 3 to 5 this year supported the expansion of the catch documentation scheme to species other than Atlantic bluefin tuna and southern bluefin tuna;

RECOGNIZING that special consideration should be given to implementation of the catch documentation scheme for sharks;

DETERMINED to take further measures to combat IUU fisheries and collect information on catch and trade;

ADOPTS, in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, paragraph 1 of the IOTC Agreement, the following:

**PART I  
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. The IOTC Members and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CPCs), in order to support implementation of conservation and management measures, shall take the necessary measures to implement an IOTC Catch Documentation Scheme (the Scheme) for the purpose of identifying the origin of tunas and tuna-like species and other species of fish taken by vessels fishing for tunas and tuna-like species within the IOTC area of competence (the Area). Initially, the species subject to the Scheme (hereinafter referred to as "the Species") shall be bigeye tuna, and shark species which shall be decided at the 2012 annual meeting of IOTC, taking into account advice from the Scientific Committee. The Scientific Committee shall, at its 2011 plenary session, make such advice based on the various factors such as resource status, requirement of data collection and actual trade of shark species. In any case, thresher shark species (family Alopiidae) subject to the prohibition of retention by Resolution 10/12 are not subject to this Resolution.

2. For the purpose of this Programme:

a) "Export" means:

Any movement of the Species caught in the Area by a fishing vessel flying the flag of a CPC to the territory of another CPC or non-Member to the IOTC, or from the fishing grounds in the Area to the territory of a CPC which is not the flag CPC of the fishing vessel or to the territory of a non-Member to the IOTC

b) "Import" means:

Any introduction of the Species in their caught or processed forms into the territory of a CPC, which is not the CPC where the fishing vessel is flagged

c) "Re-export" means:

Any movement of the Species in their caught or processed forms from the territory of a CPC where it had been previously imported

d) "Transshipment" means:

Any transfer of fish from vessels that have caught the fish to carrier vessels either at sea or in port

## PART II CATCH DOCUMENTS

3. In case that the Species is landed within the territory of CPCs, an IOTC catch document (IOCD) shall be produced and validated. Each consignment of the Species imported into or exported or re-exported from the territory of a CPC after landing shall be accompanied by a validated IOCD and, as applicable, a validated IOTC re-export certificate (IORC). Any such import, export or re-export of the Species without a completed and validated IOCD or IORC shall be prohibited.

4. Each CPC shall provide IOCD forms only to fishing vessels authorized to catch the Species in the Area. Such forms are not transferable to another fishing vessel except for the cases under paragraph 12. Each IOCD form shall have a unique document identification number. Document numbers shall be specific to the flag CPC and assigned to the fishing vessel.

5. Copies of IOCD shall follow each part of split consignments or processed product, using the unique document number of the original IOCD in order to track them.

6. CPCs shall keep copies of IOCDs issued or received for at least two years.

7. Export, import and re-export of fish parts other than the meat and shark fins (i.e., heads, eyes, roes, guts, bones and tails) shall be exempted from the requirements of this Resolution. Products for hand carrying by travelers shall also be exempted from the requirements of this Resolution.

8. The fishing vessel masters, or their authorized representative, or the authorized representative of the flag CPC shall complete the IOCD, by providing the required information in appropriate sections and request its validation for catch information and transshipment information in accordance with paragraph 10. The exporter shall complete the IOCD for the trade information and request its validation in accordance with paragraph 10.

9. All the information in **Annex 1** shall be filled-in in the form of the IOCD. All the annexes shall be filled-in in accordance with instruction sheets to be established by the Commission before the starting of the Scheme.

10. a) The Catch Information section, the Transshipment Information section and the Trade information section of the IOCD shall be validated respectively by an authorized government official, or other authorized individual or institution, of the flag CPC of the fishing vessel. Each section shall not be validated until the previous section is validated.

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- b) Notwithstanding paragraph a), in the case that the fishing vessel operates fishing under charter arrangement with another CPC (hereinafter referred to as “chartering CPC”), the Catch Information section, the Transshipment Information section and the Trade information section of the IOCD shall be validated by an authorized government official or other authorized individual or institution, of the chartering CPC.
- c) Each section of the IOCD shall be validated only when all the information contained in the section has been established to be accurate as a result of the verification of the consignment, and only when those products comply with all relevant provisions of the conservation and management measures.
- d) Validation shall not be required in the event that each fish available for sale is tagged in accordance with paragraph 21 by the flag CPC of the fishing vessel that fished the Species. However, the IOCD shall be completed and accompany the products. In the case that the Species is traded in a fresh or chilled form, a tag shall be attached to it.
- e) IOTC shall develop an electronic validation scheme by the end of 2013 where electronic forms are electronically validated and communicated to other CPCs and the Secretariat.
11. Where the Species quantities caught and landed are less than 1 metric ton, the logbook or the sales note may be used as a temporary IOCD, pending the validation of the IOCD within seven days and prior to export.
12. Where the Species are caught by artisanal fishing vessels and exported, one IOCD may cover catches of more than one fishing vessel to aggregate their catches. In this case, all the names of the fishing vessels as well as their corresponding registration numbers shall be written in the Fishing Vessel Information section of IOCD or attached as annex (Flag, Call Sign, IMO/Loyd’s #, Fishing License # and License Expiration Date do not have to be written).

### PART III THE SPECIES DESTINED TO PROCESSING PLANTS

13. Notwithstanding paragraph 3 a), in the case that the Species is caught by purse seiners and brought to processing plants, the catch information may be validated at processing plants. Such processing plants shall be within the territory of CPCs and registered to the Commission.
14. Notwithstanding paragraph 10 a), catch validation at processing plants may be done by an authorized government official, or other authorized individual or institution of the CPC where the processing plant is situated.
15. In case that the imported Species is processed and re-exported, the processing plan shall produce an IOTC processing declaration (**Annex 2**), which shall be verified by the authorized representative of the exporting CPC. The importer shall submit to the importing CPC the original (or copy if not possible) of the IOCD or IORC attached to the imported products.

### PART IV SHARKS

16. If sharks caught and landed by different fishing vessels are aggregated, and the whole or part of the aggregated products is transacted and traded, **Annex 3** may be used to record such transaction and trade. In this case, **Annex 3** shall be accompanied by the copy or original of all the relevant IOCDs.

**PART V**  
**RE-EXPORT CERTIFICATES**

17. Each CPC shall ensure that the Species consignment which is re-exported from its territory be accompanied by a validated IORC.
18. The operator who is responsible for the re-export shall complete the IORC by providing the required information in its appropriate sections and request its validation for the Species consignment to be re-exported. The completed IORC shall be accompanied by a copy of the validated IOCD relating to the Species products previously imported.
19. The IORC shall be validated by an authorized government official, or other authorized individual or institution.
20. The CPC shall validate the IORC for the Species product only when:
- a) all the information contained in the IORC has been established to be accurate,
  - b) the validated IOCD(s) submitted in support to the IORC had been accepted for the importation of the products declared on the IORC,
  - c) the products to be re-exported are wholly or partly the same products on the validated IOCD(s) and
  - d) a copy of the IOCD(s) shall be attached to the validated IORC.
21. The form of the IORC shall be **Annex 4**. Each space may be expanded as necessary.

**PART VI**  
**TAGGING**

22. In the case that each fish available for sale is tagged, the flag CPCs shall require their fishing vessels to affix a tag to each fish no later than the time of landing or transshipping. Tags shall have unique country specific numbers and be tamper proof. The fishing vessel masters, or their authorized representative, or the authorized representative of the flag CPC shall complete **Annex 5** to be attached to **Annex 1** and indicate the total by species in the Catch Information Section of **Annex 1**. A summary of the implementation of the tagging program shall be submitted to the Secretariat by the CPC.
23. When sharks are separated into bodies and fins on board the catching vessels and tagged, bodies and fins shall be tagged, respectively. CPCs that implements tagging for sharks shall develop special tags which shall be able to identify matching of bodies and fins from the same individuals. Alternatively, the tag number of the body and that of its corresponding fins shall be specified so as to identify matching.

**PART VII**  
**COMMUNICATION AND VERIFICATION**

24. Each CPC shall communicate electronically a copy of all validated IOCDs or IORCs within five working days following the date of validation, or without delay where the expected duration of the transportation should not take more than five working days, to the Secretariat. In the case of tagging, each CPC shall communicate electronically a copy of all IOCDs including **Annex 5** as soon as possible to the Secretariat.

25. The Secretariat shall extract from the IOCDs or IORCs communicated under paragraph 24 above the information marked with an asterisk in **Annex 1, 3, 4 and 5**, and enter this information in a database on a password protected section of its website, as soon as practicable. At its request, the Scientific Committee shall have access to the catch information contained in the database, except the vessel names.

26. Each CPC shall ensure that its competent authorities, or other authorized individual or institution, take steps to identify each consignment of the Species imported into or exported or re-exported from its territory and request and examine the validated IOCD(s) and related documentation of each consignment of the Species. These competent authorities, or authorized individuals or institutions, may also examine the content of the consignment to verify the information contained in the IOCD and in related documents and, where necessary, shall carry out verifications with the operators concerned.

27. If, as a result of examinations or verifications carried out pursuant to paragraph 26, a doubt arises regarding the information contained in a IOCD, the importing CPC and the CPC whose competent authorities validated the IOCD(s) or IORC(s) shall cooperate to resolve such doubts.

28. If a CPC involved in trade of the Species identifies a consignment with no IOCD or no valid IOCD, it shall notify the findings to the exporting CPC and, where known, the flag CPC.

29. Pending the examinations or verifications under paragraph 26 to confirm compliance of the Species consignment with the requirements in the present Resolution and any other relevant measures adopted by IOTC, the CPC shall not grant its release for import or export.

30. Where a CPC, as a result of examination or verifications under paragraph 26 and in cooperation with the validating authorities concerned, determines that an IOCD or IORC is invalid, the import, export or re-export of the Species products concerned shall be prohibited.

31. The Commission shall request the non-CPCs that are involved in import, export or re-export of the Species to cooperate with the implementation of the Scheme to provide to the Commission data obtained from such implementation.

## **PART VIII COMMUNICATION OF DATA**

32. CPCs that validate IOCDs in respect of their flag fishing vessels and/or IORCs, shall notify to the Secretariat:

(a) the name and full address of their authorities responsible for validating and verifying IOCDs or IORCs, and

(b) the name, title, and signature of the validating officials who are individually empowered. This notification shall indicate the date at which this entitlement comes into force. A copy of the provisions adopted in national law for the purpose of implementing the catch documentation program shall be communicated with the initial notification. Updated details on validating authorities, officials and national provisions shall be communicated to the Secretariat in a timely fashion.

33. The information on validating authorities and officials transmitted by notifications to the Secretariat shall be placed on a password protected section of its website held by the Secretariat. The list of the CPCs having notified their validating authorities, officials and the dates of entry into force of the entitlement shall be placed on a publicly accessible website held by the Secretariat. CPCs are encouraged to access this information to help verify the validation of IOCDs and IORCs.

34. Each CPC shall notify to the Secretariat the points of contact (name and e-mail address) that should be informed when there are questions related to IOCDs or IORCs.

35. Notification pursuant to paragraphs 32, 33 and 34 shall be sent by CPCs to the Secretariat, by electronic means.

36. CPCs shall provide to the Secretariat a report each year by April 1 for the preceding year to provide the information described in **Annex 6**. The Secretariat shall post these reports on a password protected section of the website, as soon as practicable. At its request, the Scientific Committee shall have access to the reports received by the Secretariat.

**PART IX  
OTHERS**

37. This Resolution shall enter into force on January 1, 2013. The Commission will hold a preparatory workshop in 2012.

38. This Resolution will be reviewed and revised if necessary in 2014 with the view to expanding the scope of application of the Catch Documentation Scheme to species other than the Species as well as any other elements deemed to be revised. Such expansion of the scope shall take into account scientific advice from the Scientific Committee.

39. IOTC Resolution 01/06 concerning the IOTC Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document Programme and 03/03 concerning the Amendment of the Forms of the IOTC Statistical Documents are superseded by this Resolution.



## IOTC CATCH DOCUMENT FORM

1. IOTC Catch Document #*				
2. Fishing Vessel Information				
Name*		Flag*		Registration #
Call Sign			IMO/Loyd's # (if issued)	
Fishing License #			License Expiration Date	
3. Catch Information (In case of tagging, use the attached sheet and indicate the total by species here)				
Species*	Gear*	Area*	Catch Dates*	Catch Weight (kg)*
Name of Validation Authority			Title	
Signature			Date	
4. Transshipment (at-sea or in-port) Information (if applicable)				
Carrier Name		Carrier Flag		IOTC Registration #
Date	Location of Transshipment		IOTC Observer Name	
Species	Product Type (F/FR/D)	Product Form* (RD, GG, DR, FL, OT)		Net Weight (kg)*
Name of Validation Authority			Title	
Signature			Date	
5. Trade Information				
Species	Product Type (F/FR/D)	Product Form* (RD, GG, DR, FL, CAN, OT)		Net Weight (kg)*
Exporter Name		Exporter Address		
Export Date				
Point of Export*		Destination*		
Name of Validation Authority			Title	
Signature			Date	
Importer Name		Importer Address		
Import Date				
Point of Import*				

**IOTC Processing Declaration**

I hereby certify that this processed product derived from the catch accompanied by the IOCD below.

IOCD #	Name and flag of vessel	Date of Verification	Details of Catch	Landed Weight (kg)	Processed Weight (kg)	Weight of Processed Products (kg)

Name and Address of the Processing Plant:

Name and Address of the Exporter (if they are different from those of the processor):

Licensed # of the Processing Plant:

Health Certificate # and Date of Issuance:

Person Responsible for the Processing Plant	Signature	Date	Place

Verification by the Authority:

Person Responsible for Verification	Signature and Seal	Date	Place

## IOTC AGGREGATED CATCH DOCUMENT FORM FOR SHARKS TRADE

<b>1. IOTC Aggregated Catch Document #*</b>			
<b>2. IOTC Catch Document # covered by this form</b>			
<b>3. Transaction Information</b>			
Species	Product Type (F/FR/D)	Product Form* (RD, GG, DR, FL, OT)	Net Weight (kg)*
Seller Name		Seller Address	
Transaction Date			
Buyer Name		Buyer Address	
<b>4. Transaction Information</b>			
Species	Product Type (F/FR/D)	Product Form* (RD, GG, DR, FL, OT)	Net Weight (kg)*
Seller Name		Seller Address	
Transaction Date			
Buyer Name		Buyer Address	
<b>5. Trade Information</b>			
Species	Product Type (F/FR/D)	Product Form* (RD, GG, DR, FL, OT)	Net Weight (kg)*
Exporter Name		Exporter Address	
Export Date			
Point of Export*		Destination*	
Name of Validation Authority		Title	
Signature		Date	
Importer Name		Importer Address	
Import Date			
Point of Import*			

## IOTC RE-EXPORT CERTIFICATE FORM

1. Certificate #						
2. Re-Exporting Country/Entity/Fishing Entity*						
3. Point of Re-Export*						
4. Description of Imported Fish						
Species*	Product Type	Product Form	Net Weight	Flag	Date of Import*	IOCD #*
	(F/FR/D)*	(RD,GG,DR,FL,OT)	(kg)			
5. Description of Fish for Re-Export						
Species*	Product Type	Product Form	Net Weight (kg)*	Corresponding IOCD # from Section 4		
	(F/FR/D)*	(RD, GG, DR, FL, OT)				
Exporter Name			Exporter Address			
Export Date						
Destination*						
Name of Validation				Title		
Authority						
Signature				Date		
6. Import Section						
Importer Name				Importer Address		
Import Date						
Point of Import*						



Report on the Implementation of the IOTC Catch Documentation Scheme

Reporting CPC:

Period of reference: 1 January [20xx] to 31 December [20xx]

1. Number of IOCDs validated
2. Number of IOCDs received
3. Total amount of products by species imported, exported and re-exported with breakdown by CPC of origin, re-export or destination, fishing areas and fishing gear
4. Number of verifications of IOCDs requested to other CPCs and summary results
5. Number of requests for verifications of IOCDs received from other CPCs and summary results
6. Total amount of consignment by species subject to a suspension decision with breakdown by products, nature of operation (import, export, re-export), reasons for suspension and CPCs and/or non-Contracting Parties of origin or destination
7. Total amount of consignment by species subject to a prohibition decision with breakdown by products, nature of operation (import, export, re-export), reasons for prohibition and CPCs and/or non-Contracting Parties of origin or destination

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**ATTACHMENT D**

**PropF[E]**

**ON AN IOTC TROPICAL TUNAS – YELLOWFIN, BIGEYE AND SKIPJACK -CATCH  
DOCUMENTATION PROGRAMME**

**SUBMITTED BY THE EU**

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**Background**

This resolution is intended to help support the implementation of conservation and management measures, improve control and data gathering as well as scientific research, for yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas, considering the pressure on these stocks in the Indian Ocean, the impact which market factors have on these resources and fisheries, and the need to control trade flows in order to combat illegal fishing.

This resolution also intends to simplify the current catch documentation obligations, notably for the exporting CPCs. On one hand, the resolution 01/06 concerning the IOTC Bigeye Tuna Statistical document programme will be superseded by the adoption of this resolution and, on the other hand, the new catch documentation required can be used in the framework of the new European Union IUU Regulation. As a result of the adoption of this resolution, it will no longer be necessary to provide documentation related to the above referred legislations (IOTC Bigeye Tuna Statistical document and EU Catch documentation).

IOTC has adopted some conservation and management measures for the main targeted species falling under its competence, aiming the conservation and a responsible exploitation of its stocks, notably in order to freeze the fishing capacity of the fleets targeting these stocks as well as to minimize the impact of illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing in the IOTC area of competence.

Flag States have the duty to ensure that their vessels conduct their fishing activities in a responsible manner, fully respecting IOTC conservation and management measures. In addition, there is a need for improvement and strict control on all the components involved in yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas fisheries. Port States remain responsible to promote the effectiveness of management measures adopted by regional fisheries management organizations.

Moreover, there is a complementary role of importing States that also have the control of the catches caught in the IOTC area of competence to ensure compliance with IOTC conservation and management measures. An effective control of the movements of these catches, tracking of the product from the point of capture throughout the whole operation to its final market, has to be established.

In conformity with international law, notably as regards the World Trade Organization (WTO), and to ensure that all IOTC catches entering markets of CPCs is caught in the Agreement establishing the IOTC area of competence in a manner that does not diminish the effectiveness of IOTC conservation and management measures.

In order to be consistent, notably with the management measures taken in other RFMO, and to improve the results of the IOTC measures aiming conservation and management of the tropical tuna stocks, it is recommended to implement a new catch documentation contributing to a better management of these stocks.

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

RECOGNIZING the impact that market factors have on the fishery;

CONCERNED by the impact that illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing has in the IOTC area of competence;

REITERATING the responsibilities of flag States to ensure that their vessels conduct their fishing activities in a responsible manner, fully respecting IOTC conservation and management measures;

NOTING the need for improved and strict control on all the components involved in the yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tuna fisheries;

MINDFUL of the rights and obligations of port States to promote the effectiveness of management measures adopted by regional fisheries management organizations;

UNDERLINING the complementary role that importing States also have in the control of the catches of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas to ensure compliance with IOTC conservation and management measures;

RECOGNIZING that in order to have effective control of the movements of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas, strict tracking of the product from the point of capture throughout the whole operation to its final market has to be established;

COMMITTED to taking steps that conform with international law, notably as regards the World Trade Organization (WTO), and to ensure that yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas entering markets of Commission Members, Associate members of IOTC and non-members of IOTC is caught in IOTC area of competence in a manner that does not diminish the effectiveness of IOTC conservation and management measures;

UNDERLINING that the adoption of this measure is intended to help support the implementation of conservation and management measures as well as scientific research for yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas stocks;

ADOPTS, in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, paragraph 1, of the Agreement establishing the IOTC, the following:



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**PART I**  
**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. Each Contracting party and Cooperating Non-Contracting parties (hereafter referred to as CPCs) shall take the necessary steps to implement an IOTC yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas Catch Documentation Programme for the purpose of identifying the origin of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas to which conservation and management measures apply.
2. For the purpose of this Programme:
  - a) "Export" means:  
Any movement of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas caught in the IOTC area of competence by a fishing vessel flying the flag of a CPC to the territory of another CPC or non-Member to the IOTC, or from the fishing grounds to the territory of a CPC which is not the flag CPC of the fishing vessel or to the territory of a non-Member to the IOTC.
  - b) "Import" means:  
Any introduction, including for transshipment purposes, of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas in their caught or processed forms into the territory of a CPC, which is not the CPC where the fishing vessel is flagged.
  - c) "Re-export" means:  
Any movement of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas in their caught or processed forms from the territory of a CPC where it had been previously imported.
  - d) "Tropical tunas" mean:  
This resolution concerns exclusively the following tropical tuna species: yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack.

**PART II**  
**TROPICAL TUNAS - YELLOWFIN, BIGEYE AND SKIPJACK - CATCH DOCUMENTS**

3. Each consignment of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas imported into or exported or re-exported from the territory of a CPC shall be accompanied by a validated yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas catch document (TTCD) and, as applicable, a validated yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas re-export certificate (TTRC). Any such import, export or re-export of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas without a completed and validated TTCD or TTRC shall be prohibited.
4. Each CPC shall provide TTCD forms only to fishing vessels authorized to catch yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas in the IOTC area of competence. Such forms are not transferable to another fishing vessel. Each TTCD form shall have a unique document identification number. Document numbers shall be specific to the flag CPC and assigned to the fishing vessel.
5. Copies of TTCD shall follow each part of split consignments or processed product, using the unique document number of the original TTCD in order to track them.
6. CPCs shall keep copies of documents issued or received for at least two years.
7. Export, import and re-export of fish parts other than the meat (i.e., heads, eyes, roes, guts and tails) shall be exempted from the requirements of this Resolution.
8. The fishing vessel masters, or their authorized representative, or the authorized representative of the flag CPC shall complete the TTCD, if possible electronically, by providing the required

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information in appropriate sections and request its validation in accordance with paragraph 10, on each occasion that they export yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tuna products.

9. A validated TTCD shall include the information identified in Annex 1 forms attached. In cases where a section of the TTCD model does not provide enough room to completely track movement of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas from catch to trade, the needed information section may be expanded as necessary and attached as annex. The competent authority of the CPC shall validate the annex as soon as possible, but not later than the next movement of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas.
10.
  - a) The TTCD must be validated by an authorized government official, or other authorized individual or institution, of the flag CPC of the fishing vessel.
  - b) The flag CPC shall validate the TTCD for yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tuna products only when all the information contained in the TTCD has been established to be accurate as a result of the verification of the consignment, and only when those products comply with all relevant provisions of the conservation and management measures.
11. Where the yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas quantities caught and landed are less than 1 metric ton or three fish, the logbook or the sales note may be used as a temporary TTCD, pending the validation of the TTCD within seven days and prior to export.

**PART III**  
**TROPICAL TUNAS - YELLOWFIN, BIGEYE AND SKIPJACK - RE-EXPORT**  
**CERTIFICATES**

12. Each CPC shall ensure that each yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas consignment which is re-exported from its territory be accompanied by a validated TTRC.
13. The operator who is responsible for the re-export shall complete the TTRC by providing the required information in its appropriate sections and request its validation for the yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas consignment to be re-exported. The completed TTRC shall be accompanied by a copy of the validated TTCD relating to the yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tuna products previously imported.
14. The TTRC shall be validated by an authorized government official or authority.
15. The CPC shall validate the TTRC for yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas product only when:
  - a) all the information contained in the TTRC has been established to be accurate,
  - b) the validated TTCD(s) submitted in support to the TTRC had been accepted for the importation of the products declared on the TTRC,
  - c) the products to be re-exported are wholly or partly the same products on the validated TTCD(s) and
  - d) a copy of the TTCD(s) shall be attached to the validated TTRC.
16. The validated TTRC shall include the information identified in Annex 2 forms attached.

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**PART IV**  
**COMMUNICATION AND VERIFICATION**

17. Each CPC shall communicate, if possible electronically, a copy of all validated TTCDs or TTRCs within fifteen working days following the date of validation, or without delay where the expected duration of the transportation should not take more than fifteen working days, to the following:
- a) the competent authorities of the CPC where the yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas will be imported, and
  - b) the IOTC Secretariat.
18. The IOTC Secretariat shall extract from the validated TTCDs or communicated under paragraph 17 above the information marked with an asterisk in **Annex 1** or **Annex 2** forms and enter this information in a database on a password protected section of its website, as soon as practicable.
- At its request, the Scientific Committee shall have access to the catch information contained in the database, except the vessel names.
19. Each CPC shall ensure that its competent authorities, or other authorized individual or institution, take steps to identify each consignment of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas imported into or exported or re-exported from its territory and request and examine the validated TTCD(s) and related documentation of each consignment of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas.
- These competent authorities, or authorized individuals or institutions, may also examine the content of the consignment to verify the information contained in the TTCD and in related documents and, where necessary, shall carry out verifications at with the operators concerned.
20. If, as a result of examinations or verifications carried out pursuant to paragraph 19, a doubt arises regarding the information contained in a TTCD, the final importing CPC and the CPC whose competent authorities validated the TTCD(s) or TTRC(s) shall cooperate to resolve such doubts.
21. If a CPC involved in trade of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas identifies a consignment with no TTCD or no valid TTCD, it shall notify the findings to the exporting CPC and, where known, the flag CPC.
22. Pending the examinations or verifications under paragraph 19 to confirm compliance of the yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas consignment with the requirements in the present Resolution and any other relevant measures adopted by IOTC, the CPC shall not grant its release for import or export.
23. Where a CPC, as a result of examination or verifications under paragraph 19 and in cooperation with the validating authorities concerned, determines that a TTCD or TSRC is invalid, the import, export or re-export of the yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tuna products concerned shall be prohibited.
24. The Commission shall request the non-CPCs that are involved in import, export or re-export of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas to cooperate with the implementation of the Programme and to provide to the Commission data obtained from such implementation.

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**PART V**  
**COMMUNICATION OF DATA**

25. CPCs that validate TTCDs in respect of their flag fishing vessels and/or TTRCs, shall notify to the IOTC Secretariat:
- (a) the name and full address of their authorities responsible for validating and verifying TTCDs or TTRCs, and
  - (b) the name, title, signature and sample impression of stamp or seal of the validating officials who are individually empowered.

This notification shall indicate the date at which this entitlement comes into force. A copy of the provisions adopted in national law for the purpose of implementing the yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas catch documentation program shall be communicated with the initial notification. Updated details on validating authorities, officials and national provisions shall be communicated to the IOTC Secretariat in a timely fashion.

26. The information on validating authorities and officials transmitted by notifications to the IOTC Secretariat shall be placed on a password protected page of the database on validation held by the IOTC Secretariat. The list of the CPCs having notified their validating authorities, officials and the dates of entry into force of the entitlement shall be placed on a publicly accessible website held by the IOTC Secretariat.

CPCs are encouraged to access this information to help verify the validation of TTCDs and TTRCs.

27. Each CPC shall notify to the IOTC Secretariat the points of contact (name and full address of the authorities) that should be informed when there are questions related to TTCDs or TTRCs.
28. Notification pursuant to paragraphs 25, 26 and 27 shall be sent by CPCs to the IOTC Secretariat, by electronic means, whenever possible.
29. CPCs shall provide to the IOTC Secretariat a report each year by October 1 for the period from July 1 of the preceding year to June 30 of the current year to provide the information described in **Annex 3**.

The IOTC Secretariat shall post these reports on a password protected section of the IOTC website, as soon as practicable. At its request, the Scientific Committee shall have access to the reports received by the IOTC Secretariat.

30. This Resolution will be revised during the IOTC 2011 plenary Session, with the view of expanding the scope of application of the IOTC Catch Documentation Programme to all tuna and tuna like species falling under the IOTC competence as well as any other elements deemed to be revised.
31. IOTC Resolution 01/06 *Concerning the IOTC Bigeye tuna statistical document programme* is superseded by this Resolution.

**Annex 1**  
**IOTC tropical tunas (yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack) catch document**

# CERTIFICAT DE CAPTURE DE LA CTOI IOTC CATCH CERTIFICATE

**Numéro de document\*** *Document number*

**1. Autorité de validation** *Validating Authority*

**Nom** *Name*

**Adresse** *Address*

**Tel.:**

**e-mail:**

**Fax:**

**2. Navire de pêche** *Fishing Vessel*

**Nom du navire de pêche\*** *Fishing Vessel Name*

**Pavillon\*, port d'attache et numéro d'immatriculation** *Flag - Home Port and Registration Number*

**Indicatif d'appel** *Call Sign*

**N° OMI/Lloyd** (le cas échéant) *IMO/Lloyd's Number (if issued)*

**N° de la licence de pêche**  
*Fishing licence No.*

**Date de fin de validité**  
*Valid to*

**N° Inmarsat, n° fax, n° téléphone, adresse de courrier électronique** (le cas échéant)  
*Inmarsat No. Telefax No. Telephone No. E-mail address (if issued)*

**3. DESCRIPTION DU PRODUIT (voir page suivante)** *Description of Product (See next page)*

**4. MESURES DE CONSERVATION ET DE GESTION APPLICABLES** *Applicable conservation and management measures*

**Références des mesures de conservation et de gestion applicables**  
*References of applicable conservation and management measures*

**5. CAPITAINE DU NAVIRE** *Master of fishing vessel*

**Nom du capitaine du navire de pêche**  
*Name of master of fishing vessel*

**Signature**  
*Signature*

**Cachet**  
*Seal*



**CERTIFICAT DE CAPTURE DE LA CTOI  
IOTC CATCH CERTIFICATE**

**6. DECLARATION DE TRANSBORDEMENT EN MER *Declaration of Transshipment at Sea***

<b>Nom du capitaine du navire de pêche</b> <i>Name of Master of Fishing vessel</i>		<b>Signature</b> <i>Signature</i>	<b>Date</b> <i>Date</i>
<b>Date du transbordement</b> <i>Transshipment Date</i>	<b>Zone du transbordement</b> <i>Transshipment Area</i>	<b>Position du transbordement</b> <i>Transshipment Position</i>	<b>Poids estimé (kg)</b> <i>Estimated weight (kg)</i>
<b>Capitaine du navire receveur</b> <i>Master of Receiving Vessel</i>		<b>Signature</b> <i>Signature</i>	
<b>Nom du navire</b> <i>Vessel Name</i>		<b>Indicatif d'appel</b> <i>Call Sign</i>	<b>N° OMI/Lloyds</b> <b>(le cas échéant)</b> <i>IMO/Lloyds Number</i> <i>(if issued)</i>

**7. AUTORISATION DE TRANSBORDEMENT DANS UNE ZONE PORTUAIRE *Transshipment authorisation within a port area***

<b>Nom</b> <i>Name</i>	<b>Autorité</b> <i>Authority</i>	<b>Signature</b> <i>Signature</i>
<b>Adresse</b> <i>Address</i>	<b>Tél.</b>	
<b>Port de débarquement</b> <i>Port of Landing</i>	<b>Date de débarquement</b> <i>Date of Landing</i>	<b>Cachet</b> <i>Seal</i>

**8. EXPORTATEUR *Exporter***

<b>Nom et adresse de l'exportateur</b> <i>Name and address of Exporter</i>		
<b>Signature</b> <i>Signature</i>	<b>Date</b> <i>Date</i>	<b>Cachet</b> <i>Seal</i>

**9. VALIDATION PAR L'AUTORITÉ DE L'ÉTAT DE PAVILLON *Flag State Authority Validation***

<b>Nom / Titre</b> <i>Name/Title</i>		
<b>Signature</b> <i>Signature</i>	<b>Date</b> <i>Date</i>	<b>Cachet</b> <i>Seal</i>

**10. INFORMATION RELATIVE AU TRANSPORT (voir annexe I) *Transport details : See Appendix I***

**CERTIFICAT DE CAPTURE DE LA CTOI  
IOTC CATCH CERTIFICATE**

**ANNEXE I. INFORMATION RELATIVE AU TRANSPORT APPENDIX I. TRANSPORT DETAILS**

<p><b>1. Pays d'exportation*</b> <i>Exporting country</i></p> <p><b>Port / aéroport / autre lieu de départ</b> <i>Country of exportation</i> <i>Port/airport/other place of departure</i></p>	<p><b>2. Signature de l'exportateur</b> <i>Exporter Signature</i></p>	
<p><b>Nom</b> <i>Name</i></p>	<p><b>Adresse</b> <i>Address</i></p>	<p><b>Signature</b> <i>Signature</i></p>
<p><b>Nom et pavillon du navire</b> <i>Vessel name and flag</i></p>	<p><b>Numéro(s) du ou des conteneurs</b> <i>Container number(s)</i></p>	
<p><b>Numéro de vol, numéro de lettre de transport aérien</b> <i>Flight number/airway bill number</i></p>		
<p><b>Nationalité et numéro d'immatriculation du camion</b> <i>Truck nationality and registration number</i></p>		
<p><b>Numéro de lettre de voiture ferroviaire</b> <i>Railway bill number</i></p>		
<p><b>Autres documents de transport</b> <i>Other transport document</i></p>		



**Annex 2**  
**IOTC tropical tunas (yellowfin, bigeye, skipjack) species re-export certificate**

Certificat de réexportation de la CTOI pour les thons tropicaux (albacore, thon obèse et listao) <i>IOTC tropical tunas (yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack) species re-export certificate</i>					
Numéro du document* <i>Document Number:</i>					
<b>SECTION REEXPORTATION <i>RE-EXPORT SECTION</i></b>					
<b>1. PAYS DE REEXPORTATION <i>RE-EXPORTING COUNTRY:</i></b>					
<b>2. LIEU DE REEXPORTATION* <i>POINT OF RE-EXPORT</i></b>					
<b>3. DESCRIPTION DES THONS TROPICAUX IMPORTES <i>DESCRIPTION OF IMPORTED TROPICAL TUNA</i></b>					
Type de produit <i>Product Type</i>		Poids net (kg)* <i>Net weight (kg)</i>	CPC de pavillon <i>Flag CPC</i>	Date importation* <i>Date of import</i>	TTCD No*
F/FR	RD/GG/DR/FL/OT				
<b>4. DESCRIPTION DES THONS TROPICAUX DESTINES A LA REEXPORTATION  <i>DESCRIPTION OF TROPICAL TUNAS FOR RE-EXPORT</i></b>					
Type de produit* <i>Product Type</i>		Poids net (kg)* <i>Net weight (kg)</i>	Numéro TTCD correspondant à la section 3. <i>Corresponding TTCD number from section 3.</i>		
F/FR	RD/GG/DR/FL/OT				
F= Frais <i>Fresh</i> , FR= Surgelé <i>Frozen</i> , RD= Poids vif <i>Round</i> , GG=Eviscéré & sans branchie <i>Gilled &amp; Gutted</i> , DR= Poids manipulé <i>Dressed</i> , FL=Filet, OT=Autres <i>Others</i> (Décrire le type de produit <i>Describe the type of the product</i> ):					
ETAT DE DESTINATION* <i>STATE OF DESTINATION:</i>					
<b>5. CERTIFICAT DU REEXPORTATEUR <i>RE-EXPORTER STATEMENT:</i></b>					
Je certifie que l'information ci-dessus est, à mon vu et su, complète, véridique et correcte. <i>I certify that the above information is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.</i>					
<b>Nom <i>Name</i></b>	<b>Adresse <i>Address</i></b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>		
<b>6. VALIDATION DU GOUVERNEMENT <i>GOVERNMENT VALIDATION</i></b>					
Je déclare valide l'information ci-dessus, qui est, à mon vu et su, complète, véridique et correcte. <i>I validate that the above information is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.</i>					
<b>Nom &amp; poste <i>Name &amp; Title</i></b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Cachet du Gouvernement <i>Government Seal</i></b>		
<b>SECTION IMPORTATION <i>IMPORT SECTION</i></b>					
<b>7. CERTIFICAT DE L'IMPORTATEUR <i>IMPORTER STATEMENT:</i></b>					
Je certifie que l'information ci-dessus est, à mon vu et su, complète, véridique et correcte. <i>I certify that the above information is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.</i>					
Certificat de l'importateur <i>Importer Certification</i>					
<b>Nom <i>Name</i></b>	<b>Adresse <i>Address</i></b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>		
<b>Point final d'importation* <i>final point of import:</i> Ville <i>City</i></b>	<b>Etat/Province <i>State/Province</i></b>	<b>CPC</b>			

**NOTE : Si ce document est rempli dans une autre langue que l'anglais, veuillez y joindre la traduction en anglais**  
**NOTE : Le document de transport valide et les copies des TTCD devront être joints.**

NOTE: if a language other than English is used in completing this form, please attach the English translation to this form.

NOTE: Valid transport documents and copies of TTCD shall be attached.

**APPENDICE I. DECLARATION DE L'USINE DE TRANSFORMATION** *APPENDIX I. STATEMENT BY THE PROCESSING PLANT.*

Je confirme que les produits de la pêche transformés: ... (description des produits et code de la nomenclature combinée) sont issus de captures importées au titre du ou des certificat(s) de capture suivant(s)

*I confirm that the processed fishery products: (product description and Combined Nomenclature code) have been obtained from catches imported under the following catch certificate(s):*

<b>Numéro du certificat de capture</b> <i>Catch certificate number</i>	<b>Nom(s) et pavillon(s) du (des) navire(s)</b> <i>Vessel name(s) and flag(s)</i>	<b>Date(s) de validation</b> <i>Validation date(s)</i>	<b>Description de la capture</b> <i>Catch description</i>	<b>Poids débarqué total (kg)</b> <i>Total landed weight (kg)</i>	<b>Capture transformée (kg)</b> <i>Catch processed (kg)</i>	<b>Produits de la pêche transformés (kg)</b> <i>Processed fishery product (kg)</i>

**Nom et adresse de l'usine de transformation**

*Name and address of the processing plant*

.....  
.....

**Nom et adresse de l'exportateur (s'ils diffèrent de ceux de l'usine de transformation):**

*Name and address of the exporter (if different from the processing plant)*

.....  
.....

**Numéro d'agrément de l'usine de transformation:**

*Approval number of the processing plant*

.....

**Numéro et date du certificat sanitaire:**

*Health certificate number and date:*

.....

<b>Responsable de l'usine de transformation</b> <i>Responsible person of the processing plant :</i>	<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Lieu:</b> <i>Place:</i>
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**Approbation par l'autorité compétente**

*Endorsement by the competent authority:*

.....

<b>Agent</b> <i>Official</i>	<b>Signature et cachet</b> <i>Signature and seal</i>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Lieu</b> <i>Place</i>
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### Annex 3

#### **Report on the Implementation of the IOTC Tropical tunas - Yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack - Catch Documentation Programme**

Reporting CPC:

Period of reference: July 1 [2XXX] to June 30 [2XXX]

##### 1. Information extracted from TTCDs

- number of TTCDs validated;
- number of validated TTCDs received;
- total amount of tropical tuna (yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack) products imported, exported, re-exported with breakdown by CPC of origin, re-export or destination, fishing areas and fishing gears;
- number of verifications of TTCDs requested to other CPCs and summary results;
- number of requests for verifications of TTCDs received from other CPCs and summary results;
- total amount of tropical tunas consignments subject to a prohibition decision with breakdown by products, nature of operation (import, export, re-export), reasons for prohibition and CPCs and/or non-Members of origin or destination.

##### 2. Information on cases under Part IV paragraph 19

- number of cases
- total amount of tropical tunas with breakdown by products, nature of operation (import, export, re-export), CPCs or other countries referred to in Part IV paragraph 19 above.

**ATTACHMENT E**

**PROPI[E]**

**ON THE CONSERVATION OF OCEANIC WHITETIP SHARK CAUGHT IN ASSOCIATION  
WITH FISHERIES IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE**

**SUBMITTED BY THE EU**

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**Background**

The international scientific community points out that: (a) the oceanic whitetip shark has been ranked as one of the five species with the highest degree of risk in an ecological risk assessment; (b) it has high at vessel survival and constitutes a small portion of the shark catch; (c) it is one of the easiest shark species to identify; and (d) that a significant proportion of the species catch is composed of juveniles, justifying a precautionary approach in their management.

In addition, it must be noted that a minimum size length should be implement to protect juveniles but a limitation in the size length may cause enforcement difficulties and that such action might jeopardize the survival of the captured individuals.

Therefore, an effective protection of these species should be coupled with the prohibition of retaining on board oceanic whitetip sharks.

In addition, the Working Party on Ecosystem and Bycatch recognized that full stock assessments on sharks may not be possible due to data limitations. It is therefore essential that appropriate data is collected, at least for the most vulnerable species in order to carry out a stock assessment.

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

CONSIDERING that oceanic whitetip sharks (*Carcharhinus longimanus*) are caught as by-catch in the IOTC area of competence,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that (a) the oceanic whitetip shark has been ranked as one of the five species with the highest degree of risk in an ecological risk assessment; (b) it has high at-vessel survival and constitutes a small portion of the shark catch; (c) it is one of the easiest shark species to identify; and (d) that a significant proportion of the species catch is composed of juveniles,

FURTHER CONSIDERING that a minimum size length should be implement to protect juveniles but a limitation in the size length may cause enforcement difficulties,

ADOPTS, in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, paragraph 1, of the Agreement establishing the IOTC, the following:

1. Contracting Parties, and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (hereafter referred to as CPCs) shall prohibit retaining onboard, transshipping, landing, storing, selling, or offering for sale any part or whole carcass of oceanic whitetip sharks in any fishery.
2. CPCs shall record through their observer programs the number of discards and releases of oceanic whitetip sharks with indication of status (dead or alive) and report it to IOTC.

## ATTACHMENT F

PROPJ\_REV1[E]

**ON THE CONSERVATION OF HAMMERHEAD SHARKS (FAMILY SPHYRNIDAE)  
CAUGHT IN ASSOCIATION WITH FISHERIES IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE  
SUBMITTED BY THE EU**

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### Background

The international scientific community points out that the hammerhead species: *Sphyrna lewini* and *Sphyrna zygaena*, should be ranked among the species with the lowest productivity. Moreover, the increasing level of shark catches in the Indian Ocean might have an irreversible negative impact on the stock of the above mentioned species, justifying a precautionary approach in their management.

In addition, it must be noted that it is difficult to differentiate *S. lewini* and *S. zygaena* from other species of the family Sphyrnidae, without taking them on board and that such action might jeopardize the survival of the captured individuals.

Therefore, an effective protection of these species should be coupled with the prohibition of retaining on board all species of family Sphyrnidae.

In addition, the Working Party on Ecosystem and Bycatch recognized that full stock assessments on sharks may not be possible due to data limitations. It is therefore essential that appropriate data is collected, at least for the most vulnerable species in order to carry out a stock assessment.

### **The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

RECALLING the IOTC Resolution 05/05 *concerning the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC*;

CONSIDERING that hammerhead sharks of the family Sphyrnidae are caught as by-catch in the IOTC Area of competence;

NOTING that the Working Party on Ecosystem and Bycatch recognized that full stock assessments on sharks may not be possible because of data limitations and that it is essential that some stock assessment evaluation should be carried out;

NOTING that the international scientific community points out that the hammerhead sharks of the species *Sphyrna lewini* and *Sphyrna zygaena* are ranked among the species with the lowest productivity;

CONSIDERING that it is difficult to differentiate between the various species of hammerhead sharks without taking them on board and that such action might jeopardize the survival of the captured individuals;

ADOPTS, in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, paragraph 1 of the IOTC Agreement, the following:

1. Contracting Parties, and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (hereafter referred to as CPCs) shall prohibit retaining onboard, transshipping, landing, storing, selling, or offering for sale any part or whole carcass of hammerhead sharks of the family *Sphyrnidae*, taken in the IOTC area of competence.
2. CPCs shall record through their observer programs the number of discards and releases of hammerhead sharks with indication of status (dead or alive) and report it to IOTC.

## ATTACHMENT G

PROPL[E]

**CONCERNING THE CONSERVATION OF SHARKS CAUGHT IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
FISHERIES MANAGED BY IOTC  
SUBMITTED BY AUSTRALIA**

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### Background

The 12<sup>th</sup> Session the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) noted the concerns of some Members regarding *Resolution 05/05 Concerning the Conservation of Shark Caught in Association with Fisheries Managed by IOTC*, in particular the clarity of Paragraph four concerning the interpretation of the 5 % fin:body weight ratio. As an interim measure, the Commission agreed that Contracting Parties, Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CPCs) notify the Secretariat of how they are interpreting the current wording of the Resolution and provide information on processing methods and fin retention practices which, along with other relevant information, would be reviewed by the Working Party on Ecosystem and Bycatch (WPEB) and the Scientific Committee (SC).

At the 2010 discussion towards the UN Sustainable Fisheries resolution, States were call upon to take immediate action to implement and ensure compliance with shark conservation and management measures that prohibit or restrict fisheries conducted solely for the purpose of harvesting shark fins, and, where necessary, to consider taking other measures, as appropriate, such as requiring that all sharks be landed with each fin naturally attached.

The WPEB has continuously stressed the ongoing non-compliance by Contracting Parties and CPCs to collect and report data on ecosystems and bycatch matters. The WPEB notes that this prevents progression of estimates on the impact of fishing on bycatch and ecosystems. For sharks, the WPEB noted the need to improve data collection at the species level for stock assessment purposes, including species, sex ratios, numbers and size distributions of catches. At the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the WPEB the majority of participants made the following recommendation:

- that the current 5% fin to body ratio rule should be replaced by the landing of sharks with fins naturally attached to improve data collection at species level while deterring finning practices and contributing to shark stock assessments
- where operational factors (e.g. storage methods) preclude the attachment of natural attachment of fins to the carcass, other measures may be employed but must ensure that fins can be immediately cross-referenced to the carcasses
- that maintaining the use of the fin:body weight ratios will preclude the collection of essential information on species-level interactions with fishing fleets, crucial for accurate stock assessments for sharks.

At the 13<sup>th</sup> session of SC in 2010, among other recommendations, the majority of participants agreed to this recommendation of the WPEB and a recommendation to amend Resolution 08/04 in order to improve collection of data on shark bycatch in the Indian Ocean.



The IOTC Performance Review Panel also identified a need to improve the quality and quantity of data collected and reported. It recommended increasing the number of shark species for which species-specific catch data is mandatorily collected.

In response to the concerns raised at the 12<sup>th</sup> annual session Commission, the advice of the Science Committee and IOTC Review Panel, Australia is proposing to strengthen the resolution pertaining to the collection and reporting on shark catches and ensure full retention of sharks caught in association with fisheries under the mandate of the IOTC. Key aspects of the proposed resolution include:

- A requirement for shark fins to be landed attached to the carcass, either naturally or in a manner that allows immediate cross referencing between the fins and carcass of an individual shark, and
- Reporting catches of shark species/groups identified by the IOTC and other international instruments and bodies as being of conservation concern.

### **The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

RECALLING that the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, adopted at the 23<sup>rd</sup> FAO Committee on Fisheries, expressly calls on States to co-operate internationally, including through regional fisheries management organisations such as IOTC and by implementing National Plans of Action of the Conservation and Management of Sharks;

ALSO RECALLING the recommendations adopted in accordance with the KOBELI workshop on bycatch, held in Brisbane, Australia, June 2010, in particular that RFMOs should: consider adopting standards for bycatch data collection which, at a minimum, allows the data to contribute to the assessment of bycatch species population status and evaluation of the effectiveness of bycatch measures, and that the data should allow the RFMOs to assess the impact and level of interaction of the fisheries with bycatch species; seek binding measures or strengthen existing mitigation measures, including the development of mandatory reporting requirements; identify and undertake research to assess the impact of fisheries and support mitigation; and consider capacity building programs for developing countries to assist in the implementation of additional or new requirements;

CONSIDERING that many sharks are part of pelagic ecosystems in the IOTC area of competence, and that sharks are targeted or taken incidentally in a range of fisheries that fall under the mandate of the IOTC;

NOTING the recommendation of the Working Party on Ecosystem and Bycatch in 2008 that stock assessments be initiated for sharks in the Indian Ocean to the extent possible, given the current data limitations, and that the Scientific Committee has adopted executive summaries of the status of five shark species; blue shark, silky shark, oceanic whitetip shark, shortfin mako shark and scalloped hammerhead;

NOTING the recent listing in Appendix II of the *Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals* (CMS) of long-fin mako shark, short-fin mako shark, porbeagle and the northern hemisphere population of spiny dogfish and that range States parties to the CMS are encouraged to develop cooperative arrangements to improve the conservation status of species listed in Appendix II;

RECOGNISING the need to collect data on catch, effort, discards and trade, as well as information on the biological parameters of many species, in order to conserve and manage sharks;

ADOPTS, in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article IX of the IOTC Agreement that:

1. This measure shall apply to all fishing vessels on the IOTC Register of Authorised Vessels.
2. Contracting Parties, Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CPCs) shall annually report data for catches of sharks, in accordance with IOTC data reporting procedures in Resolution 11/XX, including all available historical data. At a minimum, CPCs shall ensure reporting of the following sharks at species level by all fishing gear: blue shark (*Prionace glauca*), shortfin and longfin mako sharks (*Isurus* spp.), porbeagle shark (*Lamna nasus*), great white shark (*Carcharodon carcharias*), crocodile shark (*Pseudocarcharias kamoharai*), thresher sharks (*Alopias* spp.), tiger shark (*Galeocerdo cuvier*), oceanic whitetip shark (*Carcharhinus longimanus*), other requiem sharks (*Carcharhinus* spp.), hammerhead sharks (*Sphyrna* spp.), spiny dogfish (*Squalus acanthias*), and pelagic stingrays (*Pteroplatyrygon violacea*), other sharks.
3. CPCs shall require that all sharks have their dorsal, pectoral, and caudal (tail) fins attached to the carcass until landed and that fins and carcasses are offloaded together. Sharks may be processed (trunked – headed and gutted). The tail tip may be cut off at the sub-terminal notch, but the caudal lobe must be left attached.
4. For the purposes of paragraph 2 ‘attached’ means either:
  - a. naturally attached (including partially cut and folded), or
  - b. fins removed and attached to the trunk with the following conditions:
    - i. the fins are removed with a single cut and cannot be dressed while at sea to enable the clear matching of fins to trunks
    - ii. the fins must be retained and remain attached to the trunk using tamper-proof mechanisms until offloaded, and
    - iii. the corresponding shark trunk must also be numbered with the same number to allow cross-referencing.
5. In accordance with paragraph 3, CPCs shall prohibit their vessels from carrying, retaining, or landing any shark dorsal, pectoral or caudal fins that are not attached to the carcass.
6. CPCs shall prohibit their vessels from retaining on board, transshipping or landing any fins harvested in contravention of this Resolution.
7. In fisheries that are not directed at sharks, CPCs shall encourage the release, to the extent possible, of live sharks, especially juveniles and pregnant sharks, which are not used for food and/or subsistence.
8. CPCs shall prohibit the use of wire traces on all long line fishing vessels on the IOTC Register of Authorised Vessels.
9. CPCs are encouraged to educate and provide appropriate training to their fishers regarding shark identification, data collection; and the implementation of mitigation measures.
10. CPCs are encouraged to undertake research to identify ways to improve handling practices for live sharks to maximise post release survivorship, and to share and take appropriate action in response to research findings.
11. The Scientific Committee shall request the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch to continue its work on identifying and monitoring indicators of the status of sharks until such time as comprehensive assessments are possible for all relevant shark species/groups.
12. The Scientific Committee shall annually review the information reported by CPCs pursuant to this measure and, as necessary, provide recommendations to the Commission on ways to strengthen the conservation and management of sharks within IOTC fisheries.

13. CPCs are encouraged to undertake research to identify ways to make fishing gears more selective and to share and take appropriate action in response to research findings.
14. CPCs are encouraged to conduct research to identify shark nursery areas, and where these area lie in national waters take appropriate action to provide protection to these areas in accordance with the United Nations FAO International Plan Of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks.
15. The Commission shall consider appropriate assistance to developing CPCs for the identification of shark species/groups and the collection of data on their shark catches.
16. This resolution only applies to sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by the IOTC.
17. This provision is to apply without prejudice to any artisanal fishery which traditionally does not discard carcasses.
18. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 05/05 *Concerning the Conservation of Sharks Caught in Association with Fisheries Managed by IOTC*.