

Report of the Sixteenth Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission

Fremantle, Australia 22–26 April, 2012

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BIBLIOGRAPHIC ENTRY

IOTC 2012. Report of the Sixteenth Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission. Fremantle, Australia, 22–26 April 2012. *IOTC-2012-S16-R[E]*: 130 pp.

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SENEGAL**SOUTH AFRICA**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sixteenth Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) was held in Fremantle, Australia, from 22 to 26 April 2012, Chaired by Mr Daroomalingum Mauree. Delegates from 26 Members of the Commission, 1 Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, 18 Observers (including invited experts) attended the Session. ([para 1](#))

The Commission adopted the IUU Vessels List as provided in Appendix IX ([para. 61](#))

The Commission granted the status of Cooperating non-Contracting Party until the close of the Seventeenth Session in 2013 to South Africa and Senegal, based on the understanding that South Africa and Senegal will attend the CoC meeting in 2013. ([para. 63, 66](#))

The Commission adopted the budget and the scheme of contributions for 2012, and the indicative budget for 2013, as outlined in Appendix XII and Appendix XIII respectively. ([para. 79](#))

The Commission adopted 15 Conservation and Management Measures in 2012, consisting of 13 Resolutions and 2 Recommendations, as follows:

- [Resolution 12/01](#) *On The Implementation Of The Precautionary Approach.*
- [Resolution 12/02](#) *Data Confidentiality Policy And Procedures.*
- [Resolution 12/03](#) *On Catch And Effort Recordings By Fishing Vessels In The IOTC Area Of Competence.*
- [Resolution 12/04](#) *On The Conservation Of Marine Turtles.*
- [Resolution 12/05](#) *On Establishing A Programme For Transshipment By Large-Scale Fishing Vessels.*
- [Resolution 12/06](#) *On Reducing The Incidental Bycatch Of Seabirds In Longline Fisheries.*
- [Resolution 12/07](#) *Concerning A Record Of Licensed Foreign Vessels Fishing For IOTC Species In The IOTC Area Of Competence And Access Agreement Information.*
- [Resolution 12/08](#) *On A Fish Aggregating Devices (Fads) Management Plan.*
- [Resolution 12/09](#) *On The Conservation Of Thresher Sharks (Family Alopiidae) Caught In Association With Fisheries In The IOTC Area Of Competence.*
- [Resolution 12/10](#) *To Promote Implementation Of Conservation And Management Measures Already Adopted By IOTC.*
- [Resolution 12/11](#) *On The Implementation Of A Limitation Of Fishing Capacity Of Contracting Parties And Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties.*
- [Resolution 12/12](#) *To Prohibit The Use Of Large-Scale Driftnets On The High Seas In The IOTC Area.*
- [Resolution 12/13](#) *For The Conservation And Management Of Tropical Tunas Stocks In The IOTC Area Of Competence.*
- [Recommendation 12/14](#) *On Interim Target And Limit Reference Points For The Major IOTC Species.*
- [Recommendation 12/15](#) *On Best Available Science.*

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The Sixteenth Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) was held in Fremantle, Australia, from 22 to 26 April 2012, chaired by Mr Daroomalingum Mauree. Delegates from 26 Members of the Commission, 1 Cooperating non-Contracting Party, 18 Observers (including invited experts) attended the Session. The list of participants is provided at [Appendix I](#).
2. Mr Barry McGuire welcomed participants with a traditional Ballardong Nyungar 'Welcome to Country' ceremony. Mullark (Mr Barry McGuire) is a Ballardong Nyungar Man who is a strong advocate for his culture and people. He has worked in education, health, natural resource management and Arts and Culture for the past twenty five years. Barry is a nationally recognised visual and performing artist. He currently operates his own company called Red Spear Pty Ltd. Red Spear specialises in Culture Education and gives many a better understanding of the Aboriginal and Nyungar way of life and living. Mullark introduced the Nyungar people and spoke of the traditional link of his people to both the sea and land country. He outlined the longstanding significance of welcoming others to the traditional land of the Nyungar people including how this was used in traditional ceremonies of indigenous communities throughout the region. Barry also spoke of the importance of fisheries resources to the Nyungar people: the traditional fishing methods and the people direct reliance on the many animals that live in the oceans. Mullark then wished the IOTC a productive meeting that be conducted in the spirit of cooperation and friendship.
3. On behalf of the Australian Government Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator the Honourable Joe Ludwig, Mr Ian Thompson, First Assistant Secretary, Sustainable Resource Management Division of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry gave the inaugural address ([Appendix II](#)), welcomed participants to Fremantle and declared the Sixteenth Session of the IOTC open.
4. The Executive Secretary, Mr Alejandro Anganuzzi and the Chair Mr Daroomalingum Mauree, joined in welcoming participants to the meeting ([Appendix II](#)).

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION

5. The Commission adopted the agenda provided at [Appendix III](#). The documents presented to the Commission are listed in [Appendix IV](#).

3. ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS

6. Pursuant to Article VII of the Agreement establishing the IOTC, the Commission admitted the following observers, as defined in Rule XIII of the IOTC Rules of Procedure:
 - Rule XIII.1. *The Director-General or a representative designated by him, shall have the right to participate without vote in all meetings of the Commission, of the Scientific Committee and of any other subsidiary body of the Commission.*
 - i. Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)
 - Rule XIII.2. *Members and Associate Members of the Organization that are not Members of the Commission are, upon their request, invited to be represented by an observer at sessions of the Commission.*
 - i. Democratic People's Republic of Korea
 - ii. Russian Federation
 - iii. United States of America
 - Rule XIII.4. *The Commission may, on their request, invite intergovernmental organizations having special competence in the field of activity of the Commission, to attend such of its meetings as the Commission may specify.*
 - i. Indian Ocean Commission (IOC)
 - Rule XIII.5. *The Commission may invite, upon request, non-governmental organizations having special competence in the field of activity of the Commission to attend such of its meetings as the Commission may specify. The list of the NGOs wishing to be invited will be submitted beforehand by the Secretary to the Members of the Commission. If one of the Members of the Commission objects giving in writing its reasons within 30 days, the matter will then be subject to decision of the Commission out of session by written procedure.*
 - i. Birdlife International (BI)
 - ii. Conservation International (CI)
 - iii. Greenpeace International (GI)

- iv. International Game Fish Association (IGFA)
- v. International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF)
- vi. Organisation for the Promotion of Responsible Tuna Fisheries (OPRT)
- vii. Marine Stewardship Council (MSC)
- viii. PEW Charitable Trusts (PEW)
- ix. Rainforest Rescue International – Sri Lanka (RRI)
- x. Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Project (SWIOFP)
- xi. US–Japan Research Institute (USJI)
- xii. World Wide Fund for Nature (a.k.a World Wildlife Fund, WWF)

Invited experts

- Rule XIII.9. *The Commission may invite consultants or experts, in their individual capacity, to attend the meetings or participate in the work of the Commission as well as the Scientific Committee and the other subsidiary bodies of the Commission.*
 - i. Taiwan, Province of China

7. The Commission **AGREED** that meetings of its subsidiary bodies should be open to participation by observers from all those who have attended the current and/or previous sessions of the Commission. As such, a letter of invitation should be sent to current and previous Observers to attend the meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies for 2012 and 2013, up to and including the next Commission meeting. Applications by new Observers should continue to follow the procedure as outlined in Rule XIII of the IOTC Rules of Procedure.

4. UPDATE ON THE KOBE PROCESS

8. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC–2012–S16–05 which provided a summary of the outcomes of KOBE III, the third joint meeting of the tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (tRFMOs), including the 16 recommendations agreed to by participants on science, management, compliance and enforcement, and the future of the KOBE process. Furthermore, the paper also includes the outcomes of the first meeting of the Bycatch Joint Technical Working Group (BJTWG). The reports of each of the KOBE meetings held in 2011 can be found on the website: www.tuna-org.org.
9. The Commission **NOTED** the disappointment expressed by the Scientific Committee at the very limited scope of the three scientific recommendations arising from the meeting, in comparison to the list of research priorities agreed to by the Chairs of the tRFMO's scientific committees and presented at the meeting.

5. REPORT OF THE FOURTEENTH SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

10. The Commission **NOTED** the report of the Fourteenth Session of the Scientific Committee (SC) (IOTC–2011–SC14–R) which was presented by the Chair of the SC, Dr Tsutomu Nishida (Japan) and the former Chair, Dr Francis Marsac (European Union). A total of 50 individuals attended the Session, comprised of 39 delegates from 14 Member countries, 0 delegates from Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, as well as from 11 observers and invited experts.
11. The Commission **RECALLED** that in 2011, it had made several specific requests to the SC, as outlined below. The summary which follows highlights the initial request, the response from the SC, and any subsequent clarification or request by the Commission during the current Session.

Examination of the effects of piracy on fleet operations and subsequent catch and effort trends

12. The Commission, at its 15th Session '*recognized that piracy activities in the western Indian Ocean, have had substantial negative consequences on the activities of some fleets, as well as the level of observer coverage in these areas. The Commission requested that the Scientific Committee assess the effect of piracy on fleet operations and subsequent catch and effort trends*' (para. 40 of the S15 report).

Data provision needs – by gear

13. The Commission, at its 15th Session '*requested that 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).

14. The Commission **NOTED** with thanks, the work undertaken by the SC to provide the Commission with options for minimum recording (logbook) requirements for longline, purse seine, gillnet and pole and line gears, including the recommendation that the Commission adopt a flexible approach to any further resolutions on minimum data requirements, e.g. through staged implementation over a period of two years.

Outlook on time-area closures

15. The Commission, at its 15th Session '*reiterated the request that the Scientific Committee should evaluate the time-area closure established in Resolution 10/01 for the conservation and management of tropical tunas stocks in the IOTC area of competence, in terms of its impacts on the stocks of tuna and tuna-like species*' (para. 47 of the S15 report).
16. The Commission **NOTED** that the SC highlighted that the request contained in Resolution 10/01 does not specify the expected objective to be achieved with the current time-area closure or alternative management measures. The SC and WPTT were not clear about the intended objectives of the time-area closure taking into account recent reductions of effort as well as the recent recovery of the yellowfin tuna population.
17. The Commission **NOTED** the SC request to specify what are the management objectives to be achieved with this and/or alternative management measures. This will, in turn, guide and facilitate the analysis by the SC, via the WPTT in 2012 and future years. No additional guidance is provided by the Commission at this time.

Alternative management measures for swordfish

18. The Commission, at its 15th Session '*requested that the Scientific Committee provide clear advice outlining alternative management approaches which would provide effective protection of a possible southwest Indian Ocean swordfish stock*' (para. 46 of the S15 report).
19. The Commission **NOTED** the advice provided by the SC that the stock structure of the Indian Ocean swordfish resource is currently under investigation, in particular through the cooperative international project Indian Ocean Swordfish Stock Structure (IOSSS). The southwest region was identified as a management unit of particular concern, because it seems to be more depleted than other regions in the Indian Ocean, and may have limited mixing with other regions.
20. The Commission **NOTED** that most of the evidence provided to date has indicated that the resource in the southwest Indian Ocean has been overfished in the past decade and biomass remains below the level that would produce maximum sustainable yield (B_{MSY}), however recent declines in catch and effort have brought fishing mortality rates to levels below the level that would produce maximum sustainable yield (F_{MSY}). A risk of reversing the rebuilding trend remains if there is any increase in catch in this region. Thus, catches of swordfish in the southwest Indian Ocean should be maintained at levels at or below those observed in 2009 (6,600 t), until there is clear evidence of recovery and biomass exceeds B_{MSY} .
21. The Commission **REQUESTS** that the southwest region continue to be analysed as a special resource, as it appears to be highly depleted compared to the Indian Ocean as a whole, acknowledging that the SC and Working Party on Billfish should benefit from the findings on stock structure from the Indian Ocean Swordfish Stock Structure (IOSSS) project. However the difference in depletion does not appear to be as extreme as analyses in previous years have suggested. A review of the spatial assumptions should be conducted following the final results of the IOSSS project and the analysis of tagging experiments undertaken.
22. The Commission **ACKNOWLEDGES** that there is no current need to apply additional management measures to the southwest Indian Ocean, although the resource in this area should be carefully monitored.

Impacts of the purse seine fishery; juvenile tuna catches

23. The Commission, at its 15th Session '*requested that the Scientific Committee provide advice to the Commission that adds to the information currently available or already requested of the Scientific Committee regarding the take of juvenile yellowfin tuna, bigeye tuna and other species, and on alternative management measures, including an assessment of the impact of current purse seine activities, including the size/fishing capacity (and gear types i.e. mesh size etc.) of vessels, and the potential implications that may arise for tuna and tuna-like species. Such advice should include options for capping purse seine effort and use in conjunction with drifting FADs in the Indian Ocean*' (para. 105 of the S15 report).
24. The Commission **NOTED** the advice provided by the SC that the fishery statistics available for many fleets, in particular for coastal fisheries, are not accurate enough for a comprehensive analysis.

Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)

25. The Commission, at its 15th Session ‘*endorsed the development of a Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) in the framework of IOTC and requests that this process be continued in 2011*’ (para. 43 of the S15 report).
26. The Commission **NOTED** the SC request to develop management objectives to guide the MSE process. No additional guidance is provided by the Commission at this time, outside of the IOTC Agreement.
27. The Commission **NOTED** the presentation by Dr Iago Mosqueira on the development of an MSE process for the IOTC and **ENDORSED** the roadmap presented for the implementation of MSE in the Indian Ocean and **AGREED** to initiate a consultative process among managers, stakeholders and scientists to begin discussions about the implementation of MSE in IOTC.

General comments and consideration of other recommendations made by the Scientific Committee in 2011

28. The Commission addressed the list of recommendations made by the SC ([Appendix V](#)) in its 2011 report that related specifically to the Commission or concerned the work of the Secretariat. The Commission **ENDORSED** the list of recommendations, noting the following:

National Reports

29. Noting that at its 15th Session, the Commission expressed concern regarding the limited submission of National Reports to the SC in 2010, and stressed the importance of all CPCs providing the reports, the Commission **NOTED** that in 2011, 25 reports were provided by CPCs, up from 15 in 2010 and 14 in 2009. In congratulating the 25 CPCs who provided a report in 2011, the Commission also stressed the importance of the submission of National Reports by all CPCs and **REQUESTS** those who did not meet their reporting obligations in this regard, to provide a National Report to the SC in 2012.

Status of the stocks

30. The Commission **NOTED** the latest stock status and management advice for each of the species under the IOTC mandate as well as several shark species or species groups directly impacted by fisheries for tuna and tuna-like species, contained in the stock status table provided at [Appendix VI](#).
31. The Commission **NOTED** that although a new albacore stock assessment was undertaken in 2011, there remains considerable uncertainty about the relationship between abundance and the standardized CPUE series, and about the total catches over the past decade. Noting that the WPTmT and SC had limited confidence in the assessment undertaken in 2011, the Commission **REQUESTS** that a new stock assessment be carried out on albacore using different stock assessment methods and revised catch estimates.
32. The Commission **NOTED** the comments from Japan, suggesting that the SC should not be providing advice on topics for which the Commission had not specifically requested advice and from the European Union suggesting that the Scientific Committee should not prepare text of proposals for new Resolutions. However, other Members indicated that the SC should be able to provide advice on the range of issues under its mandate, as stated in Rule X of the IOTC Rules of Procedure for the Scientific Committee.

Kobe II Strategy Matrix

33. The Commission **NOTED** the provision by the SC of the Kobe II strategy matrix for bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna and swordfish (IO and SWIO) and recognized that it is a useful and necessary tool for management. The Commission **REQUESTS** that such matrices shall be provided for all stock assessments by the species Working Parties, and for these to be included in the report of the SC in 2012 and all future reports.

Ecological Risk Assessment – Sharks

34. The Commission reiterated its previous **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 in 2012.

On data

35. The Commission **NOTED** the paucity of catch statistics for the main species of sharks, by major fisheries (gears), for the period 1950–2010, as provided in the SC report (Appendix VI: Tables a–c). Although some CPCs have reported more detailed data on sharks in recent years, including time-area catches and effort, and length frequency data for the main commercial shark species, the Commission expressed strong **CONCERN** that the information on retained catches and discards of sharks contained in the IOTC database remains very incomplete.

36. The Commission **NOTED** the statement from the SC that despite the mandatory reporting requirements detailed in Resolutions 05/05, 08/04, 09/06, 10/02, 10/03, and 10/06, as well as the provisions of Recommendation 11/06, bycatch data remain largely unreported by CPCs. The SC requested that the Commission address this non-compliance by taking steps to develop mechanisms which would ensure that CPCs fulfil their bycatch reporting obligations.
37. The Commission **NOTED** some minor improvements in the quantity of fisheries statistics available to the SC and its Working Parties in 2011 but reiterated its concerns about the lack of fisheries data from some gears and fleets for target and bycatch species. Specifically, many fisheries statistics are missing or incomplete for some industrial and artisanal fisheries, as identified by the SC in Appendix VIII of the SC14 report: “*Consolidated recommendations to CPCs on improved data collection, monitoring, reporting and research*”. As such, the Commission **REQUESTS** that all CPCs identified in Appendix VIII of the SC14 report, to improve their data collection and reporting to the IOTC, especially taking into account that the Commission has initiated the consultation process on developing criteria for a quota allocation system.

Regional observer scheme (ROS)

38. The Commission **NOTED** the concern expressed by the SC regarding the low level of implementation and reporting to the IOTC Secretariat of both the observer trip reports and the list of accredited observers since the start of the ROS in July 2010 (9 CPCs provided a list of accredited observers and 38 reports were submitted from 6 CPCs).
39. The Commission **AGREED** that such a low level of implementation and reporting is detrimental to the work of the SC, in particular regarding the estimation of incidental catches of non-targeted species, as requested by the Commission.
40. The Commission **URGED** all IOTC CPCs to urgently implement the requirements of Resolution 11/04 *on a Regional Observer Scheme*, which states that: “*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.*” (para. 11), **NOTING** that the timely submission of observer trip reports to the Secretariat is necessary for the SC to carry out the tasks assigned to it by the Commission, including the analysis of accurate and high resolution data¹, in particular for bycatch, which would allow the scientists to better assess the impacts of fisheries for tuna and tuna-like species on bycatch species.
41. The Commission **NOTED** that the implementation of the ROS is not a simple task and CPCs should continue to work towards full implementation of the scheme as prescribed in Resolution 11/04. Solving the difficulties experienced in the training and deployment of observers, would benefit from collaborative arrangements among CPCs.

Evaluation of data collection and reporting systems

42. The Commission **NOTED** the actions undertaken by the IOTC Secretariat to address the request from the Commission to report on the ability of coastal countries in the IOTC region to report catch data for their artisanal fisheries in close-to-real time, in particular catch data for yellowfin tuna and bigeye tuna. Two timeframes for the reporting of close-to-real-time catches were defined, depending on the type of fishery. For industrial fisheries, close-to-real-time reporting of catches is considered to occur when catches are reported within 30 days of the day of capture. For artisanal fisheries, close-to-real-time reporting of catches is considered to occur when catches are reported within 60 days of the day of capture. Artisanal fisheries are defined as those undertaken by vessels (or any other types of fishing crafts) with length overall (LOA) less than 24m and operating full time within the EEZ of their flag states.
43. The Commission **NOTED** the deficiencies in data collection and reporting in the majority of the countries assessed noting that the reporting of catches as per the timeframes specified will not be possible in eleven out of the eighteen countries evaluated. Those countries will require a substantial investment of resources (time and money) to streamline their statistical systems if data is to be reported in the proposed timeframes in the future. Overall an estimated 35% of the combined catches of yellowfin tuna and bigeye tuna will not be reported in time unless countries address the issues identified as a matter of priority. In the event of catches not being reported, the

¹ Noting the data confidentiality requirements defined in Resolution 12/02

catches will need to be estimated. The use of such an approach will require the adoption of more conservative measures, to account for the uncertainty in the estimates, and mitigate the risk of exceeding any future catch limits set by the Commission.

44. The Commission **NOTED** that in the case of the purse seine fleets, the catches recorded in logbooks are corrected for species composition after a delay of approximately three months, thus CPCs having purse seine vessels could provide preliminary estimates in a shorter timeframe based on the best information available. However, the catches estimated close-to-real time may slightly differ from the final catches estimated for these fleets.

Science budget

45. The Commission **NOTED** the concerns raised by the SC regarding requests made by the Commission to the SC each year without clearly identifying the task to be undertaken, its priority against other tasks previously or simultaneously assigned to the SC and without assigning a budget to fund the request made.

Chairs and Vice-Chairs

46. The Commission **NOTED** and welcomed the re-elected and new Chairs and Vice-Chairs for each of the IOTC Working Parties and the SC, as listed in [Appendix VII](#).

6. REPORT OF THE NINTH SESSION OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

47. The Commission **NOTED** the report of the Ninth Session of the Compliance Committee (CoC) (IOTC-2012-CoC09-R) which was presented by the Chair of the CoC, Mr Roberto Cesari (European Union). Delegates from 24 Members of the Commission, 0 delegates from Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties and 9 Observers and invited experts attended the Session.
48. The Commission addressed the list of recommendations made by the CoC ([Appendix VIII](#)) in its 2012 report that related specifically to the Commission or concerned the work of the Secretariat. The Commission **ENDORSED** the list of recommendations, noting the following:
49. The Commission **NOTED** that in 2012, a total of 28 national Reports of Implementation were provided by CPCs (26 Members and 2 Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties), up from 21 in 2011. The CoC stressed the importance of the submission of national Reports of Implementation by all CPCs and urged those CPCs who did not meet their reporting obligations in this regard (Eritrea, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Sudan), to provide a national Report of Implementation to the Secretariat as soon as possible.
50. The Commission **REMINDED** CPCs of their obligation under Article X.2 of the IOTC Agreement to transmit to the Commission an annual statement of the actions (national Reports of Implementation) it has taken to make effective the provisions of the IOTC Agreement and to implement Conservation and Management Measures adopted by the Commission. Such statement shall be sent to the Secretary of the Commission not later than 60 days before the date of the following regular session of the Commission.

Review of individual CPC Compliance Status against IOTC Conservation and Management Measures

51. The Commission **EXPRESSED** concern about the absence of several CPCs at the CoC meeting and **AGREED** that the Chairperson should provide questions in writing to each of the CPCs who were not in attendance at the CoC meeting. For those CPCs who attend S16, this would be done during the first day of the meeting. For those CPCs who do not attend S16, the 'letter of feedback on compliance issues' would be sent by the IOTC Chair following the Commission meeting and would include an expression of concern given the CPCs absence from the IOTC meetings.
52. The Commission **AGREED** to the development and distribution of letters of feedback by the IOTC Chair, highlighting areas of non-compliance to relevant CPCs, together with the difficulties and challenges being faced.

Review of additional information related to IUU fishing activities in the IOTC area of competence

53. The Commission **REQUESTS** Sri Lanka provide monthly reports including evidence of the actions it had taken against IUU vessels in a standardised format into the future, irrespective of whether new information had become available, for each of the vessels reported to the IOTC for IUU fishing.
54. The Commission **REQUESTS** that Sri Lanka provide information on their schedule (road map) for the implementation of the vessel monitoring scheme, and regular updates on the passage of new domestic requirements for a high seas licencing regime, to the Secretariat for circulation to the Commission.

Deliberations in relation to Resolution 11/03 On establishing a list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the IOTC area.

Ocean Lion

55. The Commission **AGREED** that the *Ocean Lion* remain on the IOTC IUU Vessels List as no further information was provided to the CoC09 during its deliberations.

Yu Maan Won

56. The Commission **AGREED** that the *Yu Maan Won* remain on the IOTC IUU Vessels List as no further information was provided to the CoC09 during its deliberations.

Gunuar Melyan 21

57. The Commission **AGREED** that the *Gunuar Melyan 21* remain on the IOTC IUU Vessels List as no further information was provided to the CoC09 during its deliberations.

Hoom Xiang II

58. The Commission **AGREED** that the *Hoom Xiang II* remain on the IOTC IUU Vessels List and the government of Malaysia make further efforts to clarify the situation of the ship-owner company, identify the new flag and investigate the whereabouts of this vessel.

Speed Bird 3

59. The Commission **AGREED** to retain the *Speed Bird 3* on the Provisional IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 14, until legal proceedings against the vessel have been finalised, and the outcomes communicated by Sri Lanka to the Commission via the Secretariat. The Commission will then undertake the intersessional decision process established in Resolution 11/03 para.14, with a view to taking a final decision on the vessel.

Muthukumari

60. The Commission **AGREED** to retain the *Muthukumari* on the Provisional IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 14, until actions against the vessel have been finalised, and the outcomes communicated by Sri Lanka to the Commission via the Secretariat. The Commission will then undertake the intersessional decision process established in Resolution 11/03 para. 14, with a view to taking a final decision on the vessel.

IUU Vessels List for 2012

61. The Commission **ADOPTED** the IUU Vessels List as provided in [Appendix IX](#).

Applications for Cooperating non-Contracting Party status

South Africa

62. The Commission **NOTED** South Africa's application for the renewal of its status as a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party of the IOTC (paper IOTC–2012–CoC09–CNCP03). South Africa informed the Commission that unfortunately, it had not been able to complete its process of accession to the IOTC, but that it expected to do so before the next meeting of the CoC. South Africa renewed its commitment to sustainability noting that it had fully complied with all IOTC Conservation and Management Measures as indicated in their Report of Implementation.
63. The Commission **GRANTED** the status of Cooperating non-Contracting Party until the close of the Seventeenth Session in 2013 to South Africa based on the understanding that South Africa will attend the CoC meeting in 2013.

Senegal

64. The Commission **NOTED** Senegal's application for the renewal of its status as a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party of the IOTC (paper IOTC–2012–CoC09–CNCP02). Due to the ongoing restructure of its fishing fleet, no vessels flying the Senegalese flag have operated in the Indian Ocean since 2006. However, Senegal renewed its commitment to sustainability noting its intention to become a full Member of IOTC in the near future, and to comply with all IOTC Conservation and Management Measures.
65. The Commission **AGREED** that as Senegal was not present at the Compliance Committee or Commission meetings in 2012 to present their application, the Chair should write to Senegal and express the Commission's

encouragement that Senegal attend the key IOTC meetings (Scientific Committee, Compliance Committee and Commission), reminding that it would be difficult for the Commission to endorse the application in the absence of Senegal at the Compliance Committee and Commission session and to ask Senegal to present their application in person at the 17th Session of the Commission in 2013.

66. The Commission **GRANTED** the status of Cooperating non-Contracting Party until the close of the Seventeenth Session in 2013 to Senegal based on the understanding that Senegal will attend the CoC meeting in 2013.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

67. The Commission **NOTED** the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's (DPRK) application for the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party of the IOTC (paper IOTC-2012-CoC09-CNCP01). The Democratic People's Republic of Korea informed the Commission that it intended on complying fully to the terms of the IOTC Agreement and all Conservation and Management Measures adopted by it. Although the DPRK has not had any active vessels fishing in the Indian Ocean, a fleet development plan outlining 13 vessels which had been earmarked for the Indian Ocean was provided.
68. The Commission **NOTED** the concerns raised by several Members regarding the application for CNCP status by the DPRK and **AGREED** that the Chair should write to the DPRK and seek additional information on their application for CNCP status, including on the vessels that they are planning to deploy in the Indian Ocean. Responses from the DPRK concerning the plan and means to monitor and control its fleet activities – notably with regard to MCS, VMS, implementation of the regional observer scheme and possible participation in the transshipment programme, as well as their planned participation in all IOTC activities and full compliance with IOTC CMMs, should be circulated to IOTC CPCs for consideration. The DPRK application for CNCP status should be resubmitted to the next Compliance Committee meeting to be held in 2013.

7. REPORT OF THE NINTH SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

69. The Commission **NOTED** the report of the Ninth Session of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF) (IOTC-2012-SCAF09-R) which was presented by the Vice-Chair of the SCAF, Mr Godfrey Monor (Kenya). Delegates from 26 Members of the Commission, 1 Cooperating non-Contracting Party and 18 Observers attended the Session.
70. The Commission addressed the list of recommendations made by the SCAF ([Appendix X](#)) in its 2012 report that related specifically to the Commission or concerned the work of the Secretariat. The Commission **ENDORSED** the list of recommendations, noting the following:

Comments of the Commission and consideration of the recommendations made by the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance

71. The Commission **AGREED** that capacity building activities, including workshops on compliance, data and science be continued in 2012 and financially supported by Members through voluntary contributions.

Member contributions

72. The Commission **NOTED** that the cumulative total of outstanding contribution payments has decreased from US\$902,799 at the end of 2010 to US\$898,341 to date, virtually unchanged, with 13 Members having payments in arrears (excluding minor outstanding payments resulting from bank charges).
73. The Commission **NOTED** that as of 20 March 2012, seven Members (Eritrea, Iran, Pakistan, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Sudan and Tanzania) have contributions that are in arrears equal to, or exceeding the amount of the contributions due from it for the two preceding calendar years. Tanzania **INDICATED** that its contributions were paid timely, and the Commission **REQUESTED** the Secretariat and FAO to confirm the good reception of the funds.
74. The Commission **REQUESTS** that all Members with overdue contributions finalise payment of those contributions as soon as possible so as not to hinder the operation of the IOTC.

Meeting participation fund

75. The Commission **AGREED** that the Meeting Participation Fund (established under Resolution 10/05) be replenished to its initial level of US\$200,000 for the financial year 2012, through the allocation of funds from sources including, but not limited to, the IOTC accumulated funds, voluntary contributions from Members and

such other sources as the Commission may identify. The Meeting Participation Fund may be replenished if necessary, gradually in order to avoid any risk of cash-flow gaps in the Secretariat.

76. The Commission **NOTED** that Resolution 10/05 indicates that the Commission will identify, at its 15th Session, a procedure for supplying funds to the MPF in the future, which is now overdue. No additional procedures for replenishing the MPF was identified by the Commission at this time.
77. The Commission **ENDORSED** the rules of procedure for use by the Secretariat in administering the Meeting Participation Fund ([Appendix XI](#)).

Programme of work and budget estimates

78. The Commission thanked the Secretariat for the work conducted during 2011, and **ENDORSED** the IOTC Secretariat's programme of work for the financial period 01 January 2012 to 31 December 2012, as outlined in paper IOTC-2012-SCAF09-05.
79. The Commission **ADOPTED** the budget and the scheme of contributions for 2012, and the indicative budget for 2013, as outlined in [Appendix XII](#) and [Appendix XIII](#) respectively.

8. UPDATE ON PROGRESS REGARDING THE PERFORMANCE REVIEW

80. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC-2012-S16-06 which outlined the current status of implementation for each of the recommendations arising from the report of the Performance Review Panel.
81. The Commission **AGREED** to the updated version of the document on progress made regarding the recommendations arising from the report of the Performance Review Panel, provided at [Appendix XIV](#). The Commission tasked the Secretariat with ensuring that the revised table is provided to the respective Committees in advance of their next Sessions in accordance with the IOTC Rules of Procedure for further updating.
82. The Commission **NOTED** two avenues available to the Commission when considering how best to deal with recommendations from the Performance Review Panel to amend the existing IOTC Agreement and to replace the Agreement with a completely renegotiated one. However, the most logical path would be to undertake both paths in series, i.e. to amend the Agreement as permitted under Article XX of the IOTC Agreement to satisfy some of the recommendations from the Panel, while also undertaking a process to renegotiate the entire Agreement, which is likely to take several years.
83. The Commission **NOTED** that the IOTC Agreement currently inhibits the full involvement of the Taiwan, Province of China fleet in the Commission, which results in an element of non-compliance by some of these vessels, with little action available to the Commission to deal with them.
84. The Commission **NOTED** the statement by China, which indicated that all vessels of Taiwan, Province of China are under the management of China and that China has full control of those vessels. China indicated that it had implemented all of the Commission's CMMs and that as a result, all of the vessels from Taiwan, Province of China were subject to the IOTC CMMs.
85. The Commission **NOTED** the agreement from China that it would respond to any infractions by vessels of Taiwan, Province of China in the national Report of Implementation and at the CoC itself, in 2013.

9. CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

86. The Commission **NOTED** with appreciation, that for the first time, all proposals for new or revised Conservation and Management Measures were provided to the Secretariat prior to the 30 day pre-meeting deadline. The submission of proposals at least 30 days prior to the Session allows all CPCs an equal opportunity to thoroughly review the proposals. In doing so, CPCs are equally able to carry out internal consultations with institutions that would be responsible for implementing the proposed measures. Submission 30 days before the Session also allows CPCs time to discuss contentious issues before the commencement of the Session, thereby improving efficiency during Plenary.
87. However, the Commission **AGREED** to consider an additional proposal for a revised CMM during the current Session following a recommendation by the Compliance Committee since this practice had taken place in 2011 and the proposal was solely based on the discussions of the CoC09 meeting.
88. The Commission reiterated its previous **AGREEMENT** that the 30 day rule shall be strictly applied for all future Sessions unless otherwise agreed. Specifically, no proposals for new or revised Conservation or Management

Measures shall be accepted by the Secretariat for the Commissions consideration, if received after the 30 day deadline.

Proposals for Conservation and Management Measures adopted by the Commission

89. The Commission **CONSIDERED** and **ADOPTED** 12 proposals as Conservation and Management Measures and renewed a further 3 Resolutions, as detailed below:

On the implementation of the precautionary approach

90. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 12/01 *On the Implementation of the Precautionary Approach* ([Appendix XV](#)). This Resolution establishes the general principles that would guide the application of the precautionary approach in the context of the IOTC. The basic tenet being: do not take actions that would have an unacceptably high risk of compromising the health of the resource or its environment in the long term. The provisions also include ecosystem considerations in the form of impacts on non-target and associated or dependent species and their environment, or the effects of unanticipated environmental events.

Data confidentiality policy and procedures

91. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 12/02 *Data Confidentiality Policy and Procedures* ([Appendix XVI](#)). This Resolution introduced amendments to Resolution 98/02 *Data confidentiality policy and procedures* by incorporating certain data collected under the IOTC Regional Observer Program as well as tagging data held at the Secretariat. In adopting this Resolution, Japan conveyed its understanding that “*since Japan has only one purse seine vessel operating in the Indian Ocean, the scientific observer data obtained from this purse seiner shall not be made public.*” This Resolution supersedes Resolution 98/02.

On catch and effort recordings by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence

92. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 12/03 *On Catch and Effort Recordings by Fishing Vessels in the IOTC Area of Competence* ([Appendix XVII](#)). This Resolution consolidates Resolution 08/04 *concerning the recording of catch by longline fishing vessels in the IOTC area*, Resolution 10/03 *concerning the recording of catch by fishing vessels in the IOTC area* and Recommendation 11/06 *recording of catch by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence* in order to simplify recording requirements and include a clear list of bycatch species or group of species. These requirements include seabirds and marine turtles as per the IOTC requirements for target species. The Resolution also incorporates minimum recording requirements for gillnets, pole and line, handline and trolling into the existing requirements for longline and purse seine. Specific requirements in the provision of nominal catch data for a number of shark species are also included. Furthermore, this Resolution strengthens the provisions for catch and effort, and size data to be applicable to shark species as well as other bycatch, noting that this data can be derived from logbook and/or observer data. This Resolution supersedes Resolutions 08/04, 10/03 and Recommendation 11/06.

On the conservation of marine turtles

93. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 12/04 *On the Conservation of Marine Turtles* ([Appendix XVIII](#)). This Resolution introduced amendments to Resolution 09/06 *On Marine Turtles*, by removing the term ‘hard-shelled’ to provide equal protection for all marine turtles in the IOTC area of competence and clarify the data reporting requirements for interactions with marine turtles. This Resolution supersedes Recommendation 05/08 and Resolution 09/06.

On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels

94. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 12/05 *On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels* ([Appendix XIX](#)). This Resolution introduced amendments to Resolution 11/05 *On Establishing a Programme for Transshipment by Large-scale Fishing Vessels*, by incorporating sharks and additional elements to be completed prior to a receiver vessel accepting an at-sea-transshipment. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 11/05.

On reducing the incidental bycatch of seabirds in longline fisheries

95. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 12/06 *On Reducing the Incidental Bycatch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries* ([Appendix XX](#)). This Resolution introduced amendments to Resolution 10/06 *On Reducing the Incidental Bycatch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries* by simplifying the measure to achieve reductions in the level of seabird bycatch. The amendments harmonise the measure with that adopted by ICCAT in 2011 which lists only three mitigation measures (i.e. night setting with minimum deck lighting, bird scaring lines and line weighting) considered to be effective. Japan expressed its expectation that CPCs having longliners operating south of 25 degrees south will fully implement this Resolution in accordance with the agreed timeline. Japan

requested that the following statement be included in the record of the meeting: “*Japan supported the adoption of this Resolution based on the understanding that Japan does not have to collect data on seabirds or bycatch through logbooks, as Japan fully implements a scientific observer program in accordance with IOTC Resolution 11/04 On a Regional Observer Program*”. This Resolution will supersede Resolution 10/06 and Recommendation 05/09 on 1 July 2014.

Concerning a record of licensed foreign vessels fishing for IOTC species in the IOTC area of competence and access agreement information

96. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 12/07 *Concerning a Record of Licensed Foreign Vessels Fishing for IOTC Species in the IOTC Area of Competence and Access Agreement Information* ([Appendix XXI](#)). This Resolution requires that information on all vessels operating under private or government-to-government agreements be provided to the Commission. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 10/07.

On a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan

97. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 12/08 *On a Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) Management Plan* ([Appendix XXII](#)). This Resolution requires all CPCs fishing on FADs to submit Management Plans for their use by purse seiners and bait boat vessels.

On the conservation of thresher sharks (family Alopiidae) caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence

98. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 12/09 *On the Conservation of Thresher Sharks (Family Alopiidae) Caught in Association with Fisheries in the IOTC Area of Competence* ([Appendix XXIII](#)). This Resolution introduced amendments to Resolution 10/12 *On the Conservation of Thresher Sharks (Family Alopiidae) Caught in Association with Fisheries in the IOTC Area of Competence*, that allow observers to collect biological samples (vertebrae, tissues, reproductive tracts, stomachs) from thresher sharks that are dead at haulback. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 10/12.

To promote implementation of Conservation and Management Measures already adopted by IOTC

99. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 12/10 *To Promote Implementation of Conservation and Management Measures Already Adopted by IOTC* ([Appendix XXIV](#)). This Resolution establishes a special fund for capacity building in order to ensure compliance with conservation and management measures adopted by IOTC. It also builds upon Resolution 11/01 *Development of a Compendium of Resolutions and Recommendations*.

Previously adopted Conservation and Management Measures requiring action by the Commission in 2012

100. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC–2012–S16–08 which outlined previous decisions contained in IOTC Conservation and Management Measures, which the Commission agreed to action at the 16th Session in 2012.

Resolution 12/11 On the implementation of a limitation of fishing capacity of Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties

101. The Commission **NOTED** that Resolution 09/02 *On the implementation of a limitation of fishing capacity of Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties* called on CPCs to implement a limitation on their fishing capacity on tropical tunas, swordfish and albacore stocks, while allowing for the inclusion of vessels under construction during specific reference years, and those proposed by the developing States in their fleet development plans was applicable during the years 2010 and 2011 (para. 11). The Resolution states that “*the Commission shall review its implementation at the 2012 IOTC Session.*”
102. The Commission **AGREED** to extend the applicability of the Resolution for an additional two year period. Thus, the Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 12/11 *On the implementation of a limitation of fishing capacity of Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties* ([Appendix XXV](#)). This Resolution supersedes Resolution 09/02.

Resolution 12/12 To prohibit the use of large-scale driftnets on the high seas in the IOTC area

103. The Commission **NOTED** Resolution 09/05 *To prohibit the use of large-scale driftnets on the high seas in the IOTC area* which banned the use of large-scale driftnets (more than 2.5 km long) on the high seas within the IOTC area of competence. Paragraph 6 of this Resolution states that “*The IOTC shall periodically assess whether additional measures should be adopted and implemented to ensure that large-scale driftnets are not used on the high seas in the Convention Area. The first such assessment shall take place in 2012.*”

104. The Commission **AGREED** to extend the assessment of this Resolution for an additional two year period. Thus, the Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 12/12 *To prohibit the use of large-scale driftnets on the high seas in the IOTC area* ([Appendix XXVI](#)). This Resolution supersedes Resolution 09/05.

Resolution 12/13 For the Conservation and Management of Tropical Tunas Stocks in the IOTC Area of Competence

105. The Commission **NOTED** that Resolution 10/01 *For the Conservation and Management of Tropical Tunas Stocks in the IOTC Area of Competence* establishes a closure of a defined area for purse seine vessels from 1st November to 1st December and for longline vessels from 1st February to 1st March in order to reduce the fishing pressure on yellowfin and bigeye tunas. The Resolution also called for a technical committee (the TCAC) to discuss allocation criteria and recommend an allocation quota system or any other relevant measures. The Resolution also mandates the implementation of a pilot project in order to assess the feasibility of near real-time reporting for CPCs, which might be required under a global quota system, requesting the Scientific Committee to provide advice. The Scientific Committee is also to provide advice on possible modifications of the closure area or time periods; an evaluation of the impact of the catch of juveniles and spawners with recommendation for mitigation of such impact; and advice on possible different management measures. Finally, paragraph 13 of this Resolution states that “*the Commission shall adopt an allocation quota system or any other relevant measure for the yellowfin and bigeye tunas at its plenary session in 2012*”.
106. The Commission **NOTED** that this Resolution is applicable in 2011 and 2012 to all vessels of 24 meters overall length and over, and under 24 meters if they fish outside their EEZ, fishing within the IOTC area of competence (para. 1). Noting that Sessions of the Commission are held at the end of the first quarter of each year and that this Resolution expires on 31st December, 2012, before the seventeenth Session is likely to be held, the Commission may wish to consider extending the application of the Resolution. India raised concerns about the use of a map depicting erroneous terrestrial boundaries as a part of this Resolution and other official IOTC documents. The erroneous map was subsequently replaced in this Resolution and other IOTC documents and it was decided that henceforth, maps used in official IOTC documents should not depict terrestrial boundaries outside of the IOTC mandate.
107. The Commission **AGREED** to extend the applicability of this Resolution for an additional two year period. Thus, the Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 12/13 *For the Conservation and Management of Tropical Tunas Stocks in the IOTC Area of Competence* ([Appendix XXVII](#)). This Resolution supersedes Resolution 10/01.

Proposals for Conservation and Management Measures endorsed as a Recommendation by the Commission

On interim target and limit reference points for the major IOTC species

108. The Commission **ADOPTED** Recommendation 12/14 *On Interim Target and Limit Reference Points for the Major IOTC Species* ([Appendix XXVIII](#)). This Recommendation establishes provisional target reference points that are compatible with the attainment of the Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY). The limit reference points (that indicate high risk to the conditions of the stocks) are set at a biomass reduction to 40%–50% of the MSY level, or a fishing pressure that exceeds by 30–50% the level that would produce the MSY.

On best available science

109. The Commission **ADOPTED** Recommendation 12/15 *On Best Available Science* ([Appendix XXIX](#)). This Recommendation outlines actions necessary to preserve and promote the independence and excellence of the Scientific Committee and its Working Parties by, inter alia, securing independent and objective input, improving the quality of presentation of the scientific results to the managers, and strengthening peer review mechanisms.

Proposals for Conservation and Management Measures not endorsed by the Commission

110. The Commission considered the following proposals as Conservation and Management Measures, but consensus could not be reached:

On the conservation of whale sharks (Rhincodon typus) caught in association with fisheries managed by the IOTC

111. The Commission **CONSIDERED** a proposal on the conservation of whale sharks (*Rhincodon typus*), but agreement could not be reached and the proposal was deferred until the next meeting of the Commission. The proposal aimed to mitigate the interactions between whale sharks with purse seine fishing gear; gather additional information from CPCs on the interaction rates with other fishing gears, in particular gillnets and longlines; and requested that the IOTC SC develop best practice mitigation and handling guidelines for consideration by the Commission at its 17th Session in 2013, to ameliorate the impacts of fishing on whale sharks in the IOTC area of

competence. Australia emphasized that there was scientific evidence from both the Indian and Pacific Oceans regarding the high level of interaction and subsequent mortality of whale sharks with purse seine fishing operations referenced in the proposal which justified precautionary conservation action for the species. However, Japan indicated that it could not support the proposal in principle as no scientific basis was provided by the SC. All other CPCs who intervened on the proposal expressed their support. Australia and the Maldives expressed their disappointment that the proposal was not adopted given the many and varied benefits to coastal state economics in the Indian Ocean.

On the conservation of cetaceans caught in association with fisheries managed by the IOTC

112. The Commission **CONSIDERED** a proposal on the conservation of cetaceans, but agreement could not be reached and the proposal was deferred until the next meeting of the Commission. The proposal aimed to mitigate the interactions between cetaceans and purse seine fishing gear; gather additional information from CPCs on the interaction rates with other fishing gears, in particular gillnets and longlines; and request that the IOTC SC develop best practice mitigation and handling guidelines for consideration by the Commission at its 17th Session in 2013, to ameliorate the impacts of fishing on cetaceans in the IOTC area of competence. As with the proposal on whale sharks, Australia emphasized that the proposal provided scientific evidence from both the Indian and Pacific Oceans regarding the high level of interaction and subsequent mortality of cetaceans with purse seine fishing operations which justified precautionary conservation action for the species. Japan did not support the proposal as no scientific basis was provided by the SC. All CPCs who intervened were in support of adopting the proposal as a Resolution. Australia proposed that the voting procedure be used to reach a decision on the cetacean proposal, but Japan raised a fundamental legal question, i.e., the IOTC Agreement provides no mandate to manage sharks and cetaceans, and therefore believed that adoption of Conservation and Management Measures for these species should be based on a consensus. Australia indicated that the IOTC has on numerous occasions in the past made decisions on bycatch caught in association with tuna fisheries and expressed its deep concern of the direction Japan was taking on this and other bycatch matters.

On the conservation of sharks

113. The Commission **CONSIDERED** a proposal on the conservation of sharks, but agreement could not be reached and the proposal was deferred until the next meeting of the Commission. This proposal was to introduce amendments to Resolution 05/05 *On the Conservation of Sharks*, that require sharks to be landed with their fins attached to their respective carcass, to promote full utilisation of shark protein for food, and to facilitate the collection of critical data by species i.e. nominal catch, required to undertake rigorous assessments of the impact of fishing on these populations. The proposal also prohibited the use of wire trace on longline fishing vessels as a proven mitigation measure that will ameliorate the impact of fisheries for tuna and tuna-like species on shark populations throughout the IOTC area of competence. Japan, China and the Republic of Korea indicated that this proposal, which called for fins to be landed attached, was not operationally feasible at this point in time and that insufficient scientific justification for the ban on wire trace was provided to the Commission from the SC.

On the conservation of hammerhead sharks (family Sphyrnidae), oceanic whitetip sharks (Carcharhinus longimanus) and silky sharks (Carcharhinus falciformis) caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence

114. The Commission **CONSIDERED** a proposal on the conservation of hammerhead sharks (Family Sphyrnidae), oceanic whitetip sharks (*Carcharhinus longimanus*) and silky sharks (*Carcharhinus falciformis*) caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence, but agreement could not be reached and the element for silky shark was withdrawn. The proposal was then split into two proposals, i) on the conservation of oceanic whitetip sharks (*Carcharhinus longimanus*) caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence and ii) on the conservation of hammerhead sharks (Family Sphyrnidae) caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence. Japan, China and the Republic of Korea indicated that they could not support the proposal concerning oceanic whitetip and silky sharks on grounds that there were insufficient scientific justifications for the prohibition of retention of these shark species. Agreement could not be reached and the proposals were deferred until the next meeting of the Commission.

On an IOTC tropical tunas - yellowfin, bigeye, skipjack - catch documentation programme

115. The Commission **CONSIDERED** a proposal on an IOTC tropical tunas - yellowfin, bigeye, skipjack - catch documentation programme but agreement could not be reached and the proposal was deferred until the next meeting of the Commission.

On penalties to be applied in case of non fulfilment of reporting obligations in the IOTC

116. The Commission **CONSIDERED** a proposal on penalties to be applied in case of non fulfilment of reporting obligations in the IOTC but agreement could not be reached and it was deferred until the next meeting of the Commission.

On Conservation and Management Measures that may no longer be applicable

117. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC–2012–S16–07 which provided the Commission and the Working Group (developing the Compendium of IOTC Resolutions and Recommendations) a list of current Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) which although they have not been revoked or superseded, may no longer be in use or applicable to the management of tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean.
118. The Commission **RECALLED** that in 2011, it adopted Resolution 11/01 *On the Development of a Compendium of Resolutions and Recommendations*. This Resolution recognises the desirability of improving the coherence and accessibility of its recommendations and resolutions. Noting that the complexity of this work may have many implications, such as those of a legal, procedural or practical nature, the Resolution creates a Working Group that would guide the development of a Compendium of IOTC Resolutions and Recommendations.
119. The Commission **NOTED** that in February/March 2012, to assist the Working Group in carrying out the tasks assigned to it, the IOTC Secretariat undertook an administrative review of the current CMMs of the Commission and identified 17 as being potentially obsolete (9 Resolutions and 8 Recommendations). The 17 CMMs are discussed in paper IOTC–2012–S16–07 in terms of why they are no longer in use or applicable to the management of tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean.
120. The Commission **AGREED** to refer the document to the Working Group, and **REQUESTS** that the Working Group expedite the process of developing a Compendium of CMMs as detailed in Resolution 11/01, noting that the working group was established more than a year ago to complete this task.

10. OTHER BUSINESS**10.1 Discussion on the 2nd Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria**

121. The Commission **THANKED** the Maldives for their intention to host the TCAC02 meeting earlier in 2012, but due to unforeseen circumstances, the meeting had to be cancelled at that time.
122. The Commission **NOTED** the generous offer by Oman to host the TCAC02 meeting in September 2012 or January 2013 (or at a time similar to those originally proposed for the Maldives meeting in 2012).
123. The Commission **AGREED** that the TCAC02 meeting will be held in Muscat, Oman, with the exact dates and location to be finalised by Oman and the Secretariat.

10.2 Proposal for a statement on piracy

124. The Commission **RECOGNISED** the severe impact of piracy acts on humanitarian, commercial and fishing vessels off the coast of Somalia and noted that the range of the attacks extended towards almost all of the western Indian Ocean, notably toward Kenya and Seychelles, with attacks being reported in their respective EEZ.
125. The Commission therefore **ISSUED** a new Statement on the issue of piracy ([Appendix XXX](#)), calling once again on the international community to give all its support to ensure the safety of all fishing vessels and their crew in the region from acts of piracy.

10.3 Executive Secretary

126. The Commission **NOTED** that the term of the current Executive Secretary (Mr Alejandro Anganuzzi) is due to end on 27 February 2013. The Commission expressed its deepest gratitude for the work carried out by Mr Anganuzzi over the past 8 years as Executive Secretary, and a further 5 years as the Deputy.
127. The Commission **EXPRESSED** its appreciation regarding Mr Anganuzzi's assistance to developing coastal states.
128. The Commission discussed the handover process to the next Executive Secretary and **AGREED** to extend Mr Anganuzzi's contract by two (2) months to facilitate a smooth transition leading into the next Commission meeting.

11. DATE AND PLACE OF THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION AND OF THE COMMISSION'S SUBSIDIARY BODIES

129. The Commission was unanimous in its thanks to Australia for hosting the Sixteenth Session of the Commission and commended Australia on the warm welcome, the excellent facilities and assistance provided to the Secretariat in the organisation and running of the Session.

130. The Commission **AGREED** to the schedule of meetings for its subsidiary bodies for 2012, and tentatively for 2013 as detailed in [Table 1](#).

Table 1. Schedule of subsidiary body meetings for 2012, and tentatively for 2013.

Meeting	2012		2013 (tentative)	
	Date	Location	Date	Location
Working Party on Temperate Tunas	20–22 Aug (3d)	Shanghai, China	Early Aug (3d)	TBD (ICCAT SAA)
Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria	Sept (TBD)	Muscat, Oman	Pending	Pending
Working Party on Billfish	11–15 Sept (5d)	Cape town, South Africa – TBD	10–14 Sept (5d)	Bali, Indonesia
Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch	17–19 Sept (3d)	Cape town, South Africa – TBD	16–18 Sept (5d)	Bali, Indonesia
Working Party on Methods	22–23 Oct (2d)	Port Louis, Mauritius	18–19 Oct (2d)	TBD
Working Party on Tropical Tunas	24–29 Oct (6d)	Port Louis, Mauritius	21–26 Oct (6d)	TBD
Working Party on Neritic Tunas	Pending (3d)	Penang, Malaysia	Pending (3d)	TBD
Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics	nil	nil	5–6 Dec	TBD
Scientific Committee	10–15 Dec (6d)	Victoria, Seychelles	9–14 Dec (6d)	TBD
Compliance Committee	–	–		
Standing Committee on Administration and Finance	–	–		

131. Following an invitation from Mozambique to host the Seventeenth Session of the Commission, it was **AGREED** to organise the next Session in the first quarter of 2013 in Mozambique. The exact dates and meeting venue will be confirmed and communicated by the Secretariat at a later date.

12. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

132. The report of the Sixteenth Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission was **ADOPTED** by correspondence on the 19 June 2012.

APPENDIX I

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APPENDIX II

OPENING ADDRESSES

Opening Address by Senator the Honourable Joseph Ludwig

Opening Address from the Commonwealth Government Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator the Honourable Joseph Ludwig to the 16th Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission presented by Mr Ian Thompson, First Assistant Secretary, Sustainable Resource Management Division of the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

I would like to acknowledge the Noongar people who are the traditional custodians of the land on which we are meeting today. I would also like to pay respect to the Elders of the land, both past and present, and extend that respect to other Indigenous Australians who are present. Welcome.

On behalf of the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator the Honourable Joe Ludwig, I would like to warmly welcome distinguished delegates to the 16th Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission in Fremantle, Western Australia. Australia is very pleased to host the members, co-operating non-members and observers of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission and to support the important work that the Commission undertakes.

The Minister trusts that participants will enjoy their stay in Australia and Fremantle in particular and hope that, despite the demands of the meeting, you will have the opportunity to enjoy Australian culture and way of life during your stay. Minister Ludwig regrets that competing priorities mean that he is unable to welcome you personally.

It is sixteen years since the Agreement establishing the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission entered into force. In that time members have made solid progress towards the sustainable management of tuna and tuna-like resources and in addressing fishing impacts on the marine environment of the vast Indian Ocean. At this session we welcome two new members: the Maldives and Mozambique – the inclusion of these important coastal states in our membership will strengthen the Commission further.

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission is unique among regional fisheries management organisations not only for its diverse membership but because the region's artisanal fishing fleets land approximately 50% of the tuna catch, including neritic tunas. The resources managed by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission are therefore critical for regional food security, for livelihoods in coastal communities and as a source of economic development for many Indian Ocean Tuna Commission members. Australia recognises the importance of Indian Ocean Tuna Commission's work for the region and we are committed to working with other members to ensure the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission is fully effective; and this is reflected in our hosting of this year's annual session.

Australia has the third largest exclusive economic zone in the world, more than half of which falls within the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission's Area of Competence. From our northern waters to our east coast, conservation and sustainable management of the highly migratory fish stocks that swim through our waters is extremely important to Australia.

Of course the tuna resources of the Indian Ocean have importance beyond the coastal states of the region. The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission membership includes fishing states from outside the Indian Ocean region who play a critical role in the work of the Commission. These members have a longstanding presence in the Indian Ocean, not only through fishing activity but through various sub-regional, regional and bilateral partnerships. Many of these members have also provided significant assistance to coastal State members toward strengthening fisheries conservation and management of fisheries resources in the region.

It is clear that the Indian Ocean membership is diverse but all Indian Ocean Tuna Commission members share a common goal: the sustainable management of tuna resources in the Indian Ocean to all our benefit. And it is this goal that must be the key focus when discussing the challenges facing the Commission during this important meeting.

Key challenges facing the Commission include working together to strengthen the capacity of members to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and ensuring control of our domestic fleets operating in the Indian Ocean. Another critical challenge is to address the deficiency of data available for the Commission's Scientific Committee.

The paucity of data creates uncertainty in the management of the resources. However, this must not be used as a reason not to take management action, rather this creates opportunities for innovative solutions to our collective challenges. Already we have seen this with proposals such as the implementation of the precautionary approach and interim target and limit reference points, which the Commission will consider later this week and which Australia strongly supports.

On the proposals submitted for the consideration at the 2012 Commission meeting: this year there are 22 proposals by members; the majority of which are based on recommendations from the Scientific Committee and the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission Performance Review. The proposals look to address many of the key challenges already identified including the long-term sustainability of the tuna resources and the conservation of by-catch species such as sharks, turtles, seabirds and cetaceans and strengthening the capacity of members to implement the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission resolutions.

There is a substantial amount of work for the Commission to address over the coming days and the Commission's work will not end on Thursday, with many issues needing ongoing efforts, both in the intersessional period and beyond. The Minister is sure all members are aware of these challenges and, through collaboration and commitment, we will achieve our common goal of ensuring the long-term sustainability of tuna resources throughout the Indian Ocean.

On behalf of the Minister, let me wish you good luck in your important work and thank you for your efforts.

Welcome Address by the Chair of the Commission, Mr Daroomalingum Mauree

Mr Barry McGuire, Balladong Nyungar; Mr Ian Thompson, First Assistant Secretary, Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry; Mr Alejandro Anganuzzi, IOTC Executive Secretary; All Protocols observed; Distinguished guests; Distinguished Representatives of Members; Observers; Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is an immense pleasure for me to address you today on the occasion of the opening of the 16th Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and it is also my first session as Chair of the Commission. Allow me first and foremost on behalf of IOTC, to express our gratitude to the Government of Australia for hosting this Sixteenth Session of the Commission. I must in particular extend a warm welcome to our new Members, the Islamic Republic of Maldives and the Republic of Mozambique. On your own behalf, I would now wish to convey a special appreciation to you, Mr Executive Secretary and your dedicated staff who have put up the maximum synergy and efforts to prepare with utmost devotion this meeting through the timely provision of documents.

Now has come the time, to say thank you to Mr Alejandro Anganuzzi who has dedicated a substantial part of his professional life to lead us where we are today. Mr David Ardill, the predecessor of Mr Anganuzzi confessed to me that the latter is the best scientist he has ever met in his career. On this note, I would invite Members for a round of applause to recognize and commend the excellent service of Mr Anganuzzi and also to demonstrate our respect, admiration and gratitude along with ovation for the newly elected Executive Secretary, Mr Rondolph Payet.

Let me assure you that when I was unanimously elected as Chairperson, I knew that it was not going to be an easy task as there are lot of outstanding issues as well as emerging and pressing ones for us to deal with. I would like to stress that I will work with all of you to achieve the result that is expected of this Commission. I would like to thank you for your confidence you have put in me as the Chairperson of the meeting over the next few days. Now let's come to more serious issues. I am sure you would all agree that we need to shelf the disappointments of the last Commission meeting and let us all commit ourselves to achieve more in this Session. We are sovereign States with diverse economic realities and often diverging objectives. This complexity is a real challenge and very often leads to inaction.

Most of the main conservation and management proposals of the 15th Session were rejected. None of the vessels proposed for inclusion onto the black list for having committed serious acts against IOTC Legislation or having violated the principles of responsible fisheries was actually included. This my dear colleagues is tantamount to rendering the organization powerless in face of urgent problems, namely sustainability and Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing. The Complacent laissez faire attitude should no longer have its way through. We should

not jeopardise the credibility of this organization. Compliance is the main problem. We need to address this shortcoming.

I am of the opinion that the Compliance Committee should neither be seen as a devil in disguise nor as a court of justice. The Compliance Committee and the Secretariat need to identify the difficulties encountered in the implementation of measures, the reasons for non compliance and the challenge is how to maintain a constructive process and a dialogue in the midst of all the diversity of experience by individual members. Our goal is maximize benefit for this and future generations which means maintaining sustainability. The proposal of Japan for establishment of a fund for capacity building be specifically used to support developing countries to implement the minimum catch and effort data requirement into their fisheries goes in the right direction, bearing in mind that 50% of the catches emanate from the coastal fishery of Member States.

As each year goes by, the challenges keep mounting, our visibility increases as well as our responsibility to manage the tuna stocks under IOTC's jurisdiction. This 16th Session is taking place against the backdrop of a series of international developments, namely economic session, piracy in the region, climate change, increasing role of NGO's on the tuna issues, certification of tuna fisheries, carbon footprints, by catch, discards, unsustainable fishing practices and IUU fishing. All these lead us to look at sustainability of our stocks closer and we need to react properly.

Conscious of my responsibility as Chairperson of this Organisation, I wish to invite all of you to reflect on the following:

(a) We need to ensure that all those exploiting the resource should be part of the decision making process. The Performance Review of IOTC did call upon us to review the IOTC agreement. We should also reflect whether there is need for a revised rules of procedure; (b) We need to have long term fishing policy namely quotas. Catch limits on fishing efforts measures should be put in place to be consistent with the sustainability of the resource. Therefore we should all collectively give a helping hand to move the process of Quota Allocation forward. The technical committee meeting on Allocation criteria needs to be addressed with a sober mind as you are all aware of the complexity of the matter but we cannot sit back and relax. We need to move this process forward, yes we should and yes we CAN; (c) This Commission has done considerably good things over the years. We need to see to it that it is staffed appropriately to fulfill its mandate.

We need to stand guided by the 16 Recommendations of the Kobe III. The Scientific Committee Report for the first time ever presents a picture whereby most of the species are being fished at sustainable levels, exception made to Albacore. But we should not fail in our duty to address the reporting issue, when it is becoming more and more factual that coastal/artisanal catches are more or less levelled with Industrial catches.

The Sixteenth Session has on the Agenda 22 resolutions, out of which 11 are new ones. We should also ask ourselves whether we should limit the number of resolutions to be tabled at the 17th Session. I want all of you to get me quite clear on this issue. I know the resolutions are pertinent, but we need to think whether these new resolutions will deliver tangible results, when we are all aware of the difficulties of Members in implementing existing resolutions. I therefore invite you members to collectively devise the appropriate strategy of finding the clues of non implementation of recommendations and management measures by many of us. If we fail to address this issue, bringing in new resolutions would further be an additional hurdle in the process.

As you are aware, we have a heavy work load. I count on all of you to be brief, constructive and pragmatic in your intervention. As Chair, I recommend that in the interest of time, we should use it judiciously and avoid going into night sessions. I look forward to working with all of you in an even handed and fair manner. I am relying on the Chairperson of the Compliance and Administration Committees to move forward on the different issues under their purview. I know that you are fully dedicated to the sessions that will follow and would maximize on the time available to highlight all possible avenues for management of the tuna resources and finalise decision on resolutions for cooperation among member countries which will have positive impacts on the resources under our areas of competence. At the end of the day, I am sure that the participants who have travelled over a long distance for the meeting would have ample time to enjoy the fascinating Fremantle with its friendly people. I wish the IOTC fruitful years ahead and hope to see you next in Mauritius for the Tuna Tagging Symposium being held back to back with the 4th Working Party on Methods and on Tropical tunas in October – November 2012. I invite you all to enjoy tropical Mauritius, its Multicultural cuisine and I shall ensure that you will dance to the tune and rhythm of our national sega.

Thank you for your attention.

APPENDIX III

AGENDA OF THE SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE INDIAN OCEAN TUNA COMMISSION

- 1. OPENING OF THE SESSION** (Chair)
- 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION** (Chair)
- 3. ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS** (Chair)
In accordance with Article VII: ‘Observers’ of the IOTC Agreement, and Rule XIII: ‘Participation by observers’ of the IOTC Rules of Procedure, the list of Observers present from FAO, Members and Associate Members of FAO, intergovernmental organisations, non-governmental organisations, consultants and experts, will be presented by the Chair.
- 4. UPDATE ON THE KOBE PROCESS**
- 5. REPORT OF THE 14TH SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE** (SC Chair).
- 6. REPORT OF THE 9TH SESSION OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE** (CoC Chair).
- 7. REPORT OF THE 9TH SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE** (SCAF Chair).
- 8. UPDATE ON PROGRESS REGARDING THE PERFORMANCE REVIEW** (Chair)
- 9. CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES**
Noting that in 2011, the Commission agreed that the 30 day rule shall be strictly applied for all future Sessions. Specifically, no proposals shall be accepted by the Secretariat for the Commissions consideration, if received after the 30 day deadline (para 109, S15 report).
- 10. OTHER BUSINESS** (Chair)
 - 10.1 Discussion on the 2nd Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria (Chair).
 - 10.2 Proposal for a statement on piracy (European Union)
 - 10.3 Executive Secretary (Chair)
- 11. DATE AND PLACE OF THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION AND OF THE COMMISSIONS SUBSIDIARY BODIES** (Chair)
- 12. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION** (Chair)

APPENDIX IV

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Document	Title	Availability
IOTC-2012-S16-01a	Provisional agenda for the Sixteenth Session of the Commission	20 January, 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-01b	Provisional annotated agenda for the Sixteenth Session of the Commission	22 March 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-02	Draft list of documents for the Sixteenth Session of the Commission	23 February, 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-03	Draft indicative schedule for the Sixteenth Session of the Commission (and SCAF09)	30 January, 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-04	Draft list of participants for the Sixteenth Session of the Commission	22 March 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-05	Update on the KOBE process (KOBE III)	21 February, 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-06	Update on progress regarding Resolution 2009/01 <i>on the performance review follow-up</i>	21 February, 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-07	On conservation and management measures that may no longer be applicable (Secretariat)	22 March 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-08 Rev_1	Current conservation and management measures requiring action by the Commission in 2012 (Secretariat)	19 March & 23 April, 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-09	Proposal: Statement of the IOTC plenary on piracy in the western part of the IOTC area of competence (European Union)	13 March, 2012
Committee Reports		
IOTC-2011-SC14-R	Report of the Fourteenth Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee	21 December, 2011
IOTC-2012-CoC09-R	Report of the Ninth Session of the IOTC Compliance Committee	20 April 2012
IOTC-2012-SCAF09-R	Report of the Ninth Session of the IOTC Standing Committee on Administration and Finance	26 April 2012
Conservation and Management Measures – Proposals		
IOTC-2012-S16-PropA Rev_1	Data confidentiality policy and procedures – Seychelles (to replace Resolution 98/02)	12 March & 23 April, 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-PropB Rev_1, Rev_2, Rev_3	On the implementation of the precautionary approach – Maldives, Mauritius and Seychelles (new proposal)	12 March & 23 April, 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-PropC Rev_1, Rev_2, Rev_3	On interim target and limit reference points for the major IOTC species – Maldives, Mauritius and Seychelles (new proposal)	12 March, 23 & 24 April, 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-PropD Rev_1, Rev_2	On reducing the incidental bycatch of seabirds in longline fisheries – European Union and France (OT) (to replace Resolution 10/06 and Recommendation 05/09)	13 March, 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-PropE Rev_1, Rev_2	On the conservation of marine turtles – Australia, European Union and France (to replace Recommendation 05/08 and Resolution 09/06)	22 March, 23 & 24 April 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-PropF	On marine turtles – European Union and France (OT) (to revoke 05/08 and amend Resolution 09/06)	13 March, 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-PropG Rev_1	On the conservation of whale sharks (<i>Rhincodon typus</i>) – Australia (new proposal)	22 March & 23 April 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-PropH Rev_1	On the conservation of thresher sharks (family Alopiidae) caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence – European Union (to replace Resolution 10/12)	13 March & 23 April, 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-PropI Rev_1, Ib Rev_1	On the conservation of hammerhead sharks (family Sphyrnidae), oceanic white tip sharks (<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>) and silky sharks (<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>) caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence – European Union (new proposal)	13 March, 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-PropJ	On the conservation of sharks – Australia (to replace Resolution 05/05)	22 March 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-PropK Rev_1	On the conservation of cetaceans – Australia (new proposal)	22 March & 23 April 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-PropL Rev_1, Rev_2, Rev_3	On catch and effort recordings by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence – European Union (to replace Resolutions 08/04, 10/03 and Recommendation 11/06)	13 March, 2012
IOTC-2012-S16-PropM	On the minimum data requirements for purse seine – Australia (to replace Resolution 10/03 and Recommendation 11/06)	22 March 2012

Document	Title	Availability
IOTC–2012–S16–PropN	On the minimum data requirements for longline – Australia (to replace Resolution 08/04 and Recommendation 11/06)	22 March 2012
IOTC–2012–S16–PropO	On the minimum data requirements for gillnet – Australia (to replace Recommendation 11/06)	22 March, 2012
IOTC–2012–S16–PropP	On the minimum data requirements for pole and line – Australia (to replace Recommendation 11/06)	22 March 2012
IOTC–2012–S16–PropQ Rev_1, Rev_2	On best available science – European Union (new proposal)	13 March, 2012
IOTC–2012–S16–PropR Rev_1, Rev_2	On fisheries and access agreement information – European Union (new proposal)	13 March & 24 April, 2012
IOTC–2012–S16–PropS Rev_1, Rev_2	On a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan – European Union (new proposal)	13 March & 24 April, 2012
IOTC–2012–S16–PropT Rev_1, Rev_2	On an IOTC tropical tunas - yellowfin, bigeye, skipjack - catch documentation programme – European Union (new proposal)	13 & 21 March, 2012
IOTC–2012–S16–PropU	On penalties to be applied in case of non fulfilment of reporting obligations in the IOTC – European Union (new proposal)	13 March, 2012
IOTC–2012–S16–PropV Rev_1, Rev_2, Rev_3, Rev_4	To promote implementation of Conservation and Management Measures already adopted by IOTC – Japan (new proposal)	15 March & 24 April, 2012
IOTC–2012–S16–PropW Rev_1	Draft amendment to Resolution 11/05 on establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels – Japan (to replace Resolution 11/05)	20 & 24 April, 2012
IOTC–2012–S16–Propx Rev_1	On the implementation of a limitation of fishing capacity of Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (to replace Resolution 09/02)	19 March & 23 April, 2012
IOTC–2012–S16–PropY Rev_1	To prohibit the use of large-scale driftnets on the high seas in the IOTC area (to replace Resolution 09/05)	19 March & 23 April, 2012
IOTC–2012–S16–PropZ Rev_1	For the conservation and management of tropical tunas stocks in the IOTC area of competence (to replace Resolution 10/01)	19 March & 23 April, 2012

APPENDIX V

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FOURTEENTH SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Note: paragraphs allusions refer to paragraphs in the Report of the 14th Session of the Scientific Committee (IOTC–2011–SC14–R)

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (12–17 DECEMBER, 2011) TO THE COMMISSION

STATUS OF TUNA AND TUNA-LIKE RESOURCES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN

Tuna – Highly migratory species

- SC14.01 (para. 129) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the management advice developed for each tropical and temperate tuna species as provided in the Executive Summary for each species:
- Albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) – [Appendix X](#)
 - Bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) – [Appendix XI](#)
 - Skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) – [Appendix XII](#)
 - Yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) – [Appendix XIII](#)

Tuna and mackerel – Neritic species

- SC14.02 (para. 132) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the management advice developed for each neritic tuna species as provided in the Executive Summary for each species:
- Longtail tuna (*Thunnus tonggol*) – [Appendix XIV](#)
 - Narrow-barred Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus commerson*) – [Appendix XV](#)
 - Bullet tuna (*Auxis rochei*) – [Appendix XVI](#)
 - Frigate tuna (*Auxis thazard*) – [Appendix XVII](#)
 - Kawakawa (*Euthynnus affinis*) – [Appendix XVIII](#)
 - Indo-Pacific king mackerel (*Scomberomorus guttatus*) – [Appendix XIX](#)

Billfish

- SC14.03 (para. 133) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the management advice developed for each billfish species as provided in the Executive Summary for each species:
- Swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) – [Appendix XX](#)
 - Black marlin (*Makaira indica*) – [Appendix XXI](#)
 - Indo-Pacific blue marlin (*Makaira mazara*) – [Appendix XXII](#)
 - Striped marlin (*Tetrapturus audax*) – [Appendix XXIII](#)
 - Indo-Pacific sailfish (*Istiophorus platypterus*) – [Appendix XXIV](#)

Status of Marine Turtles, Seabirds and Sharks in the Indian Ocean**Marine turtles**

- SC14.04 (para. 134) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the management advice developed for marine turtles, as provided in the Executive Summary encompassing all six species found in the Indian Ocean:
- Marine turtles – [Appendix XXV](#)

Seabirds

- SC14.05 (para. 135) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the management advice developed for seabirds, as provided in the Executive Summary encompassing all species commonly interacting with IOTC fisheries for tuna and tuna-like species:
- Seabirds – [Appendix XXVI](#)

Sharks

- SC14.06 (para. 136) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the management advice developed for a subset of shark species commonly caught in IOTC fisheries for tuna and tuna-like species:
- Blue sharks (*Prionace glauca*) – [Appendix XXVII](#)
 - Oceanic whitetip sharks (*Carcharhinus longimanus*) – [Appendix XXVIII](#)
 - Scalloped hammerhead sharks (*Sphyrna lewini*) – [Appendix XXIX](#)
 - Shortfin mako sharks (*Isurus oxyrinchus*) – [Appendix XXX](#)

- Silky sharks (*Carcharhinus falciformis*) – [Appendix XXXI](#)
- Bigeye thresher sharks (*Alopias superciliosus*) – [Appendix XXXII](#)
- Pelagic thresher sharks (*Alopias pelagicus*) – [Appendix XXXIII](#)

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMISSION

Activities of the IOTC Secretariat in 2011

SC14.07 (para. 11) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that while the recruitment process for a new stock assessment expert at the IOTC Secretariat is being finalised, the Secretariat hire an individual/s to fill the staffing gap. This was considered to be particularly important given the upcoming tagging symposium in late 2012.

National Reports from CPCs

SC14.08 (para. 13) Noting that the Commission, at its 15th Session, expressed concern regarding the limited submission of National Reports to the SC, and stressed the importance of proving the reports by all CPCs, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note that in 2011, 25 reports were provided by CPCs, up from 15 in 2010 and 14 in 2009 ([Table 2](#)). The SC stressed the importance of the submission of National Reports by all CPCs and urged those CPCs who did not met their reporting obligations in this regard (7), to provide a National Report to the SC in 2012.

Status of development and implementation of Nation Plans of Action for seabirds and sharks

SC14.09 (para. 18) The SC **NOTED** the current status of development and implementation of Nation Plans of Action for sharks and **RECOMMENDED** that all CPCs without an NPOA-Sharks expedite the development and implementation of their NPOA-Sharks, and to report progress to the WPEB in 2012, recalling that NPOA-Sharks are a framework that should facilitate estimation of shark catches, and development and implementation of appropriate management measures, which should also enhance the collection of bycatch data and compliance with IOTC Resolutions.

Report of the Third Session of the Working Party on Temperate Tunas

SC14.10 (para. 32) Noting the request by the Commission at its 15th Session for a new assessment of albacore to be undertaken in 2011 (para. 37 of the S15 report), the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note that although a new assessment was undertaken in 2011, there remains considerable uncertainty about the relationship between abundance and the standardized CPUE series, and about the total catches over the past decade and that the WPTmT has limited confidence in the assessment undertaken. Thus, there is an urgent need to carry out a revised stock assessment for the albacore resource in the Indian Ocean in 2012, and the Commission should consider allocating funds for this purpose, noting that individual CPCs are finding it difficult to justify expending the necessary resources to undertake stock assessments.

Status of catch statistics

SC14.11 (para. 57) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the status of catch statistics for the main species of sharks, by major fisheries (gears), for the period 1950–2010, as provided in [Appendix VI: Tables a–c](#). Although some CPCs have reported more detailed data on sharks in recent years, including time-area catches and effort, and length frequency data for the main commercial shark species, the SC expressed strong **CONCERN** that the information on retained catches and discards of sharks contained in the IOTC database remains very incomplete.

SC14.12 (para. 59) Noting that despite the mandatory reporting requirements detailed in Resolutions 05/05, 08/04, 09/06, 10/02, 10/03, and 10/06, bycatch data remain largely unreported by CPCs and the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Compliance Committee and the Commission address this non-compliance by taking steps to develop mechanisms which would ensure that CPCs fulfil their bycatch reporting obligations.

SC14.13 (para. 60) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the current IOTC Resolution 08/04 concerning the recording of catch by longline fishing vessels in the IOTC area, Resolution 10/03 concerning the recording of catch by fishing vessels in the IOTC area and Resolution 10/02 mandatory statistical requirements for IOTC members and cooperating non-contracting parties be amended in order to include a clear list of shark and marine turtle species or group of species, that should be recorded and reported to the IOTC Secretariat as per the IOTC requirements for target species.

SC14.14 (para. 61) Noting that there is extensive literature available on pelagic shark fisheries and

interactions with fisheries targeting tuna and tuna-like species, in countries having fisheries for sharks, and in the databases of governmental or non-governmental organizations, the SC **AGREED** on the need for a major data mining exercise in order to compile data from as many sources as possible and attempt to rebuild historical catch series of the most commonly caught shark species. In this regard, the WPEB **RECOMMENDED** that the Scientific Committee considers presenting a proposal to the Commission for this activity, including a budget.

On Resolution 98/02 Data confidentiality policy and procedures

SC14.15 (para. 62) Noting that CPCs have begun to submit observer trip reports and observer data to the IOTC Secretariat, and that confidentiality rules contained apply to these data (Cf. Resolution 11/04, para. 12), the SC **RECOMMENDED** that Resolution 98/02 be amended in order to clearly incorporate observer data in the data confidentiality policy of the IOTC.

Species identification cards – Sharks, seabirds and marine turtles

SC14.16 (para. 66) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission agree to allocate additional funds from the IOTC accumulated funds, or other sources, be allocated to print and distribute the identification cards for sharks, seabirds and marine turtles to developing coastal states.

Sharks – ERA

SC14.17 (para. 67) Noting the general lack of catch data on sharks, the SC strongly **RECOMMENDED** that an (Ecological Risk Assessment) ERA is conducted for sharks caught in fisheries targeting tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean before the next session of the WPEB. In order to do so, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission allocate specific funds for such an analysis. Should a Fishery Officer be recruited at the IOTC Secretariat, he/she may be in a position to coordinate this task.

Sharks – Wire leaders/traces

SC14.18 (para. 68) On the basis of information presented to the SC in 2011 and in previous years, the SC **RECOGNISED** that the use of wire leaders/traces in longline fisheries may imply targeting of sharks. The SC therefore **RECOMMENDED** to the Commission that if it wishes to reduce catch rates of sharks by longliners it should prohibit the use of wire leaders/traces.

Sharks – Resolution 05/05 concerning the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC

Fin to body weight ratio

SC14.19 (para. 69) The SC **ADVISED** the Commission to consider, that the best way to encourage full utilisation of sharks, to ensure accurate catch statistics, and to facilitate the collection of biological information, is to revise the IOTC Resolution 05/05 *concerning the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC* such that all sharks must be landed with fins attached (naturally or by other means) to their respective carcass. However, the SC **NOTED** that such an action would have practical implementation and safety issues for some fleets and may degrade the quality of the product in some cases. The SC **RECOMMENDED** all CPCs to obtain and maintain the best possible data for IOTC fisheries impacting upon sharks, including improved species identification.

Sharks – Resolution 10/02 Mandatory statistical requirements for IOTC Members and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CPC'S)

SC14.20 (para. 70) Noting that the collection and reporting of data on sharks as per the IOTC Resolution 10/02 *mandatory statistical requirements for IOTC Members and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CPCs)* is very poor at the moment, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that Resolution 10/02 is reinforced by including specific requirements in the provision of nominal catch data for a list of most commonly caught shark species ([Table 3](#)). The SC **NOTED** that nominal catch data can be derived from logbook data, observer data or port sampling scheme. Furthermore, the Resolution should be strengthened by amending the provision of catch-and-effort and size data to be applicable to sharks species as well as other bycatch, noting that these data can be derived from logbook or observer data.

Table 3. List of the most commonly caught elasmobranch species.

Common name	Species	Code
Manta and devil rays	Mobulidae	MAN
Whale shark	<i>Rhincodon typus</i>	RHN
Thresher sharks	<i>Alopias spp.</i>	THR
Mako sharks	<i>Isurus spp.</i>	MAK
Silky shark	<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>	FAL
Oceanic whitetip shark	<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>	OCS
Blue shark	<i>Prionace glauca</i>	BSH
Hammerhead shark	Sphyrnidae	SPY
Other Sharks and rays	–	SKH

Sharks – On Resolution 10/12 on the conservation of thresher sharks (family Alopiidae) caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence

SC14.21 (para. 71) Noting that Resolution 10/12 *on the conservation of thresher sharks (family Alopiidae) caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence* prohibits the retention of any part or whole carcass of thresher sharks and that the collection of biological samples on dead individuals would increase the scientific knowledge of these species, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that Resolution 10/12 be amended in order to allow observers to collect biological samples (vertebrae, tissues, reproductive tracts, stomachs) from thresher sharks that are dead at haulback.

Seabirds

SC14.22 (para. 79) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the specifications for the design and deployment of bird scaring lines be amended in order to take into account different specifications depending on the size of the longline fishing vessel, as follows:

Bird-scaring line design

1. The bird-scaring line shall be a minimum aerial extent of 100 m in length for vessels that exceed 35 m in length and of 75 m in length for vessel less or equal to 35 m in length. If the bird-scaring line is less than 150 m in length, it will include an object towed at the seaward end to create tension to maximise aerial coverage. The section above water shall be a strong fine line of a conspicuous colour such as red or orange.

Deployment of bird scaring lines

1. The bird scaring line shall be deployed before longlines enter into the water.
2. The vessels exceeding 35 m in length should deploy two lines with an aerial extent of 100 m minimum. The vessels that are less or equal to 35 m in length could deploy a single line with an aerial extent of 75 m minimum. To achieve this coverage the line shall be suspended from a point a minimum of 5 metres above the water at the stern on the windward side of the point where the branch line enters the water.

SC14.23 (para. 81) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that Resolution 10/06 be strengthened in order to make the reporting of seabird interactions mandatory for vessels fishing for species under the IOTC mandate.

SC14.24 (para. 82) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that any amendment to Resolution 10/06 should allow sufficient time for orderly implementation, to allow training and redevelopment of gears and operations.

SC14.25 (para. 83) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider revising Resolution 10/06 *On Reducing the Incidental Bycatch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries*, noting the technical specifications and other considerations outlined and agreed to by the SC in [paragraphs 73 to 82](#) of the report of the SC14.

SC14.26 (para. 84) The SC **AGREED** that seabird identification can be very difficult, even for trained scientific observers, and **RECOMMENDED** that observers take photographs of seabirds caught by fishing vessels and submit them to seabird experts, or to the IOTC Secretariat, for confirmation of identification.

SC14.27 (para. 85) As a matter of consistency and to increase the reporting of seabird interactions, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the recording of interactions with seabirds (as a group) be included in the minimum requirements for logbooks or through observer programmes for all fleets.

SC14.28 (para. 86) The SC further **RECOMMENDED** the Commission consider that more research is conducted on the identification of hot spots of interactions of seabirds with fishing vessels.

Marine turtles

SC14.29 (para. 88) Noting the general lack of data on incidental catch of marine turtles, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that an ERA be conducted for marine turtles caught in fisheries targeting tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean before the session of the WPEB where marine turtles will be a priority. In order to do so, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission allocate specific funds for such an analysis.

SC14.30 (para. 89) Noting that reporting of interactions with marine turtles is already mandatory through Resolution 09/06 which states “*CPCs shall collect (including through logbooks and observer programs) and provide to the Scientific Committee all data on their vessels’ interactions with marine turtles in fisheries targeting the species covered by the IOTC Agreement*” (Res.09/06, para.2), and in order to increase the reporting of interactions, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the recording of marine turtles caught as bycatch is included in the minimum requirements of logbooks or through observer programmes for all fleets fishing in the IOTC area.

SC14.31 (para. 91) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that current IOTC Resolution 09/06 *on Marine Turtles* be strengthened to ensure that CPCs report annually on the level of incidental catches of marine turtles by species.

SC14.32 (para. 92) Noting that paragraph 4 of Resolution 09/06 *on Marine Turtles* currently refers to “hard shelled turtles”, which could be read to exclude leatherback turtles, and noting the Scientific Committee’s previous recommendation to the Commission that the resolution should apply to leatherback turtles, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission revise Resolution 09/06 *on marine turtles* so that the term “hard-shelled” be deleted and replaced by “marine” to ensure application to all marine turtle species.

Redundant/obsolete Conservation and Management Measures (Resolutions and Recommendations)

SC14.33 (para. 93) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission revoke the following Conservation and Management Measures, noting that they have either been superseded by a new Resolution adopted by the Commission, but were not specifically revoked (Recommendation 05/09 and 05/08), or the CMM was to carry out a specific scientific task which is now complete (Resolution 00/02):

- Recommendation 05/09 *On incidental mortality of seabirds*
- Recommendation 05/08 *On sea turtles and Resolution 09/06 On marine turtles*
- Resolution 00/02 *On a survey of predation of longline caught fish.*

Report of the First Session of the Working Party on Neritic Tunas

SC14.34 (para. 97) The SC **AGREED** that there was an urgent need to carry out stock assessments for neritic tunas in the Indian Ocean, however at present the data held at the IOTC Secretariat would be insufficient to undertake this task. As such, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider allocating appropriate funds to further increase the capacity of coastal states to collect, report and analyse catch data on neritic tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean.

IOTC Observer Trip Report Template

SC14.35 (para. 99) Noting that in 2010, the SC requested that the WPDCS discuss collection and reporting by observers of the data items below:

- Information on the type and numbers of branch lines and wire leaders used (longline)
- Information on the number and type of electronic equipment used on board
- Area resolution (1 degree square at present)
- Information on the state of the sea and weather conditions
- Information on depredation
- Information on lost fishing gear
- Information on the number of hooks used by type and size.

and noting the difficulties that some observers may have in collecting and reporting of the data items that are requested in the observer trip report template (seven items listed above), and further noting that collecting this information may compromise access to other basic data on board longline vessels, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission allow for some

flexibility in the collection and reporting of these data, until such a time where the CPCs concerned are in a position to collect and provide this information.

SC14.36 (para. 100) Noting that the use of monofilament leaders may allow sharks to escape by biting through the line (removing the hook), in contrast to wire leaders which are not prone to ‘bite-off’, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that, where possible for fleets that have not already prohibited the use of wire leaders, the number of ‘bite-off’ per leader type is added to the longline hauling information recorded by the observer (currently in the IOTC observer form FORM 4-LL – Fishing Event Longline).

SC14.37 (para. 101) Noting that the current observer trip reporting template includes summaries of catch and bycatch by 1° square as required in Resolution 11/04, and that there is no summary of the effort exerted during the trip at the same scale, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that a new table is added to the observer trip reporting template that would ensure effort during the trip is recorded, as follows:

Year	Month	Square (1°x1°)	Effort deployed
			Longline: number of hooks deployed Purse seine on free-schools: number of fishing sets Purse seine on associated schools: number of fishing sets, and number of new FADs deployed Gillnet: number of panels deployed Pole-and-line: number of fishing days Handline: number of fishing days Troll-line: number of fishing days

SC14.38 (para. 102) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the observer trip report is submitted in an electronic format, where possible, noting that the forms/tables in the observer trip report template are for illustrative purposes and that the complete information required could be reported in a different format.

SC14.39 (para. 103) Noting that at present, the observer reporting template includes obligatory reporting of information concerning waste management on board the fishing vessel (International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships – MARPOL), the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the reporting of this information be made optional, as most fishing vessels are already bound by this international regulation.

SC14.40 (para. 104) Noting that the reporting of transshipment events have to be reported through the IOTC Transshipment Programme, and that the IOTC Transshipment Programme applies only where transshipments involve a fishing vessel with LOA 24 m or greater and carrier vessels, pointing out that transshipments between fishing vessels, in particular, fresh-tuna longliners, are very common, the SC **AGREED** that in order to avoid duplication, observers under the IOTC Regional Observer Scheme can refrain from reporting Transshipments when those events are recorded by observers under the IOTC Transshipment Programme, **RECOMMENDING** that this is incorporated into the observer report.

Activities under the IOTC-OFCF Project

SC14.41 (para. 107) Acknowledging the value of projects such as the IOTC-OFCF in the region, the SC **NOTED** with thanks the support offered by the IOTC-OFCF project since 2002, and strongly **RECOMMENDED** that the activities carried out under the IOTC-OFCF project, including the IOTC-OFCF project itself, continue after the project ends in March 2013.

Meeting participation fund

SC14.42 (para. 108) The SC **NOTED** that the increased attendance by national scientists from developing CPCs to IOTC Working Parties in 2011 was partly due to the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund (MPF), adopted by the Commission in 2010 (Resolution 10/05 *on the establishment of a Meeting Participation Fund for developing IOTC Members and non-Contracting Cooperating Parties*), and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission maintain this fund into the future.

SC14.43 (para. 109) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider the problems encountered by potential MPF recipients in 2011. Specifically, there were a number of officially funded recipients who could not attend the various IOTC meetings at the last moment due to internal/domestic administrative processes (including but not limited to South Africa, I.R. Iran). In some cases this resulted in loss of the Commission’s MPF funds due to late cancellations.

Dedicated workshop on CPUE standardisation

SC14.44 (para. 110) Noting the combined recommendations from the WPB, WPTmT and WPTT to hold a dedicated workshop on CPUE standardization in 2012, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that a dedicated, informal workshop on CPUE standardization, including issues of interest for other IOTC species, should be carried out before the next round of stock assessments in 2013, and that where possible it should include a range of invited experts, including those working on CPUE standardisation in other ocean/RFMOs, in conjunction with scientists from Japan, Republic of Korea and Taiwan, China, and supported by the IOTC Secretariat. The SC **NOTED** the CPUE workshop organised by ISSF and scheduled to be held late March 2012 in Hawai'i, USA, and urged national scientists working on purse seine CPUE standardisations to attend where possible.

Increased workload and staffing at the IOTC Secretariat

SC14.45 (para. 114) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that an additional Fishery Officer (P3 or P4) be hired, or consultants contracted, to handle a range of issues related to bycatch, including those from the Commission relating to ecosystems and bycatch issues (see [para. 113](#)).

Examination of the Effect of Piracy on Fleet Operations and Subsequent Catch and Effort Trends

SC14.46 (para. 127) In response to the request of the Commission (para. 40 of the S15 report), the SC **RECOMMENDED** that given the lack of quantitative analysis of the effects of piracy on fleet operations and subsequent catch and effort trends, and the potential impacts of piracy on fisheries in other areas of the Indian Ocean through the relocation of longliners to other fishing grounds, specific analysis should be carried out and presented at the next WPTT meeting by the CPCs most affected by these activities, including Japan, Republic of Korea and Taiwan, China.

Implementation of the Regional Observer Scheme

SC14.47 (para. 139) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that all IOTC CPCs urgently implement the requirements of Resolution 11/04 on a Regional Observer Scheme, which states that: "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." (para. 11), **NOTING** that the timely submission of observer trip reports to the Secretariat is necessary to ensure that the Scientific Committee is able to carry out the tasks assigned to it by the Commission, including the analysis of accurate and high resolution data, in particular for bycatch, which would allow the scientists to better assess the impacts of fisheries for tuna and tuna-like species on bycatch species.

SC14.48 (para. 143) The SC **AGREED** that such a low level of implementation and reporting is detrimental to its work, in particular regarding the estimation of incidental catches of non-targeted species, as requested by the Commission and **RECOMMENDED** the Commission to consider how to address the lack of implementation of observer programmes by CPCs for their fleets and reporting to the IOTC Secretariat as per the provision of Resolution 11/04 *on a Regional Observer Scheme*, noting the update provided in [Appendix XXXIV](#).

Implementation of the Precautionary approach and Management strategy Evaluation

SC14.49 (para. 146) Noting that the development of an MSE process will require management objectives to be specified, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission provide clear guidance in this regard, noting that the adoption of the Precautionary Approach, as defined in the Fish Stocks Agreement, may be the first step.

- SC14.50 (para. 149) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that interim target and limit reference points be adopted and a list of possible provisional values for the major species is listed in [Table 5](#). These values should be replaced as soon as the MSE process is completed. Provisional target reference points would be based on the MSY level of the indicators, and on different multipliers for the limit reference points.

Table 5. Interim target and limit reference points.

Stock	Target Reference Point	Limit Reference Point
Albacore	$B_{MSY}; F_{MSY}$	$0.4*B_{MSY}; 1.4*F_{MSY}$
Bigeye tuna	$B_{MSY}; F_{MSY}$	$0.5*B_{MSY}; 1.3*F_{MSY}$
Skipjack tuna	$B_{MSY}; F_{MSY}$	$0.4*B_{MSY}; 1.5*F_{MSY}$
Yellowfin tuna	$B_{MSY}; F_{MSY}$	$0.4*B_{MSY}; 1.4*F_{MSY}$
Swordfish	$B_{MSY}; F_{MSY}$	$0.4*B_{MSY}; 1.4*F_{MSY}$

- SC14.51 (para. 157) The SC **ENDORSED** the roadmap presented for the implementation of MSE in the Indian Ocean in IOTC–2011–SC14–36 and **RECOMMENDED** the Commission agree to initiate a consultative process among managers, stakeholders and scientists to begin discussions about the implementation of MSE in IOTC.

Data Provision Needs – by gear

- SC14.52 (para. 169) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the minimum recording requirements for handline and trolling provided in [Appendix XXXV](#) be incorporated into the revised proposal for minimum recording requirements as detailed in [para. 170](#).
- SC14.53 (para. 170) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that IOTC Recommendation 11/06 be modified to include the elements as provided in [Appendix XXXV](#), noting that the lists of species to be recorded, as detailed in section 2.3 of Annex II, and makes collection of these data mandatory.
- SC14.54 (para. 171) The SC **RECOGNISED** that not all CPCs attended the SC meeting and that some of these CPCs, especially coastal states, may have difficulties implementing new minimum data requirements immediately. The SC therefore **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt a flexible approach to any further resolutions on minimum data requirements, e.g. through staged implementation over a period of two years.

Outlook on Time-Area Closures

- SC14.55 (para. 173) Noting that the request contained in Resolution 10/01 does not specify the expected objective to be achieved with the current or alternative time area closures, and that the SC and WPTT were not clear about the intended objectives of the time-area closure taking into account recent reduction of effort as well as recent likely recovery of the yellowfin tuna population, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission specify clear objectives as to what are the management objectives to be achieved with this and/or alternative measures. This will, in turn, guide and facilitate the analysis of the SC, via the WPTT in 2012 and future years.
- SC14.56 (para. 174) Noting the lack of research examining time-area closures in the Indian Ocean by the WPTT in 2011, as well as the slow progress made in addressing the Commission request, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the SC Chair begins a consultative process with the Commission in order to obtain clear guidance from the Commission about the management objectives intended with the current or any alternative closure. This will allow the SC to address the Commission request more thoroughly.

Evaluation of the IOTC time-area closure

- SC14.57 (para. 178) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note that the current closure is likely to be ineffective, as fishing effort will be redirected to other fishing grounds in the Indian Ocean. The positive impacts of the moratorium within the closed area would likely be offset by effort reallocation. For example, the WPTmT noted that longline fishing effort has been redistributed to traditional albacore fishing grounds in recent years, thereby further increasing fishing pressure on this stock.
- SC14.58 (para. 179) Noting that the objective of Resolution 10/01 is to decrease the overall pressure on the main targeted stocks in the Indian Ocean, in particular yellowfin tuna and bigeye tuna, and also to evaluate the impact of the current time/area closure and any alternative scenarios on tropical tuna population, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission specify the level of reduction or the

long term management objectives to be achieved with the current or alternative time area closures, as these are not contained within the Resolution 10/01.

Alternative Management Measures; Impacts of the Purse-Seine Fishery; Juvenile Tuna Catches

SC14.59 (para. 186) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note that:

- most of the evidence provided to date has indicated that the resource in the southwest Indian Ocean has been overfished in the past decade and biomass remains below the level that would produce MSY (B_{MSY}), however recent declines in catch and effort have brought fishing mortality rates to levels below F_{MSY} . There is a risk of reversing the rebuilding trend if there is any increase in catch in this region. Thus, catches in the southwest Indian Ocean should be maintained at levels at or below those observed in 2009 (6,600 t), until there is clear evidence of recovery and biomass exceeds B_{MSY} .
- the southwest region should continue to be analysed as a special resource, as it appears to be highly depleted compared to the Indian Ocean as a whole. However the difference in depletion does not appear to be as extreme as analyses in previous years have suggested. A review of the spatial assumptions should be conducted following the final results of the Indian Ocean Swordfish Stock Structure (IOSSS) project and the analysis of tagging experiments undertaken by SWIOFP.
- that there is no current need to apply additional management measures to the southwest Indian Ocean, although the resource in the area should be carefully monitored.
- that the Working Party on Methods will be progressing Management Strategy Evaluation over the coming year that will aid in addressing the Commission's request, which was considered as the appropriate mechanism for this work.

SC14.60 (para. 190) The SC **NOTED** however, that the fishery statistics available for many fleets, in particular for coastal fisheries, are not accurate enough for a comprehensive analysis as has been repeatedly noted in previous WPTT and SC reports. In particular, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that all CPCs catching yellowfin tuna should undertake scientific sampling of their yellowfin tuna catches to better identify the proportion of bigeye tuna catches. Therefore, the SC **RECOMMENDED** the countries engaged in those fisheries to take immediate actions to reverse the situation of fishery statistics reporting to the IOTC Secretariat.

SC14.61 (para. 192) The SC **ADVISED** the Commission that the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission has implemented since 2009 a FAD closure for the conservation of yellowfin tuna and bigeye tuna juveniles which has been very effective. The SC **RECOMMENDED** further investigation of the feasibility and impacts of such a measure, as well as other measures, in the context of Indian Ocean fisheries and stocks.

Progress in Implementation of the Recommendations of the Performance Review Panel

SC14.62 (para. 195) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the updates on progress regarding Resolution 09/01 – on the performance review follow-up, as provided at [Appendix XXXVI](#).

Schedule and Priorities of Working Party and Scientific Committee Meetings for 2012 and Tentatively for 2013

SC14.63 (para. 197) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission endorse the schedule of Working Party and Scientific Committee meetings for 2012, and tentatively for 2013 ([Table 8](#)).

Table 8. Schedule of Working Party and Scientific Committee meetings for 2012, and tentatively for 2013.

Meeting	2012		2013 (tentative)	
	Date	Location	Date	Location
Working Party on Temperate Tunas	3–5 July (3d)	TBD (China?)	Early Aug (3d)	TBD (ICCAT SAA)
Working Party on Billfish	11–15 Sept (5d)	Cape town, South Africa – TBD	10–14 Sept (5d)	Bali, Indonesia
Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch	17–19 Sept (3d)	Cape town, South Africa – TBD	16–18 Sept (5d)	Bali, Indonesia
Working Party on Methods	22–23 Oct (2d)	Port Louis, Mauritius	18–19 Oct (2d)	TBD
Working Party on Tropical Tunas	24–29 Oct (6d)	Port Louis, Mauritius	21–26 Oct (6d)	TBD
Working Party on Neritic Tunas	Pending (3d)	Penang, Malaysia	Pending (3d)	TBD
Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics	nil	nil	5–6 Dec	TBD
Scientific Committee	10–15 Dec (6d)	Victoria, Seychelles	9–14 Dec (6d)	TBD

Requests from the Commission

SC14.64 (para. 222) Noting that each year the Commission makes a number of requests to the SC without clearly identifying the task to be undertaken, its priority against other tasks previously or simultaneously assigned to the SC and without assigning a budget to fund the request made, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that these matters be addressed by the Commission at its next session.

Election of a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for the Next Biennium

SC14.65 (para. 232) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the new Chair, Dr. Tom Nishida (Japan) and Vice-Chair, Mr. Jan Robinson (Seychelles), of the SC for the next biennium, as well as the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of each of the Working Parties as provided in [Appendix VII](#).

Review of the Draft, and Adoption of the Report of the Fourteenth Session of the Scientific Committee

SC14.66 (para. 233) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider the consolidated set of recommendations arising from SC14, provided at [Appendix XXXVIII](#).

RESEARCH RECOMMENDATIONS AND PRIORITIES

Working Party on Billfish (WPB) – Research Recommendations and Priorities

SC14.67 (para. 201) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that marlins and sailfish undergo CPUE analysis in 2012, with striped marlin taking priority over other species.

SC14.68 (para. 202) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that as a matter of priority, striped marlin be the subject of CPUE analysis in 2011, and that CPUE series be compared among fleets where possible.

SC14.69 (para. 203) The SC **AGREED** that there was no urgent need to carry out stock assessments for the swordfish resources in the Indian Ocean in 2012, and **RECOMMENDED** that efforts over the coming year be focused on the other billfish species, in particular on striped marlin.

SC14.70 (para. 204) The SC **RECOMMENDED** the following core areas as priorities for research over the coming year;

- Swordfish stock structure and migratory range – using genetics
- Swordfish stock structure and movement rates – using tagging techniques
- Billfish species growth rates
- Size data analyses
- Stock status indicators – exploration of indicators from available data
- CPUE standardization – swordfish, marlins and sailfish

- Stock assessment – Istiophorids
- Depredation – focus on the southwest

Working Party on Temperate Tunas (WPTmT)

Stock assessment

SC14.71 (para. 206) The SC **AGREED** that there was an urgent need to carry out revised stock assessments for the albacore resource in the Indian Ocean in 2012, and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider approving funds for this purpose.

Stock structure

SC14.72 (para. 207) Noting that at present very little is known about the population structure and migratory range of albacore in the Indian Ocean, other than the possible connectivity with the southern Atlantic, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that a research project addressing the albacore stock structure, migratory range and movement rates in the Indian Ocean be considered at its 2012 annual meeting as this project is assigned a high priority.

Additional core topics for research

SC14.73 (para. 208) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the following core topic areas as priorities for research over the coming year:

- Size data analyses
- Growth rates and ageing studies
- Stock status indicators – exploration of indicators from available data
- Collaborate with SPC-OFP to examine their current simulation approach to determine priority research areas.

Working Party on Tropical Tunas (WPTT)

CPUE standardisation

SC14.74 (para. 211) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that if possible, the IOTC Secretariat and Maldivian scientists continue the joint effort to standardize the Maldivian pole-and-line CPUE in preparation for assessment in 2012.

SC14.75 (para. 212) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that standardization of purse seine CPUE be made where possible using the operational data on the fishery, and that participants working on CPUE for the main fleets, attend the CPUE standardization workshop being organized by ISSF in Honolulu, Hawaii in 2012.

Stock assessment

SC14.76 (para. 213) Noting the difficulty of carrying out stock assessments for three tropical tuna species in a single year, the SC **RECOMMENDED** a revised assessment schedule on a two- or three-year cycle for the three tropical tuna species as outlined in [Table 9](#). Following the uncertainty remaining in the yellowfin tuna assessment the SC **AGREED** that priorities for stock assessments in 2012 would be yellowfin tuna (Multifan-CL and SS3, Yield per recruit and possibly others) with an update of fishery indicators for the other two species.

Table 9. New schedule proposed for tropical tuna species stock assessment.

Species/Assessment year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Yellowfin tuna	Full	Update	Update	Full	Update	Update
Skipjack tuna	Update	Full	Update	Update	Full	Update
Bigeye tuna	Update	Update	Full	Update	Update	Full

Note: the schedule may be change depending on the situation of the stock from various sources such as fishery indicators, Commission requests, etc.

Additional topics for research

SC14.77 (para. 214) The SC **RECOMMENDED** the following core topic areas as priorities for research over the coming year in order of priority: update of the Brownie-Peterson method for the 3 tropical tuna species (possible issue for the 2012 IO Tuna Tagging Symposium).

- An updated yellowfin tuna growth curve (work in progress to be presented to 2012 Tuna

Tagging Symposium).

- Multi-gear yield per recruit.

Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB)

SC14.78 (para. 215) The SC **AGREED** that sharks should be the priority for the next meeting of the WPEB in 2012, and seabirds, marine turtle, marine mammals and other bycatch should be reassessed as priorities at the next session of the SC. Thus, the SC **RECOMMENDED** the following core topic areas as priorities for research over the coming year.

- **Ecological Risk Assessment**
 - i. All sharks
- **CPUE analyses**
 - i. Oceanic whitetip shark
 - ii. Other sharks
- **Stock status analyses**
 - i. Oceanic whitetip shark
 - ii. Other sharks
- **Capacity building**
 - i. Scientific assistance to CPCs and specific fleets considered to have the highest risk to bycatch species (e.g. gillnet fleets and longline fleets).

Working Party on Neritic Tunas (WPNT)

Stock structure

SC14.79 (para. 216) Noting that at present very little is known about the population structure and migratory range of most neritic tunas in the Indian Ocean, the SC **RECOMMENDED** a research plan that includes two separate research lines; i) genetic research to determine the connectivity of neritic tunas throughout their distributions, and ii) tagging research to better understand the movement dynamics, possible spawning locations, and post-release mortality of neritic tunas from various fisheries in the Indian Ocean. These should be considered high priority research projects for 2012 and 2013.

Biological information

SC14.80 (para. 217) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that quantitative biological studies are required to determine maturity-at-age and fecundity-at-age relationships, and age and growth for all neritic tunas throughout their range.

CPUE standardisation

SC14.81 (para. 219) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that where feasible, support should be provided by the IOTC Secretariat and other CPCs, to aid in the development of standardised CPUE series for each neritic tuna species.

Stock assessment

SC14.82 (para. 221) The SC **AGREED** that there was an urgent need to carry out stock assessments for neritic tunas in the Indian Ocean, however at present the data held at the IOTC Secretariat would be insufficient to undertake this task. As such, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider allocating appropriate funds to further increase the capacity of coastal states to collect, report and analyse catch data on neritic tunas.

APPENDIX VI

STOCK STATUS SUMMARY FOR THE IOTC SPECIES

Status summary for species of tuna and tuna-like species under the IOTC mandate, as well as other species impacted by IOTC fisheries

(note: links refer to the SC report and will not work from this document)

Stock	Indicators	Prev ¹	2010	2011	Advice to Commission
Major stocks: These are the main stocks being exploitation by industrial and artisanal fisheries throughout the Indian Ocean, both on the high seas and in the EEZ of coastal countries. These stocks are those that have received, in general, the highest fishing pressure in the region.					
Albacore <i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	Catch 2010: 43,711 t Average catch 2006–2010: 41,074 t MSY: 29,900 t (21,500–33,100 t) F_{2010}/F_{MSY} : 1.61* (1.19–2.22) B_{2010}/B_{MSY} : 0.89* (0.65–1.12) B_{2010}/B_{1980} : 0.39 (n.a.)	2007			The available evidence indicates considerable risk to the stock status at current effort levels. The two primary sources of data that drive the assessment, total catches and CPUE are highly uncertain and should be investigated further as a priority. Current catches likely exceed MSY. Maintaining or increasing effort will probably result in further declines in biomass, productivity and CPUE. <Click here for full stock status summary>
Bigeye tuna <i>Thunnus obesus</i>	SS3 ³ ASPM ⁴ Catch: 102,000 t 71,500 t Average catch last 5 years: 104,700 t 104,700 t MSY: 114,000 (95,000–183,000) 102,900 t (86,600–119,300) F_{curr}/F_{MSY} : 0.79 (0.50–1.22) 0.67 (0.48–0.86) SB_{curr}/SB_{MSY} : 1.20 (0.88–1.68) 1.00 (0.77–1.24) SB_{curr}/SB_0 : 0.34 (0.26–0.40) 0.39	2008			At this time, annual catches of bigeye tuna should not exceed 102,000 t. If the recent declines in effort continue, and catch remains substantially below the estimated MSY, then immediate management measures are not required. However, continued monitoring and improvement in data collection, reporting and analysis is required to reduce the uncertainty in assessments. <Click here for full stock status summary>
Skipjack tuna <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	Catch 2010: 428,719 t Average catch 2006–2010: 489,385 t MSY: 564,000 t (395,000–843,000 t) C_{2009}/MSY : 0.81 (0.54–1.16) SB_{2009}/SB_{MSY} : 2.56 (1.09–5.83) SB_{2009}/SB_0 : 0.53 (0.29–0.70)				At this time, annual catches of skipjack tuna should not exceed 512,305 t. If the recent declines in effort continue, and catch remains substantially below the estimated MSY, then immediate management measures are not required. However, recent trends in some fisheries, such as Maldivian pole-and-line, as well as the decrease of catches of large skipjack tuna, suggest that the situation of the stock should be closely monitored. <Click here for full stock status summary>
Yellowfin tuna <i>Thunnus albacares</i>	Catch 2010: 299,074 t Average catch 2006–2010: 326,556 t MSY: 357 (290–435) F_{2009}/F_{MSY} : 0.84 (0.63–1.10) SB_{2009}/SB_{MSY} : 1.61 (1.47–1.78) SB_{2009}/SB_0 : 0.35 (0.31–0.38)	2008			At this time, annual catches of yellowfin tuna should not exceed 300,000 t, in order to ensure that stock biomass levels could sustain catches at the MSY level in the long term. Recent recruitment is estimated to be considerably lower than the whole time series average. If recruitment continues to be lower than average, catches below MSY would be needed to maintain stock levels. <Click here for full stock status summary>
Swordfish (whole IO) <i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Catch 2010: 18,956 t Average catch 2006–2010: 23,799 t MSY: 29,900 t–34,200 t F_{2009}/F_{MSY} : 0.50–0.63 SB_{2009}/SB_{MSY} : 1.07–1.59 SB_{2009}/SB_0 : 0.30–0.53	2007			At this time, annual catches of swordfish should not exceed 30,000 t. If the recent declines in effort continue, and catch remains substantially below the estimated MSY, then management measures are not required which would pre-empt current resolutions and planned management strategy evaluation. However, continued monitoring and improvement in data collection, reporting and analysis is required to reduce the uncertainty in assessments. <Click here for full stock status summary>

Stock	Indicators	Prev ¹	2010	2011	Advice to Commission
Swordfish (southwest IO) <i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Catch 2009: 6,513 t Average catch 2006-2010: 7,112 t MSY: 7,100 t–9,400 t F_{2009}/F_{MSY} : 0.64–1.19 SB_{2009}/SB_{MSY} : 0.73–1.44 SB_{2009}/SB_0 : 0.16–0.58				At this time, annual catches in the southwest Indian Ocean should be maintained at levels at or below those observed in 2009 (6,678), until there is clear evidence of recovery and biomass exceeds B_{MSY} . <Click here for full stock status summary>
Billfish (other than swordfish) : This category includes species that are not usually targeted by most fleets, but are caught as bycatch of the main industrial fisheries. They are important for localised small-scale and artisanal fisheries (e.g. sailfish in the northern Arabian Sea and the Persian Gulf) or as targets in recreational fisheries (e.g. marlins)					
Black marlin <i>Makaira indica</i>	Catch 2010: 5,018 t Average catch 2006–2010: 4,689 t MSY: Unknown				No quantitative stock assessment are currently available for these species in the Indian Ocean. The Maximum Sustainable Yield estimates for the whole Indian Ocean is unknown and annual catches urgently need to be reviewed. Improvement in data collection and reporting is required to assess these stocks. However, aspects of species biology, productivity and fisheries combined with a lack of fisheries data on which to base quantitative assessments is a cause for concern. <Click here for full stock status summary>
Indo-Pacific blue marlin <i>Makaira mazara</i>	Catch 2010: 11,261 t Average catch 2006–2010: 9,508 t MSY: Unknown				
Striped marlin <i>Tetrapturus audax</i>	Catch 2010: 1,921 t Average catch 2006–2010: 2,542 t MSY: Unknown				
Indo-Pacific Sailfish <i>Istiophorus platypterus</i>	Catch 2010: 25,498 t Average catch 2006–2010: 22,151 t MSY: Unknown				
Neritic tunas: These are important species for small-scale and artisanal fisheries, almost always caught within the EEZs of IO coastal states. They are caught only occasionally by industrial fisheries. Catches are often reported as aggregates of various species, making it difficult to obtain appropriate data for stock assessment analyses.					
Bullet tuna <i>Auxis rochei</i>	Catch 2010: 4,188 t Average catch 2006–2010: 2,884 t MSY: Unknown				No quantitative stock assessment is currently available for these species in the Indian Ocean, and due to a lack of fishery data for several gears, only preliminary stock indicators can be used. However, aspects of the biology, productivity and fisheries for these species combined with the lack of data on which to base a more formal assessment are a cause for considerable concern. The continued increase of annual catches for most of these species in recent years has further increased the pressure on the Indian Ocean stocks as a whole, however there is not sufficient information to evaluate the effect this will have on the resource. The apparent fidelity of these species to particular areas/regions is a matter for concern as overfishing in these areas can lead to localised depletion. <Click here for full stock status summary>
Frigate tuna <i>Auxis thazard</i>	Catch 2010: 71,023 t Average catch 2006–2010: 64,245 t MSY: Unknown				
Narrow barred Spanish mackerel <i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>	Catch 2010: 124,107 t Average catch 2006–2010: 116,444 t MSY: Unknown				
Kawakawa <i>Euthynnus affinis</i>	Catch 2010: 128,871 t Average catch 2006–2010: 122,895 t MSY: Unknown				
Longtail tuna <i>Thunnus tonggol</i>	Catch 2010: 141,937 t Average catch 2006–2010: 115,973 t MSY: Unknown				
Indo-Pacific king mackerel <i>Scomberomorus guttatus</i>	Catch 2010: 37,257 t Average catch 2006–2010: 37,980 t MSY: Unknown				

Stock	Indicators	Prev ¹	2010	2011	Advice to Commission
Sharks: Although they are not part of the 16 species directly under the IOTC mandate, sharks are frequently caught in association with other species as bycatch, and for some fleets are often as much a target as tuna. As such, IOTC Members and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties are required to report information at the same level of detail as for the 16 IOTC species. The following are the main species caught in tuna fisheries, but the list is not exhaustive.					
Blue shark <i>Prionace glauca</i>	Unknown Unknown				There is a paucity of information available for these species and this situation is not expected to improve in the short to medium term. There is no quantitative stock assessment and limited basic fishery indicators currently available. Therefore the stock status is highly uncertain. The available evidence indicates considerable risk to the stock status at current effort levels. The primary source of data that drive the assessment (total catches) is highly uncertain and should be investigated further as a priority. < Click here for full stock status summary >
Silky shark <i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>	Unknown Unknown				
Oceanic whitetip shark <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>	Unknown Unknown				
Scalloped hammerhead shark <i>Sphyrna lewini</i>	Unknown Unknown				
Shortfin mako <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>	Unknown Unknown				
Bigeye thresher shark <i>Alopias superciliosus</i>	Unknown Unknown				
Pelagic thresher shark <i>Alopias pelagicus</i>	Unknown Unknown				

This indicates the last year taken into account for assessments carried out before 2010

²Current period (_{curr}) = 2009 for SS3 and 2010 for ASPM.

³Central point estimate is adopted from the 2010 SS3 model, percentiles are drawn from a cumulative frequency distribution of MPD values with models weighted as in Table 12 of 2010 WPTT report (IOTC–2010–WPTT12–R); the range represents the 5th and 95th percentiles.

⁴Median point estimate is adopted from the 2011 ASPM model using steepness value of 0.5 which is the most conservative scenario (values of 0.6, 0.7 and 0.8, which are more optimistic, are considered to be as plausible as these values but are not presented for simplification); the range represents the 90 percentile Confidence Interval.

⁵Due to numerical problems in the F_{MSY} calculations for this population, the proxy reference point C/MSY is reported instead of F/F_{MSY} , which should be interpreted with caution for the following reasons: it may incorrectly suggest $F > F_{MSY}$ when there is a large biomass (early development of the fishery or large recruitment event); it may incorrectly suggest that $F < F_{MSY}$ when the stock is highly depleted; due to a flat yield curve, C could be near MSY even if $F \ll F_{MSY}$.

*(Note: at this time the WPTmT had limited confidence in the assessment results (refer to paragraphs 71–77 in the report of the WPTmT03 (IOTC–2011–WPTmT03–R) for further clarification).

Colour key	Stock overfished ($SB_{year}/SB_{MSY} < 1$)	Stock not overfished ($SB_{year}/SB_{MSY} \geq 1$)
Stock subject to overfishing ($F_{year}/F_{MSY} > 1$)		
Stock not subject to overfishing ($F_{year}/F_{MSY} \leq 1$)		
Not assessed/Uncertain		

APPENDIX VII

LIST OF CHAIRS, VICE-CHAIRS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE TERMS FOR THE COMMISSION AND SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Group	Chair/Vice-Chair	Chair	CPC/Affiliation	Term commencement date	Term expiration date (End date is until replacement is elected)	Comments
Commission	Chair	Mr Daroomalingum Mauree	Mauritius	21 April 2011	End of Com. in 2013	1st term
	Vice-Chair	Mr Shingo Ota & Ms Anna Willock	Japan & Australia	21 April 2011	End of Com. in 2013	1st term
CoC	Chair	Mr Roberto Cesari	EU,Italy	05 March 2010	End of CoC in 2012	1st term
	Vice-Chair	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant
SCAF	Vice-Chair	Mr Godfrey Monor	Kenya	26 April 2012	End of SCAF in 2014	1st term
	Vice-Chair	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant
TCAC	Chair	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant
	Vice-Chair	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant
SC	Chair	Dr Tsutomu Nishida	Japan	17 December 2011	End of SC in 2013	1st term
	Vice-Chair	Mr Jan Robinson	Seychelles	17 December 2011	End of SC in 2013	1st term
WPB	Chair	Mr Jerome Bourjea	EU,France	08 July 2011	End of WPB in 2013	1st term
	Vice-Chair	Mr Miguel Santos	EU,Portugal	08 July 2011	End of WPB in 2013	1st term
WPTmT	Chair	Dr Zang Geun Kim	Korea, Rep. of	22 September 2011	End of WPTmT in 2013	1st term
	Vice-Chair	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant
WPTT	Chair	Dr Hilario Murua	EU,Spain	25 October 2010	End of WPTT in 2012	1st term
	Vice-Chair	Dr Shiham Adam	Maldives, Rep. of	23 October 2011	End of WPTT in 2013	1st term
WPEB	Chair	Dr Charles Anderson	UK/Independent	14 October 2010	End of WPEB in 2013	2nd term
	Vice-Chair	Dr Evgeny Romanov	EU, France	27 October 2011	End of WPEB in 2013	1st term
WPNT	Chair	Dr Prathibha Rohit	India	27 November 2011	End of WPNT in 2013	1st term
	Vice-Chair	Mr Farhad Kaymaram	I.R. Iran	27 November 2011	End of WPNT in 2013	1st term
WPDCS	Chair	Mr Miguel Herrera	Secretariat	04 December 2010	End of WPDCS 2012	2nd term
	Vice-Chair	Dr Pierre Chavance	European Union	10 December 2011	End of WPDCS 2013	1st term
WPM	Chair (Coordinator)	Dr Iago Mosqueira	European Union	18 December 2011	Start of WPM 2012	Interim
	Vice-Chair (Co-Coordinator)	Dr Toshihide Kitakado	Japan	18 December 2011	Start of WPM 2012	Interim

APPENDIX VIII

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NINTH SESSION OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

Note: Appendix reference refer to the Report of the Ninth Session of the Compliance Committee (IOTC–2012–CoC09–R)

- CoC09.01 (para. 9) Noting the specific issues identified during the CoC09, which many CPCs were encountering difficulty in implementing, specifically meeting the 5% minimum observer coverage level, minimum data reporting requirements, implementing the port state measures and a vessel monitoring scheme (particularly for small scale fisheries), and difficulties in interpreting some IOTC's CMMs, the CoC **RECOMMENDED** that CPCs continue efforts in improving their compliance status and in doing so utilize the knowledge and experience available at the IOTC Secretariat to assist them in ensuring they fully understand their obligations as outlined in the various CMMs of the Commission.
- CoC09.02 (para. 10) The CoC also **RECOMMENDED** that due consideration be given to challenges and difficulties of developing CPCs in implementing existing CMMs when drafting new ones.
- CoC09.03 (para. 21) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that those CPCs who have not submitted their national Report of Implementation for 2012 should do so as soon as possible. The Secretariat shall follow-up with each such CPC to ensure a national Reports of Implementation is submitted for publication on the IOTC website.
- CoC09.04 (para. 32) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission agree to the development and distribution of letters of feedback by the IOTC Chair, highlighting areas of non-compliance to relevant CPCs, together with the difficulties and challenges being faced.
- CoC09.05 (para. 33) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider developing follow-up actions on the issues contained in Appendix IV, including potential capacity building activities to address these matters, particularly for developing coastal States.
- CoC09.06 (para. 47) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that Sri Lanka provide monthly reports including evidences of the actions it had taken against IUU vessels in a standardised format into the future, irrespective of whether new information had become available, for each of the vessels reported to IOTC for IUU fishing.
- CoC09.07 (para. 48) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that Sri Lanka provide information on their schedule (road map) for the implementation of the vessel monitoring scheme, and regular updates on the passage of new domestic requirements for a high-seas licencing regime, to the Secretariat for circulation to the Commission.
- CoC09.08 (para. 56) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that those CPCs identified in paper IOTC–2012–CoC09–08c, a summary of possible infractions of IOTC regulations by large-scale fishing vessels (LSTLVs/carrier vessels), as well as those CPCs involved in additional cases as referred to in para. 55, investigate and report back to the IOTC via the Secretariat, the findings of their investigations, within three months of the end of the 16th Session of the Commission, by submitting reports on the follow-up on the irregularities identified. In order to assist with the comprehensive evaluation of any alleged infringement, copies of the logbooks, VMS plots, licenses and any other relevant documents should be provided by the flag States.
- CoC09.09 (para. 61) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the *Ocean Lion* remain on the IOTC IUU Vessels List as no further information was provided to the CoC09 during its deliberations.
- CoC09.10 (para. 63) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the *Yu Maan Won* remain on the IOTC IUU Vessels List as no further information was provided to the CoC09 during its deliberations.
- CoC09.11 (para. 65) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the *Gunuar Melyan 21* remain on the IOTC IUU Vessels List as no further information was provided to the CoC09 during its deliberations.
- CoC09.12 (para. 67) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the *Hoom Xiang II* remain on the IOTC IUU Vessels List and the government of Malaysia make further efforts to identify the new flag of this vessel.
- CoC09.13 (para. 71) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider retaining the *Speed Bird 3* on the Provisional IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 14, until legal proceedings against the vessel have been finalised, and the outcomes communicated to the Commission via the

Secretariat. The Commission will then undertake the intersessional decision process established in Resolution 11/03 para.14, with a view to taking a final decision on the vessel.

- CoC09.14 (para. 76) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider retaining the *Muthukumari* on the Provisional IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 14, until actions against the vessel have been finalised, and the outcomes communicated to the Commission via the Secretariat. The Commission will then undertake the intersessional decision process established in Resolution 11/03 para. 14, with a view to taking a final decision on the vessel.
- CoC09.15 (para 79) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the current status of implementation for each of the recommendations arising from the Report of the IOTC Performance Review Panel, relevant to the CoC, as provided in Appendix VI.
- CoC09.16 (para. 80) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note that a new Performance Review was intended to occur every five years, and given that the previous review was completed in 2009, the next review should be completed by 2014.
- CoC09.17 (para. 82) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission considers the application for the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party of the IOTC by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea during the 16th Session of the Commission.
- CoC09.18 (para. 84) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission considers the application for renewing the status of Senegal as a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party during the 16th Session of the Commission.
- CoC09.19 (para. 86) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission considers the application for renewing the status of South Africa as a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party during the 16th Session of the Commission.
- CoC09.20 (para. 88) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the next Tenth Session of the CoC be held immediately prior to the 17th Session of the Commission. The exact dates and location would be decided by the Commission at its 16th Session.
- CoC09.21 (para. 94) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider the consolidated set of recommendations arising from CoC09, provided at Appendix VII.

APPENDIX IX
IOTC IUU VESSELS LIST (APRIL 2012)

Current name of vessel (previous names)	Current flag (previous flags)	Date first included on IOTC IUU Vessels List	Lloyds/IMO number	Photo	Call sign (previous call signs)	Owner / beneficial owners (previous owners)	Operator (previous operators)	Summary of IUU activities
Ocean Lion	Unknown (Equatorial Guinea)	June 2005	7826233					Contravention of IOTC Resolution 02/04, 02/05, 03/05.
Yu Maan Won	Unknown (Georgia)	May 2007						
Gunuar Melyan 21	Unknown	June 2008						
Hoom Xiang 11	Unknown (Malaysia)	March 2010		Yes. Refer to report IOTC-S14-CoC13- add1[E]		Hoom Xiang Industries Sdn. Bhd.		Contravention of IOTC Resolution 09/03

IOTC PROVISIONAL¹ IUU VESSELS LIST (APRIL 2012)

Current name of vessel (previous names)	Current flag (previous flags)	Date first included on IOTC IUU Vessels List	Lloyds/IMO number	Photo	Call sign (previous call signs)	Owner / beneficial owners (previous owners)	Operator (previous operators)	Summary of IUU activities
Speed Bird 3	Sri Lanka			Yes. Refer to report IOTC-2012-CoC09- 07[E]	None	Mr. Maligawe Singgakkarage Richman Wijayananda		Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03
Muthukumari	Sri Lanka			Yes. Refer to report IOTC-2012-CoC09- 07[E]	EAGLE1	W.B.L Fernando		Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03

¹ The two vessels are to be maintained on the IOTC Provisional IUU Vessels List pending additional information to be provided by Sri Lanka, for a decision to be taken on whether they are to be removed from this list intersessionally, as per Para 20-24 of IOTC Resolution 11/03.

APPENDIX X

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NINTH SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Note: Appendix reference refer to the Report of the Ninth Session of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (IOTC–2012–SCAF09–R)

- SCAF09.01 (para. 17) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that capacity building activities, including workshops on compliance, data and science be continued in 2012 and financially supported by Members through voluntary contributions.
- SCAF09.02 (para. 18) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Secretariat expedite the finalisation of the new website for the IOTC, noting that the current website is cumbersome, difficult to navigate, and in some cases, provides out-dated information.
- SCAF09.03 (para. 33) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that all Members with overdue contributions finalise payment of those contributions as soon as possible so as not to hinder the operation of the IOTC. To facilitate this process, the Chair of the Commission shall write to each of the CPCs with contributions in arrears totaling more than the previous two years to seek confirmation of their continued involvement in the IOTC, quoting Article IV, para. 4 of the IOTC Agreement, and to seek payment for overdue contributions. Responses from those CPCs should be circulated by the Secretariat to all CPCs for considering at the 17th Session of the Commission.
- SCAF09.04 (para. 34) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the MPF be replenished to its initial level of USD\$200,000 for the financial year 2012, through the allocation of funds from sources including, but not limited to, the IOTC accumulated funds – the replenishment of the MPF from accumulated funds should take into account possible emerging cash flow difficulties concerning the management of the Secretariat, voluntary contributions from Members and such other sources as the Commission may identify.
- SCAF09.05 (para. 35) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note Resolution 10/05 indicated that the Commission will identify, at its 15th Session, a procedure for supplying funds to the MPF in the future, which is now overdue.
- SCAF09.06 (para. 48) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission endorse the IOTC Secretariat's programme of work for the financial period 01 January, 2012 to 31 December 2012, as outlined in paper IOTC–2012–SCAF09–05.
- SCAF09.07 (para. 49) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Executive Secretary together with the Chair of SCAF prepare an options paper for the next SCAF meeting, which offers options to reduce costs and the associated impacts of those reductions.
- SCAF09.08 (para. 50) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Meeting Participation Fund be separated from the main budget as a separate project, and for the Executive Secretary to request that the FAO project support costs be waived.
- SCAF09.09 (para. 51) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that an audit of CPC contributions, both direct and indirect be undertaken, for presentation to the SCAF at its next session.
- SCAF09.10 (para. 52) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Executive Secretary prepare an information document, in conjunction with FAO, which details what the 4.5% servicing fee covers. In addition, the information document should highlight all other services received from FAO as in-kind support. The Executive Secretary shall ensure that the information document is provided no later than 30 days before the next SCAF meeting.
- SCAF09.11 (para. 53) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt the budget for, and the scheme of contributions for 2012 as outlined in Appendix III and Appendix IV respectively.
- SCAF09.12 (para. 57) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the current status of implementation for each of the recommendations arising from the Report of the IOTC Performance Review Panel, relevant to the SCAF, as provided in Appendix V.

- SCAF09.13 (para. 61) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission endorse the rules of procedure for use by the Secretariat in administering the Meeting Participation Fund (Appendix VI).
- SCAF09.14 (para. 63) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the next Tenth Session of the SCAF be held during the Commission meeting dates, rather than the day before or after the Commission meeting. The exact dates and location would be decided by the Commission.
- SCAF09.15 (para. 64) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider the consolidated set of recommendations arising from SCAF09, provided at Appendix VII.

APPENDIX XI

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE IOTC MEETING PARTICIPATION FUND

1) Definitions

Developing CPC, is any Member or Cooperating non-Contracting Party that was under the categories of “Low” or “Middle” income, according to the criteria used in the most recent calculation of the contributions (see Annex of the IOTC Financial Regulations).

The **Selection Panel**, in the case of Working Parties, is composed by the Chair of the scientific body concerned, the Chair of the Scientific Committee, or their delegates, and the Secretariat.

Non-scientific meetings are regular and special Sessions of the Commission, including Sessions of the Compliance Committee and the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance, and other non-scientific subsidiary bodies of the Commission.

2) Eligibility criteria

Meeting Participation Fund for IOTC Working Parties and technical workshops

- Any nominated scientist from a developing CPC, submitting a complete application before the set deadline, including a working paper or document relevant to the subject of the meeting, is eligible to benefit from the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund. Priority will be given to scientists from least developed countries.
- Delegates from Members of the Commission which are in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to the Commission are not be eligible to benefit from the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the two preceding calendar years

Meeting Participation Fund for IOTC Scientific Committee Sessions

- Any delegate from a developing CPC of IOTC, submitting a complete application before the set deadline, including the National Report and an official Letter of Credentials, is eligible to benefit from the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund. Priority will be given to delegates from least developed countries.
- Delegates from Members of the Commission which are in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to the Commission are not be eligible to benefit from the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the two preceding calendar years.

Meeting Participation Fund for Sessions of the Commission (including Compliance Committee and Standing Committee on Administration and Finance) and other non-scientific meetings

- Any delegate from a developing CPC of IOTC submitting an application before the set deadline, including the relevant reports (if applicable) and an official Letter of Credentials, is eligible to benefit from the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund. Priority will be given to delegates from least developed countries CPCs.
- If CPCs have access to other sources of funding, such as the Assistance Fund from Part VII of the UNFSA¹, they are encouraged to make use of these funds.
- Delegates from Members of the Commission which are in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to the Commission are not be eligible to benefit from the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the two preceding calendar years.

3) Application for support to attend Working Parties and technical workshops

As the main goal of the MPF is to increase the participation of scientists of developing CPCs to scientific meetings of IOTC, and in line with paragraph 6 of the Resolution 10/05, applications to the MPF should only be considered if the applicant intends to produce and present a working paper, relevant to the work of the working party that he or she wishes to attend. Guidelines for the preparation of such a document are provided in Annex A.

Timeline for the selection of Meeting Participation Fund recipients for workings parties and workshop

	Action Item	Responsibility	Due date
1	Circular to CPCs and message distributed through the IOTC relevant mailing lists calling for applications to the MPF. The	Secretariat	No later than 90 days prior to the commencement of the

¹ UNFSA refers to the Agreement for the implementation of the provisions of the Convention of 10 December 1982 relating to the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks.

	call for applications will include terms and conditions and timeline for the selection of MPF recipients.		meeting.
2	Deadline for submissions of application, including: - Official nomination letter with request of support signed by the director of fisheries or any other relevant authority; - Contact details of the nominee and a copy of his/her passport - Abstract of the scientific paper or document to be presented at the meeting.	MPF applicants	No later than 45 days prior to the meeting.
3	The Secretariat to: (i) Review applications to determine those who meet eligibility criteria; (ii) Offer non-eligible applicants an additional three-day period to complete the application	Secretariat	Within 2 days of the due date for applications (Step 2 above), or earlier.
4	The Secretariat to distribute the list of complete applications to the Selection Panel	Secretariat	3 days after step 3 (no later than 40 days before the meeting)
5	The Selection Panel to review the list of complete applications within five days to assess the relevance of the document to the subject of the meeting.	Selection Panel	5 days after step 4 (no later than 35 days before the meeting)
6	The Secretariat to issue an invitation to successful applicants, and commence travel arrangements.	Secretariat	1 day after step 5 (no later than 34 days before the meeting)
7	Documents by applicants to be submitted and published in the relevant IOTC meeting webpage.	Secretariat	No later than 15 days before the meeting.

4) Application for support to attend Scientific Committee

The template for the preparation of the National Report (an eligibility requirement for applicants for the Scientific Committee) can be downloaded from the IOTC website or be obtained through the Secretariat.

Timeline for the selection of Meeting Participation Fund recipients for the Scientific Committee.

	Action Item	Responsibility	Due date
1	Circular to CPC's and message distributed through the relevant IOTC mailing lists calling for applications to the MPF. The call for applications will include terms and conditions and the timeline for the selection of MPF recipients.	Secretariat	No later than 90 days prior to the commencement of the SC meeting.
2	Deadline for submissions of application, including: - Official nomination letter with request of support signed by the director of fisheries or any other relevant authority. - Letter of credentials (see Rule X.3 of the IOTC rules of procedure) - Contact details of the nominee and a copy of his/her passport - CPC National Report.	MPF applicants	No later than 45 days prior to the meeting.
3	The Secretariat to: (i) Review applications to determine those who meet eligibility criteria; (ii) Offer non-eligible applicants an additional three-day period to complete the application	Secretariat	Within 2 days of the due date for applications (Step 2 above), or earlier.
4	The Secretariat to issue an invitation to successful applicants, and commence the travel arrangements.	Secretariat	3 days after step 3 (no later than 40 days before the meeting)

5) Application for support to attend non-scientific meetings

As per Resolution 10/05, para.7., it is mandatory for funded participants "to present reports relevant to the meeting in question". In the case of the Compliance Committee, SCAF and Commission meetings, the relevant report is the Report of Implementation (as described in Article X, para. 2 of the IOTC Agreement) and, therefore, applications to the MPF should only be considered if the CPC of the applicant has submitted its Report of Implementation.

When the Compliance Committee and the SCAF meetings are held in conjunction with the regular Sessions of the Commission, only one participant from each CPC will be supported from the MPF.

Timeline for the selection of Meeting Participation Fund recipients for non-scientific meeting, in particular Commission meeting.

	Action Item	Responsibility	Due date
1	Circular to CPCs for applications to the MPF. The call for applications will include terms and conditions and timeline for the selection of MPF recipients.	Secretariat	No later than 90 days prior to the commencement of the Commission meeting.
2	Deadline for submissions of application, including: - Official nomination letter with request of support.	MPF applicants	No later than 60 days prior to the Commission meeting.

	- Letter of credentials (see Rule X.3 of the IOTC rules of procedure) - Contact details of the nominee and a copy of his/her passport - CPC Report of Implementation.		
3	The Secretariat to: (i) Review applications to determine those who meet eligibility criteria; (ii) Offer non-eligible applicants an additional three-day period to complete the application	Secretariat	Within 2 days of the due date for applications (Step 2 above), or earlier.
4	The Secretariat to issue an invitation to successful applicants, and commence travel arrangements.	Secretariat	3 days after step 2 (no later than 45 days before the meeting)

ANNEX A (of the Rules of Procedure for the MPF)

GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF PAPERS AS PART OF THE MEETING PARTICIPATION FUND APPLICATION PROCESS

As stated in para. 6 of the Resolution “*Priority will be given to those applicants that will contribute a scientific document on a subject of interest to the meeting they wish to attend*”.

The working document to be prepared by the applicant to the Meeting Participation Fund should follow the guidelines below:

FOR A SESSION OF THE COMMISSION, the working document to be submitted should be:

- a Report of Implementation following the template produce by the Secretariat which is sent through an IOTC Circular at least 90 days before the Session. Please note that the deadline for submitting the Report of Implementation is 60 days before the Session.

FOR A SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE, the document to be submitted should be:

- a National Report following the guidelines adopted by the Scientific Committee at its thirteenth Session (IOTC–2010–SC13–R, Appendix VI). Please note that the deadline for submitting the National Report is 30 days before the Session of the Scientific Committee.

FOR A WORKING PARTY OR ANY OTHER AD HOC WORKSHOP, the working document to be submitted should relate specifically to the topic of interest of the meeting, and should be:

- a document related to the biology (e.g. growth, genetic, etc.) of one particular species, or group of species, under the mandate of the Working Party the applicant wishes to attend, or
- a document on the fisheries targeting one particular species, or group of species, under the mandate of the Working Party the applicant wishes to attend. This should include a description of the fleet, gear used, fishing zones, data collection system and its short comings, related research, relevant legislation, socio-economic issues and fisheries statistics such as nominal catch, catch and effort, length frequency, CPUEs, etc..., or
- a document describing an analysis conducted for one particular species under the mandate of the Working Party the applicant wishes to attend such as a CPUE standardization, a stock assessment, etc..., or
- any other specific document requested by the chair of the Working Party the applicant wishes to attend and endorsed by the chair of the Scientific Committee and the Executive Secretary.

APPENDIX XII
BUDGET FOR 2012 AND INDICATIVE BUDGET FOR 2013 (IN USD)

Budget item description	2012	2013
<u>Administrative Expenditures</u>		
Gross salary costs (before deductions)		
Professional		
Executive Secretary	157,085	145,000
Deputy Secretary	110,542	116,069
Data Coordinator	127,286	133,651
Fishery Officer (Statistics)	58,500	78,000
Compliance Coordinator	88,270	92,684
Fishery Officer (Compliance)	58,500	78,000
Fishery Officer (Stock Assessment)	60,090	80,000
Fishery Officer (Fisheries Expert)	78,638	78,000
General Service		
Administrative Assistant	10,895	11,440
Compliance Assistant	9,060	9,513
Programme Assistant	9,427	9,899
Database Assistant	11,630	12,211
Bilingual Secretary	8,000	8,400
Driver	6,544	6,871
Overtime	5,250	5,513
Total Salary costs	799,718	865,251
Employer contributions to Pension Fund and health insurance	289,404	280,000
Employer contribution to FAO entitlement fund	316,153	320,000
Total staff costs	1,405,275	1,465,251
<u>Expenditure for Activities</u>		
Operating Expenditures		
Support Capacity Building	78,000	80,000
Consultants	54,500	57,000
Duty travel	272,330	286,000
Meetings	100,000	105,000
Interpretation	135,000	142,000
Translation	100,000	105,000
Equipment	26,250	28,000
General Operating Expenses	45,000	47,000
Printing	31,500	33,000
Contingencies	6,000	6,000
Total Operating Expenditures	848,580	889,000
SUB-TOTAL	2,253,855	2,354,251
Additional Contributions Seychelles	-10,500	-10,500
FAO Servicing Costs	101,423	105,941
GRAND TOTAL	\$2,344,778	\$2,449,692

APPENDIX XIII
SCHEME OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2012

Country	World Bank Classification (2009)	OECD Membership	Average catch for 2007–2009 (in metric tons)	Base Contribution	Operations Contribution	GNP Contribution	Catch Contribution	Total Contribution (in USD)*
Australia	High	Yes	5,791	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$87,248	\$11,268	\$115,710
Belize	Middle	No	694	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$21,812	\$270	\$39,277
China	Middle	No	82,537	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$21,812	\$32,120	\$71,127
Comoros	Low	No	13,760	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$0	\$5,355	\$22,550
Eritrea	Low	No	1,075	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$0	\$418	\$17,614
European Union	High	Yes	199,945	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$87,248	\$389,050	\$493,493
France(Terr)	High	Yes	11,394	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$87,248	\$22,171	\$126,614
Guinea	Low	No	625	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$0	\$243	\$17,438
India	Middle	No	141,643	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$21,812	\$55,121	\$94,128
Indonesia	Middle	No	304,811	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$21,812	\$118,619	\$157,626
Iran, Islamic Rep. of	Middle	No	151,675	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$21,812	\$59,025	\$98,032
Japan	High	Yes	40,195	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$87,248	\$78,211	\$182,653
Kenya	Low	No	2,081	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$0	\$810	\$18,005
Korea, Rep. of	High	Yes	3,861	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$87,248	\$7,512	\$111,955
Madagascar	Low	No	10,426	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$0	\$4,057	\$21,252
Malaysia	Middle	No	23,996	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$21,812	\$9,338	\$48,345
Maldives	Middle	No	112,336	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$21,812	\$43,716	\$82,723
Mauritius	Middle	No	1,156	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$21,812	\$450	\$39,457
Mozambique	Low	No	Below 400 t	\$7,816	\$0	\$0	\$1	\$7,816
Oman	High	No	31,705	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$87,248	\$12,338	\$116,781
Pakistan	Middle	No	31,377	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$21,812	\$12,210	\$51,217
Philippines	Middle	No	2,589	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$21,812	\$1,007	\$40,014
Seychelles	Middle	No	65,918	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$21,812	\$25,652	\$64,659
Sierra Leone	Low	No	Below 400 t	\$7,816	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,816
Sri Lanka	Middle	No	90,285	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$21,812	\$35,135	\$74,142
Sudan	Middle	No	Below 400 t	\$7,816	\$0	\$21,812	\$13	\$29,641
Tanzania	Low	No	4,534	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$0	\$1,764	\$18,959
Thailand	Middle	No	30,543	\$7,816	\$9,379	\$21,812	\$11,886	\$50,893
United Kingdom(Terr)	High	Yes	Below 400 t	\$7,816	\$0	\$87,248	\$31	\$95,094
Vanuatu	Middle	No	Below 400 t	\$7,816	\$0	\$21,812	\$116	\$29,744
Total								\$2,344,777

*Total contributions may vary from the sum of the four components by up to one dollar due to rounding.

APPENDIX XIV

UPDATE ON PROGRESS REGARDING RESOLUTION 09/01 – ON THE PERFORMANCE REVIEW FOLLOW-UP

(NOTE: NUMBERING AND RECOMMENDATIONS AS PER APPENDIX I OF RESOLUTION 09/01)

ON THE IOTC AGREEMENT – A LEGAL ANALYSIS	RESPONSIBILITY	UPDATE/STATUS	WORKPLAN/ TIMELINE	PRIORITY
1. The final conclusion of the Panel is that the Agreement is outdated and there are many areas for improvement. The weaknesses and gaps identified are, or have a potential to be, major impediments to the effective and efficient functioning of the Commission and its ability to adopt and implement measures aimed at long-term conservation and sustainable exploitation of stocks, according to model fisheries management instruments. More fundamentally, these deficiencies are likely to prevent the Commission from achieving its basic objectives.	<i>Commission and Members</i>	Pending: No new developments have taken place in this area.		High
2. Consequently, the Panel recommends that the IOTC Agreement either be amended or replaced by a new instrument. The decision on whether to amend the Agreement or replace it should be made taking into account the full suite of the deficiencies identified.	<i>Commission and Members</i>	Pending: No new developments have taken place in this area.		High
ON CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT	RESPONSIBILITY	UPDATE/STATUS	WORKPLAN/TIMELINE	PRIORITY
Data collection and sharing				
<i>The Panel identified a poor level of compliance by many IOTC Members. with their obligations, notably those related to the statistical requirements on artisanal fisheries and sharks, and recommends that:</i>				

3. The timing of data reporting be modified to ensure that the most recent data are available to the working parties and the Scientific Committee.	<i>Scientific Committee</i>	Completed: Currently CPCs are required to submit information on their flag vessels by 30 th June every year. The timeline for coastal CPCs who license foreign vessels has been brought forward to 15 th February every year. The timing of the Working Parties will be reviewed annually to ensure that assessments can be completed and results reported to the Scientific Committee each year.	Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.	Medium
4. The deadline to provide data on active vessels be modified to a reasonable time in advance of the meeting of the Compliance Committee. This deadline is to be defined by the Compliance Committee.	<i>Compliance Committee</i>	Completed: Resolutions 10/07 and 10/08 have modified the reporting date for active vessels, which is now in the month preceding the meeting of the Compliance Committee. Resolution 10/08 establishes February 15 th as the new deadline for submission of the list of active vessels for the previous year.	Periodic review of Resolutions.	Low
5. The scheduling of meetings of the working parties and Scientific Committee be investigated based on the experience of other RFMOs. This should bear in mind the optimal delivery of scientific advice to the Commission.	<i>Scientific Committee</i>	Completed: Given the large number of meetings of other RFMOs, it is becoming increasingly difficult to find a schedule of meetings that would be better than the one currently in practice. However, the Working Parties and the Scientific Committee will annually review the timing of the Working Parties.	Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.	Low
6. The Commission task the Scientific Committee with exploring alternative means of communicating data to improve timeliness of data provision.	<i>Scientific Committee</i>	Partially completed: The Secretariat encourages members to utilise electronic means to expedite reporting. A study was commissioned for 2011 to determine the feasibility of reporting near real-time for various fleets. Outcome: Real time reporting not currently possible for most CPCs.	Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings. Within the best delays	Medium
7. Non-compliance be adequately monitored and identified at individual Member level, including data reporting.	<i>Compliance Committee</i>	Ongoing: Resolution 10/09 has partially been developed for this purpose. Reports on compliance with data reporting requirements have been regularly reviewed by the Compliance Committee, as well as discussed at the species Working Parties, the Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics and the Scientific Committee. For the Compliance Committee meetings, country-based reports have been prepared for this purpose since the 2011 meeting. A first implementation of this approach took place in the Compliance Committee meeting 2011 (Colombo, Sri Lanka). There remains a need to setup a scheme of penalties and incentives.	Annual review at Compliance Committee meeting	High

8. The causes of non-compliance be identified in cooperation with the Member concerned.	<i>Compliance Committee</i>	<p>Ongoing: The Terms of Reference of the Compliance Committee was revised in 2010 (Resolution 10/09) and provides for the assessment of compliance by CPCs. The Secretariat, via the Compliance Section, maintains contact with national officers to determine the reasons for non-compliance, in particular, concerning data reporting.</p> <p>The identification of non-compliance causes started with the country based approach (Compliance Committee meeting 2011 – Colombo, Sri Lanka).</p>	Review annually at the Compliance Committee meeting	High
9. When the causes of non-compliance are identified and all reasonable efforts to improve the situation are exhausted, any Member or non-Member continuing to not –comply be adequately sanctioned (such as market related measures).	<i>Compliance Committee</i>	<p>Pending: Resolution 10/10 provides the necessary framework in which to apply market related measures, following an appropriate process. Reductions in future quota allocation have been proposed as deterrents for non-compliance. Process still to be implemented.</p>	Review annually at the Compliance Committee meeting	High
10. There is a need to improve the quality and quantity of the data collected and reported by the Members, including the information necessary for implementing the ecosystem approach. The most immediate emphasis should be placed on catch, effort and size frequency. The Panel also recommends that:	<i>Scientific Committee</i>	<p>Ongoing: See below recommendation 11.</p>		High
11. Support for capacity building be provided to developing States – the Commission should enhance funding mechanisms to build developing country CPCs' capacity for data collection, processing and reporting infrastructures, in accordance with the Commission requirements.	<i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance and Finance</i>	<p>Ongoing: The Commission allocated USD\$400,000 for a range of projects related to capacity building in data collection and reporting.</p> <p>The Commission allocated USD\$60,000 for Capacity Building in the 2011 budget, and USD\$78,000 tentatively in the 2012 budget. One workshop was organized in 2011, in Chennai, India involving representatives of several CPCs.</p> <p>Other sources and cooperative arrangements will continue (e.g. IOTC-OFCF Project) or might be available in the future (e.g. SWIOFP, COI, etc.). The Secretariat continues to collaborate with these initiatives.</p>	Review annually at IOTC meetings.	High

12. A regional scientific observer programme to enhance data collection (also for non-target species) and ensure a unified approach be established, building on the experience of other RFMOs, Regional standards on data collection, data exchanged and training should be developed.	<i>Scientific Committee</i>	Completed: Resolution 11/04 (superseding Res.09/04 and Res. 10/04) provides CPCs with the necessary framework for putting in place national scientific observer programmes. The Regional Observers Scheme commenced July 1 st 2010, and is based on national implementation. The Secretariat coordinated the preparation of standards for data requirements, training and forms.	Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.	High
13. Actions be taken so that fishing fleets, especially Maldives, Taiwan, Province of China and Yemen participate in data collection and reporting.	<i>Commission</i>	Partially completed: Maldives became a Member in July 2011 and is complying with its mandatory data requirements. Taiwan, China, submits data from its fishing fleet on a regular basis and complies with most of the IOTC mandatory data requirements. The security situation in Yemen continues to prevent a more direct joint working arrangement with national scientists on data collection issues.		
14. A relationship with Taiwan, Province of China be developed in order to have data access when needed, to all its fleet data as well as historical series, and address the problems deriving from the current legal framework.	<i>Commission and Members</i>	Partially completed: Taiwan, China, provides data from its fishing fleet on a regular basis and routinely allows access to historical data. It also continues to participate in the Regional Observer Programme to monitor transshipment at sea.		High
15. The Secretariat's capacity for data dissemination and quality assurance be enhanced, including through the employment of a fisheries statistician.	<i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance via Scientific Committee Commission</i>	Partially completed: The existing post of Data Analyst was converted to a Fisheries Statistician to join the Data Section of the Secretariat. A new Fisheries Officer (data/stats) has been selected and will join the Secretariat in early 2012.	Staffing needs to be assessed annually at IOTC meetings.	Medium
16. A statistical working party be established to provide a more efficient way to identify and solve the technical statistical questions.	<i>Scientific Committee</i>	Completed: The Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics resumed its annual meeting in 2009.	Annual meeting.	High
17. The obligation incumbent to a flag State to report data for its vessels be included in a separate Resolution from the obligation incumbent on Members to report data on the vessels of third countries they licence to fish in their exclusive economic zones (EEZs).	<i>Compliance Committee</i>	Completed: Resolutions 10/07 and 10/08 address the reporting requirements of flag and coastal States responsibilities, with regards to vessels that are active in the IOTC Area.	Review annually at the CoC meetings	Medium

<p><i>In relation to non–target species, the panel recommends that:</i></p> <p>18. The list of shark species for which data collection is required in Recommendation 08/04 be expanded to include the five species identified by the Scientific Committee (blue shark, shortfin mako, silky shark, scalloped hammerhead, oceanic whitetip), and apply to all gear types.</p>	<p><i>Commission</i></p>	<p>Partially completed: The Commission meeting in 2011 considered several proposals in this regard, however consensus was not reached. As such the proposal was adopted as a Recommendation.</p> <p>The SC, in 2011 made specific recommendations to the Commission on the list of species to be included.</p>	<p>The Commission to revisit in 2012, taking into account the SC recommendations.</p>	<p>Medium</p>
<p>19. The Secretariat's capacity to provide support to developing States' Members should be enhanced.</p>	<p><i>Commission and Standing Committee on Administration and Finance</i></p>	<p>Ongoing: Resolution 10/05 provides a mechanism for financial support to facilitate scientists and representatives from developing IOTC CPCs to attend and/or contribute to the work of the Commission, the Scientific Committee and its Working Parties. In 2011, capacity building funds were provided and utilized in workshops to enhance understanding of the IOTC process among officials of member countries, The Secretariat has also collaborated directly and indirectly with other regional initiatives, including, <i>inter alia</i>, to the OFCF, SWIOFP, ACP Fish II and COI.</p>	<p>Review annually at IOTC meetings.</p>	<p>High</p>
<p>20. Cooperative capacity building efforts amongst Members and, as appropriate external organisations, should be encouraged.</p>	<p><i>Members and Secretariat</i></p>	<p>Ongoing: In November 2011, the first of a series of Capacity Building workshops was held in Chennai, India (17–18 November). The theme was 'Bridging the gap between IOTC science and management'. See also Recommendations 13 and 21. Support has been received from the ACP Fish II Project for other workshops for 2012.</p>	<p>Seek opportunities through other regional projects, and funding directly from CPCs.</p>	<p>High</p>
<p>21. Innovative or alternative means of data collection (e.g. port sampling) should be explored and, as appropriate, implemented.</p>	<p><i>Scientific Committee</i></p>	<p>Ongoing: The Secretariat has been implementing sampling programmes since 1999. The IOTC–OFCF Programme has supported sampling programmes and other means of data collection since 2002. The SC recommended the continuation of the IOTC–OFCF project.</p>	<p>Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.</p>	<p>Medium</p>
<p>22. Avenues to collect data from non–Members should be explored.</p>	<p><i>Secretariat</i></p>	<p>Ongoing: The activities of the IOTC–OFCF Project have not been limited to IOTC members, and, in the past, have extended to important non–member fishing countries such as Yemen . Participation at IOTC working Party meetings by scientists from non-IOTC CPCs is encouraged and in 2011, a scientist from the U.A.E. attended the Working Party on Neritic Tunas.</p>	<p>Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.</p>	<p>Medium</p>

Quality and provision of scientific advice				
23. For species with little data available, the Scientific Committee should be tasked with making use of more qualitative scientific methods that are less data intensive.	<i>Scientific Committee</i>	In progress: The species Working Parties have been using informal analyses of stock status indicators when data are considered insufficient to conduct full assessments for some time. However, a formal system that reviews those qualitative indicators and provides a recommendation on the current status, based on the weight-of-evidence has yet to be developed.	To be considered at the WPM and others. Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.	High
24. More emphasis should be given to adherence to data collection requirements.	<i>Compliance Committee</i>	Ongoing: The Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics and the species Working Parties evaluate the availability and quality of data, and make recommendations to the Scientific Committee on how to improve data quality. The country-based compliance report submitted to the Compliance Committee provides information on the timeliness and completeness of the reporting of data required by the various Resolutions of the Commission.	Review annually at the CoC meeting.	High
25. Confidentiality provisions and issues of accessibility to data by the scientists concerned needs to be clearly delineated, and/or amended, so that analysis can be replicated.	<i>Scientific Committee</i>	Ongoing: Input, output and executable files for the assessment of major stocks are archived with the Secretariat to allow replication of analyses. Access to operational data under cooperative arrangements, and those subject to confidentiality rules is still limited. In some cases the Secretariat is bound by the domestic data confidentiality rules of Members and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties. The SC recommended to include observer data under the confidentiality policy of IOTC.	Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.	Medium
26. The resources of the IOTC Secretariat should be increased. Even though some progress will be made with recruitment of the stock analysis expert, some additional professional staffing is required.	<i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance on advice from Committees and the Commission</i>	Ongoing: The Secretariat will propose a budget for 2012 and 2013 that includes an additional professional staff member (Fisheries Officer – Bycatch), as recommended by the Scientific Committee in 2010 and 2011.	Review annually at IOTC meetings.	High

27. To enhance the quality of scientific advice and the technical soundness of the papers being considered by the Scientific Committee and its working parties, and to encourage publication of IOTC scientific papers in relevant journals, future consideration should be given to the establishment of a scientific editorial board within the Scientific Committee	<i>Scientific Committee</i>	<p>Partially completed: Guidelines for the presentation of stock assessment papers were revised and agreed to by the Scientific Committee in 2010.</p> <p>An editorial board should select working party papers to be submitted for publication to a Peer Reviewed journal.</p>	<p>Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.</p> <p>Creation of an Editorial board and prior arrangement with an International Journal by 2013.</p>	Medium
28. An online IOTC Data Summary should be established	<i>Secretariat</i>	<p>Pending: Budgetary provisions to be renewed for 2012, once the new IOTC website has been launched.</p>	<p>Review at SCAF meeting.</p>	Medium
29. Ongoing peer review by external experts should be incorporated as standard business practice of working parties and the Scientific Committee.	<i>Scientific Committee</i>	<p>Pending: External experts (Invited Experts) are regularly invited to provide additional expertise at Working Party meetings, although this does not constitute a formal process of peer review. The Scientific Committee in 2010 and 2011, agreed that once stock assessment models were considered robust, that peer review would be advantageous and funds will be requested to undertake peer reviews of stock assessments.</p> <p>The Scientific Committee reviewed the processes for Invited Experts, Consultants and Peer review at its 14th Session in 2011.</p>	<p>Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.</p>	Medium
30. New guidelines for the presentation of more user friendly scientific reports in terms of stock assessments should be developed. In this respect, Kobe plots are considered to be the most desirable method of graphical presentation, especially to non-technical audience.	<i>Scientific Committee</i>	<p>Ongoing: All recent stock assessment results have been presented using the Kobe plot, and the species Working Parties are progressing in presenting the Kobe matrix. The 2010 and 2011 Scientific Committee report includes Kobe Matrices for all stock assessments. The format of the Working Party reports and the resultant Executive Summaries has been revised to improve readability and content.</p>	<p>Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.</p>	Medium
31. A special fund to support the participation of scientists from developing States should be established.	<i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance</i>	<p>Completed: A Meeting Participation Fund was established via Resolution 10/05. The Resolution provides a funding mechanism to facilitate scientists and other representatives from developing IOTC CPCs to attend and/or contribute to the work of the Commission, the Scientific Committee and its Working Parties. The fund is financed, initially, by accumulated funds, with no provisions for long-term support yet agreed. The fund was replenished to USD\$200,000 at S15 from accumulated funds. An ongoing process of replenishment of this fund needs to be developed.</p>	<p>Review annually at IOTC SCAF and Commission meetings.</p> <p>A procedure for supplying funds to the MPF should be developed and presented at S16.</p>	Medium

32. The Commission should renew efforts to convene meetings of the Working Party on Neritic Tunas	<i>Commission</i>	Completed: The first Session of the WPNT took place in India, 14–16 November 2011.	Annual meeting.	High
Adoption of conservation and management measures				
33. As the IOTC has faced the management of the main targeted stock under its purview only through a regulation of the fishing effort; other approaches should be explored, such as those envisioned in Resolution 05/01, including catch limits, total allowable catch (TAC) or total allowable effort (TAE).	<i>Commission</i>	In progress: Resolution 10/01 provides the starting point in the process of moving towards a total allowable catch limit. The first meeting of the Technical Meeting on Allocation Criteria was held in Nairobi, Kenya from 16–18 February 2011. A further meeting in 2012 will be undertaken for this purpose.	Annual meeting.	Very High
34. Within the system of the freezing of fishing effort in terms of number of vessels and correspondent capacity in gross tonnage, a deadline should be agreed for the implementation of fleet development plans.	<i>Commission</i>	Completed: Some CPCs have cited the global financial crisis as the reason for their inability to implement their fleet development plan and have therefore signalled to the Commission that their plan will be revised. A deadline of 31 st December, 2010, was set for submission of all revised or new fleet development plans.	Review annually at the CoC and Commission meeting.	Low/Medium
35. IOTC should consider developing a framework to take action in the face of uncertainty in scientific advice.	<i>Scientific Committee and Commission</i>	In progress: The Scientific Committee has agreed that the development of a Management Strategy Evaluation process be initiated to provide better advice that would incorporate explicit consideration of uncertainty. The 2012 meeting of the Working Party on Methods will focus on this process.	Intersessional start of the MSE process by correspondence, as of Jan.2012 Progress at 2012 WPM annual meeting.	High
36. IOTC should use the full range of decision making processes available to it under the Agreement.	<i>Commission</i>	Ongoing: For the first time in its history of adopting conservation and management measures, the Commission took a vote on a proposed resolution during its 14 th Annual Session.	Annual meeting.	High
37. The IOTC Agreement needs to be amended or replaced in order to incorporate modern fisheries management principles, such as the precautionary approach.	<i>Commission and Members</i>	Pending. The SC considered a paper on the precautionary approach for the potential consideration of the Commission in 2012. See also Recommendations 1 and 2. The SC endorsed the proposal which will be provided to the Commission.	For consideration at S16.	High
38. Pending the amendment or replacement of the Agreement, the Commission should implement the precautionary approach as set forth in the UNFSA.	<i>Commission</i>	Pending: see also Recommendations 35 and 37.	For consideration at SC14 and S16.	High

39. Measures to regulate shark fisheries should be considered by the Commission.	<i>Commission</i>	In progress: Resolution 05/05 provides the framework for combating the practice of shark finning and Resolution 10/12 is aimed at the conservation of sharks of the family Alopiidae. A number of proposals will be revisited at S16.	SC14 made a recommendation to the Commission (SC Recommendation: (SC14.19 (para. 69 of the SC report). For consideration at S16.	High
40. There is a need to develop and take into account modern principles for fisheries management, including ecosystem based approach, protection of marine biodiversity and reducing the harmful impacts of fishing on marine environment.	<i>Commission and Members</i>	Ongoing: Resolutions 09/05, 09/06 and 10/06 are all aimed at encouraging fishing practices that protect marine biodiversity and reducing the harmful impacts of fishing on the marine environment or on species that are incidentally caught in association with IOTC species.	For consideration at S16.	Medium
41. These concepts should be integrated in the IOTC Agreement.	<i>Commission and Members</i>	Pending. See Recommendations 1 and 2 above.		High
Capacity management				
42. IOTC should establish a stronger policy on fishing capacity to prevent or eliminate excess fishing capacity.	<i>Working Party on Fishing Capacity Scientific Committee Commission</i>	Ongoing: The Commission has since 2003 adopted a series of Resolutions (03/01, 06/05, 07/05 and 09/02) with the objective of addressing the issue of fishing capacity. However, to date these resolutions have not resulted in a strong control on fishing capacity, and the concern remains that overcapacity might result from this lack of control. The Secretariat is actively involved in developing the global vessels record for vessels fishing for tuna and tuna-like species that would contribute to the assessment of existing fishing capacity.	See Recommendation 33, which has been agreed as the priority path in this regard.	Medium
43. Loopholes in the current systems of fishing capacity limitation, such as the establishment of fleet development plans and exemptions for vessels less than 24 meters, should be closed.	<i>Working Party on Fishing Capacity Commission</i>	Partially completed: Resolution 09/02, and the decisions made at IOTC 14, establishing a new deadline to file fleet developments plans, aim at establishing firm capacity targets.	See Recommendation 33, which has been agreed as the priority path in this regard.	Medium
44. IOTC should endorse the recommendation of the Scientific Committee to create a Working Group on Fishing Capacity.	<i>Commission</i>	Completed: The first Working Party on Fishing Capacity was convened in 2009. In 2010 as no new documents were presented, it was amalgamated into the Working Party on Tropical Tunas as a theme session.	See Recommendation 33, which has been agreed as the priority path in this regard.	Medium

Compatibility of management measures				
45. IOTC Members should be invited to promptly implement IOTC conservation and management measures through their national legislation.	<i>Secretariat and Commission</i>	<p>Ongoing: CPCs are reminded annually about the responsibility of integrating IOTC conservation and management measures in their national legislation. The Secretariat is cooperating with CPCs by assisting in the assessment of the legal needs to effectively implement IOTC measures.</p> <p>In November 2011, the first of what is hoped to be a series of Capacity Building workshops was held in Chennai, India (17–18 November). One the thematic area was “Implementation of resolutions in national legislation”. The Secretariat has sought assistance through other regional projects (ACP Fish II and COI) to assist some CPCs in this regard, and is seeking cooperation with other initiatives to support revision of national legislation if requested.</p>	Annually review at CoC and Commission meetings.	Very high
Fishing allocations and opportunities.				
46. IOTC should explore the advantages and disadvantages of implementing an allocation system of fishing quota, expressed as TAC or TAE system. Such an investigation should include consideration of how significant catches by current non-Members would be accounted for.	<i>Commission</i>	<p>In progress: Resolution 10/01 has begun the process of moving towards the implementation of a total allowable catch limit for IOTC species. A Technical Meeting on Allocation Criteria has discussed proposed guidelines and methods to allocate future quota in 2011 and will meet again in 2012.</p>	See Recommendation 33, which has been agreed as the priority path in this regard.	Medium
ON COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT	RESPONSIBILITY	UPDATE/STATUS	WORKPLAN/TIMELINE	PRIORITY
Flag State duties				
47. Any amendment to or replacement of the IOTC Agreement should include specific provisions on Member's duties as flag States, drawing on the relevant provisions of the UNFSA.	<i>Commission and Members</i>	Pending.		High
Port State measures				
48. Any amendment to or replacement of the IOTC Agreement should include specific provisions on Member's duties as port States.	<i>Commission and Members</i>	Pending.		High

49. IOTC should explore the possible implementation of the FAO Model Scheme on Port State Measures.	<i>Commission</i>	<p>Completed: Resolution 10/11 is inspired by the FAO Port State Measures Agreement. By adopting this resolution, IOTC CPCs have agreed to implement the conditions of this agreement even before it becomes globally binding, and it became the first RFMO to do so. Implementation begun as of 1st March 2011.</p> <p>An evaluation of legal needs and training for officials of coastal CPCs was organised by the Secretariat in May 2011 with the support of the ACP Fish II Programme. Seychelles and Mozambique organized a training for inspectors in November 2011, in collaboration with the Secretariat.</p>	Review annually at the CoC meeting.	High
50. The IOTC should duly note the outcome of the current process for establishment of a globally binding agreement on port State measures.	<i>Commission</i>	Completed: see Recommendation 49.		
Monitoring, Control and Surveillance				
51. IOTC should develop a comprehensive monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) system through the implementation of the measures already in force, and through the adoption of new measures and tools such as a possible on-board regional observers' scheme, a possible catch documentation scheme as well as a possible system on boarding and inspection.	<i>Compliance Committee</i>	<p>Ongoing: IOTC already has an extensive number of MCS related measures. However, the implementation of these measures are the duty and responsibility of the CPCs. Proposals to introduce a catch documentation scheme, especially for the major IOTC species, have until now been rejected by CPCs. Resolution 11/04 – observers and field samplers are required to monitor the landing and unloading of catches respectively.</p>	Review annually at IOTC meetings.	High
Follow-up on infringements				
52. The current IUU resolution should be amended to allow the inclusion of vessels flagged to Members.	<i>Commission</i>	Completed: Resolution 09/03, which supersedes Resolution 06/03, and now superseded by Resolution 11/03, was adopted for this purpose.	Review annually at IOTC meetings	High
53. IOTC should explore options concerning the possible lack of follow-up on infringements by CPCs.	<i>Compliance Committee</i>	<p>Ongoing: The Compliance Committee, under its revised terms of reference, was in a better position to assess such cases through the country-based Compliance Reports, and will continue to do so in 2012.</p>	Review annually at IOTC meetings	High
54. IOTC should establish a sanction mechanism for non-compliance, and task the Compliance Committee to develop a structured approach for cases of infringement.	<i>Compliance Committee</i>	<p>Pending: The Compliance Committee, under its revised terms of reference, shall develop a scheme of incentives and sanctions and a mechanism for their application to encourage compliance by all CPCs.</p>		High

55. Provisions for follow-up on infringement should be included in any amended/replaced Agreement.	<i>Commission and Members</i>	Pending:		High
Cooperative mechanisms to detect and deter non-compliance				
56. A structured, integrated approach to evaluate the compliance of each of the Members against the IOTC Resolutions in force should be developed by the Compliance Committee.	<i>Compliance Committee</i>	Ongoing: Since the 2011 Compliance Committee meeting, country-based reports have been prepared for this purpose on the basis of the Resolution 2010/09.	Review annually at the CoC meeting	High
57. CPCs should be reminded of their duty to implement in their national legislations the conservation and management measures adopted by IOTC.	<i>Compliance Committee</i>	Ongoing: CPCs are reminded annually about the responsibility of integrating IOTC conservation and management measures in their national legislation. The Reports of Implementation, mandated in the IOTC Agreement, provide a mechanism to monitor progress of implementation at the national level.	Review annually at IOTC meetings	High
58. The requirement to present national reports on the implementation of IOTC measures should be reinforced.	<i>Compliance Committee</i>	Ongoing: Reminders are sent to CPCs prior to the Commission meeting and a template has been developed by the Secretariat to facilitate the preparation of national reports on implementation of IOTC measures. Compliance with this requirement is assessed in the country-based compliance reports.	Review annually at IOTC meetings	High
59. The sense of accountability within IOTC seems to be very low; therefore more accountability is required. There is probably a need for an assessment of the performance of CPCs.	<i>Compliance Committee</i>	Ongoing: The revised terms of reference of the Compliance Committee now facilitates this assessment in the form of the country reports prepared for the Compliance Committee meeting.	Review annually at IOTC meetings	High
60. Establishment of formal mechanisms of MCS (e.g. observers programmes) should be considered	<i>Compliance Committee</i>	Ongoing: Resolution 11/05 provides for an observer programme to monitor at sea transshipments, by placing observers on carrier vessels. Resolution 11/04 (superseding Resolution 09/04 and 10/04) establishes a Regional Observer Scheme that includes observers on board fishing vessels and port sampling for artisanal fisheries. Implementation remains pending for a number of CPCs.	Review annually at IOTC meetings	Medium

Market related measures				
61. As IOTC action in terms of measures relating to the exercise of rights and duties of its Members as market States are very weak, the non-binding market related measure should be transformed into a binding measure.	<i>Commission</i>	Completed: Resolution 10/10 meets this requirement.	Review annually at IOTC meetings	Medium
62. The bigeye statistical document programme should be applied to all bigeye products (fresh and frozen). Catch documentation schemes for target species of high commercial value should be considered. Alternatively, expanding the scope of the current statistical document programme to address current loopholes should be considered.	<i>Commission</i>	In progress: Proposals for a resolution to introduce a catch documentation scheme, especially for the major IOTC species, was not endorsed by CPCs at its 14 th and 15 th Annual Sessions.	Commission to consider proposals from CPCs at its annual session.	High
ON DECISION MAKING AND DISPUTE SETTLEMENT	RESPONSIBILITY	UPDATE/STATUS	WORKPLAN/TIMELINE	PRIORITY
Decision making				
63. In order to improve the IOTC practices of decision making and adoption of measures, when every effort to achieve consensus has been exhausted, invoking the procedure of voting should be explored	<i>Commission</i>	Ongoing: Resolution 10/12 was voted upon by CPCs at the IOTC's 14 th Annual Session. It was the first time that the voting procedure was used in IOTC for the adoption of a resolution.	To be implemented as necessary.	High
64. Amending the objection procedure so that it is more rigorous, and in line with other RFMO Conventions, featuring restricted grounds for the bases to object is recommended.	<i>Commission and Members</i>	Pending.		High
Dispute settlement				
65. A provision on dispute settlement should be amended in line with the requirements of UNFSA.	<i>Commission and Members</i>	Pending.		High
ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION	RESPONSIBILITY	UPDATE/STATUS	WORKPLAN/TIMELINE	PRIORITY
Transparency				
66. The active vessels list should be made available on the IOTC website.	<i>Commission Secretariat</i>	Completed: Resolutions 07/02, 10/07 and 10/08. The lists of authorised and active vessels are hosted on the IOTC website.	Periodic revision.	High

67. The Commission, in consultation with the Scientific Committee, should review the availability of critical data sets used in development of scientific advice and take steps to assure that these data are held at the Secretariat and available for validation of analyses, subject to the appropriate confidentiality requirements.	<i>Commission</i>	Ongoing: See Recommendations on Data collection and sharing above.		
Relationship to cooperating non Members				
68. The legal framework of the IOTC Agreement should be amended or replaced in order to enable fishing players active in the area to discharge their obligations in line with the UNFSA.	<i>Commission and Members</i>	Pending: In the meantime, alternative ways of participation of active fishing fleets in the activities of the Commission are being pursued.		High
Relationship to non cooperating non Members				
69. Although the IOTC has strengthened its action towards non-Members in order to have all important fishing players included under its remit, diplomatic approaches should be made by IOTC Members to non-Members with active vessels in the area.	<i>Commission</i>	Ongoing: The Secretariat has been active in contacting relevant non-Members to encourage their participation. The Secretariat has also responded to queries, briefed representatives about membership from the DPR of Korea, United Arab Emirates, Republic of Yemen and Somalia.		High
70. When non-cooperation is identified and all reasonable efforts to improve the situation are exhausted, any non-Members continuing not to cooperate should be adequately sanctioned by, for example, market related measures.	<i>Compliance Committee</i>	Ongoing: Resolution 10/10 provides the necessary framework in which to apply market related measures. Actions are to be taken by the Compliance Committee, under its revised terms of reference. However, the creation of a scheme of incentives and sanctions and a mechanism for their application to encourage compliance by all CPCs is still pending .	Review annually at IOTC meetings	High
Cooperation with other RFMOs				
71. IOTC should establish mechanisms for a mutual recognition of IUU lists with other RFMOs.	<i>Commission</i>	Partially completed: This issue is addressed in the Resolutions dealing with capacity transfers insofar as to vessels found on IUU lists of other tuna RFMOs should not be flagged by CPCs.	Review other RFMO IUU Lists upon request to add new vessels to the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels.	High

72. IOTC should develop cooperative mechanisms, such as MoUs, to work in a coordinated manner on issues of common interest, in particular non-target species and an ecosystem approach with other RFMOs especially with SIOFA.	<i>Commission</i>	<p>Ongoing: The Secretariat is active in identifying opportunities for collaboration, for the consideration of the Commission. The KOBE process also facilitates the interaction of tRFMO's. In 2011 the first bycatch joint technical working group was held. This will be held periodically.</p> <p>MoUs have been signed with ICCAT and CCSBT for the implementation of the regional Observer Programme.</p> <p>IOTC and WCPFC has a MoU to exchange information at the Secretariat level on matters of common interest.</p>	Annual review	Medium
73. IOTC should annually agree on a Member attending other tuna RFMO meetings as an observer on its behalf and reporting back to the Commission on matters of interest	<i>Commission</i>	Ongoing: Pending annual financial approval by the Commission.	Annual review. To be considered at SCAF09 and S16.	Low
Special requirements of developing States				
74. A specific fund to assist capacity building should be put in place.	<i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance</i>	<p>Partially complete. A Meeting Participation Fund was established via Resolution 10/05(See 19 and 31) and needs ongoing financial contributions. Additional funding for capacity building provided in 2011, and proposed in the budgets for 2012 and 2013.</p> <p>See also para. 11 above.</p>	S16 will need to consider proposed budget lines for capacity building funds.	High
75. Members, that are Parties of UNFSA, should make use of the part VII Fund, established under UNFSA.	<i>Members</i>	Ongoing: Regular reminders are sent to CPCs.	Annually for each IOTC meeting. Currently unknown to what degree CPCs are utilizing this fund. Feedback from delegates sought.	Medium

Participation				
76. Financial support, in particular for attendance in the scientific activities to developing States, is needed.	<i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance</i>	Partially completed: A Meeting Participation Fund was established via Resolution 10/05. The Resolution provides a funding mechanism to facilitate scientists and other representatives from CPCs who are developing States to attend IOTC meetings. The fund is financed, initially, by accumulated funds, with no provisions for long-term support yet agreed.	Annually for each IOTC meeting. A procedure for supplying funds to the MPF should be developed and presented at S16	High
77. The legal framework of the IOTC should be amended or replaced in order to enable fishing players active in the area to discharge their obligations in line with the UNFSA.	<i>Commission and Members</i>	Pending.	Commence in 2012. Small working group of CPCs to lead.	High
ON FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES		UPDATE/STATUS	WORKPLAN/TIMELINE	PRIORITY
Availability of resources for RFMO activities – efficiency and cost-effectiveness				
78. The IOTC Agreement as well as financial management rules should be amended or replaced in order to increase Members' as well as Secretariat's control of all the budget elements, including staff costs of the budget. This would also improve transparency.	<i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance</i> <i>Commission and Members</i>	Pending. See Recommendations 1 and 2.		High
79. Prior to the Commission assuming full control of the budget, the Commission meeting at which the budget is considered should be held as close as possible to the commencement of the financial year to which this budget relates and if possible in advance of that year.	<i>Commission</i>	Partially Completed: The 2011 meeting of the Commission was moved closer towards the beginning of the financial year (calendar), thus reducing the difficulties of operating without a budget. However, the 2012 meeting was moved to April at the request of a CPC. This means that no contributions are received until the middle of the year that they apply to.	Annual consideration by the Commission.	Medium
80. A fee system should be considered as a possible funding mechanism for possible new activities.	<i>Commission</i>	Pending: The IOTC Regional Observer Program (monitoring transshipment at sea) is fully funded by the participants through such a fee system.		Medium

81. The agreed external financial audit should be implemented as soon as possible, and should include a focus on whether IOTC is efficiently and effectively managing its human and financial resources, including those of the Secretariat.	<i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance Commission</i>	Pending.		Medium
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APPENDIX XV
RESOLUTION 12/01
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRECAUTIONARY APPROACH

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECALLING that Article 5, paragraph c, of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea of December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (UNFSA), establishes the application of the precautionary approach as a general principle for sound fisheries management;

FURTHER RECALLING that Article 6, and Annex II, of UNFSA provide guidelines for the implementation of the precautionary approach, including the adoption of provisional reference points when information for establishing reference points is absent or poor;

NOTING that Article 7.5 of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries also recommends the implementation of the precautionary approach, *inter alia*, on the basis of stock-based target and limit reference points;

NOTING that recommendations 37 and 38 of the Performance Review Panel, adopted by the Commission as Resolution 09/01, indicate that pending the amendment or replacement of the IOTC Agreement to incorporate modern fisheries management principles, the Commission should implement the precautionary approach as set forth in the UNFSA;

MINDFUL that Paragraph 29.6 of the FAO Guidelines for the Eco-labelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Capture Fisheries, revision 1, 2009, and other eco-certification initiatives highlight the implementation of the precautionary approach as an important criterion to assess the sustainability of a fishery;

RECALLING the time–area closure adopted by the Commission towards the conservation of tropical tuna stocks, described in Resolution 10/01;

RECALLING that the IOTC Scientific Committee has initiated a process of management strategy evaluation to focus the provision of scientific advice on the information needs of the Commission;

RECOGNISING the need to ensure the sustainability of fisheries for tunas and tuna-like species for food security, livelihoods, economic development, multispecies interactions and environmental impacts in its decisions;

AGREES, in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article IX of the IOTC Agreement, to the following:

1. To apply the precautionary approach, in accordance with relevant internationally agreed standards, in particular with the guidelines set forth in the UNFSA, and to ensure the sustainable utilization of fisheries resources as set forth in Article V of the IOTC Agreement.
2. In applying the precautionary approach, the Commission shall adopt, after due consideration of the advice supplied by the Scientific Committee,

- a) stock-specific reference points (including, but not necessarily limited to, target and limit reference points¹), relative to fishing mortality and biomass, and
- b) associated harvest control rules², that is, management actions to be taken as the reference points for stock status are approached or if they are breached

Reference points and harvest control rules shall be determined so that, according to the best available science, the risk of a negative impact on the sustainability of Indian Ocean resources of tuna and tuna-like species is minimized.

3. In the determination of appropriate reference points and harvest control rules, consideration must be given to major uncertainties, including the uncertainty about the status of the stocks relative to the reference points, uncertainty about biological, environmental and socio-economic events and the effects of fishing activities on non-target and associated or dependent species.
4. If an unanticipated event, such as a natural phenomenon has a significant adverse impact on the status of a stock or its associated environment, the Commission shall adopt conservation and management measures on an emergency basis to ensure that fishing activity does not exacerbate such adverse impacts.
5. Initially and as an interim measure, the Commission may adopt provisional reference points and harvest control rules, taking into account the advice of the Scientific Committee; such measures would remain current until such time as the Commission chooses to update them.
6. Instruct the Scientific Committee to assess, through the management strategy evaluation process, the performance of reference points, including any interim reference points, and of potential harvest control rules to be applied as the status of the stocks approaches the reference points.
7. After completion of the management strategy evaluation, the Scientific Committee should provide the Commission with recommended reference points for all major stocks, and cast future advice on the status of the stocks relative to the adopted reference points, on the basis of the best available scientific evidence.
8. The Scientific Committee will report on the progress of the management strategy evaluation process at the Commission Session in 2014, with a view to confirming or updating any interim reference points and associated harvest control rules.

¹ Target Reference Points corresponds to a state of a fishery and / or a resource which is considered desirable; Limit Reference Points indicates the limit beyond which the state of a fishery and / or a resource is not considered desirable. Source: <http://www.fao.org/fi/glossary> (accessed 25 April 2012).

² Harvest Control Rule: A rule that describes how harvest is intended to be controlled by management in relation to the state of some indicator of stock status. Source: <http://www.fao.org/fi/glossary> (accessed 25 April 2012).

APPENDIX XVI
RESOLUTION 12/02
DATA CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY AND PROCEDURES

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECOGNIZING the need for confidentiality at the commercial and organisational levels for data submitted to the IOTC.

CONSIDERING the provisions set forth in Resolution 10/02 *mandatory statistical requirements for IOTC Members and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CPCs)*,

CONSIDERING the provisions set forth in Resolution 11/04 *on a regional observer scheme*,

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

1. The following policy and procedures on confidentiality of data will apply:

DATA SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARIAT

2. The policy for releasing catch-and-effort, length-frequency and observer data will be as follows:

Standard stratification

- a) Catch-and-effort and length-frequency data grouped by 5° longitude by 5° latitude by month for longline and 1° longitude by 1° latitude by month for surface fisheries stratified by fishing nation are considered to be in the public domain, provided that the catch of no individual vessel can be identified within a time/area stratum. In cases when an individual vessel can be identified, the data will be aggregated by time, area or flag to preclude such identification, and will then be in the public domain.

Finer level stratification

- b) Catch-and-effort and length-frequency data grouped at a finer level of time-area stratification will only be released with written authorisation from the sources of the data. Each data release will require the specific permission of the IOTC Executive Secretary.
- c) Observer data grouped by 1° longitude by 1° latitude for surface fisheries and by 5° longitude by 5° latitude for longline, stratified by month and by fishing nation are considered to be in the public domain, provided that the activities /catch of no individual vessel can be identified within a time/area stratum.
- d) A Working Party will specify the reasons for which the data are required.
- e) Individuals requesting the data are required to provide a description of the research project, including the objectives, methodology and intentions for publication. Prior to publication, the manuscript should be cleared by the IOTC Executive Secretary. The data are released only for use in the specified research project and the data must be destroyed upon completion of the project. However, with authorisation from

the sources of the data, catch-and-effort and length-frequency data may be released for long-term usage for research purposes, and in such cases the data need not be destroyed.

- f) The identity of individual vessels will be hidden in fine-level data unless the individual requesting this information can justify its necessity.
- g) Both Working Parties and individuals requesting data shall provide a report of the results of the research project to the IOTC for subsequent forwarding to the sources of the data.

3. The policy for releasing tagging data will be as follows:

- a) Detailed tagging and recovery data are considered to be in the public domain, with the exception of any vessel names or identifiers and detailed information about the person who recovered the tag (name and address), however, requests for tagging data should be made to the IOTC Executive Secretary through the application form provided at **Annex I**.

PROCEDURES FOR THE SAFEGUARD OF RECORDS

4. Procedures for safeguarding records and databases will be as follows:

- a) Access to logbook-level information or detailed observer data will be restricted to IOTC staff requiring these records for their official duties. Each staff member having access to these records will be required to sign an attestation recognising the restrictions on the use and disclosure of the information.
- b) Logbook and observer records will be kept locked, under the specific responsibility of the Data Manager. These sheets will only be released to authorised IOTC personnel for the purpose of data input, editing or verification. Copies of these records will be authorised only for legitimate purposes and will be subjected to the same restrictions on access and storage as the originals.
- c) Databases will be encrypted to preclude access by unauthorised persons. Full access to the database will be restricted to the Data Manager and to senior IOTC staff requiring access to these data for official purposes, under the authority of the IOTC Executive Secretary. Staff entrusted with data input, editing and verification will be provided with access to those functions and data sets required for their work.

DATA SUBMITTED TO WORKING PARTIES AND THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

- 5. Data submitted to Working Parties and the Scientific Committee will be retained by the Secretariat or made available for other analyses only with the permission of the source.
- 6. The above rules of confidentiality will apply to all members of Working Parties and the Scientific Committee.
- 7. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 98/02 *Data Confidentiality Policy and Procedures*.

Annex I

TAGGING DATA USERS APPLICATION FORM

To the Executive Secretary of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission

I wish to submit the following request to receive and analyse data from the Indian Ocean Tuna Tagging Programme. I have read the above Data Users Policy, noting in particular, the matters relating to data confidentiality and providing an appropriate acknowledgement in the case of any publications arising from the use of these data, and agree to all the conditions listed.

Name of the institution/s requesting the data and contact details for the head researcher
Project outline
Specifications of the data required
Names and positions of the staff accessing the data (<i>Note, the Secretariat expects to be informed of any changes to the data users list</i>)
Intentions with respect to publication of the results of the proposed work

Signature and date:

Name:

Position:

Organisation:

Approved / Not Approved

Signature and date:

IOTC Executive Secretary:

APPENDIX XVII
RESOLUTION 12/03
ON 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 deliberations of the 14th Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee held in Mahé, Seychelles from 12 to 17 December 2011, that proposed a list of shark species for all gears and recommended minimum recording requirements for handline and trolling gears 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;

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

1. Each flag CPC shall ensure that all purse seine, longline, gillnet, pole and line, handline and trolling fishing vessels flying its flag and authorized to fish species managed by IOTC be subject to a data recording system.
2. The measure shall apply to all purse seine, longline, gillnet, pole and line, handline and trolling fishing vessels over 24 metres length overall and those under 24 metres if they fish outside the EEZs of their flag States within the IOTC area of competence. The data recording systems for developing CPCs vessels less than 24 metres operating within the EEZ of coastal States are subject to Paragraph 9. The vessels of less than 24 metres operating within the EEZ of developed CPCs shall apply this measure.
3. All vessels shall keep a bound paper or electronic logbook to record data that includes, as a minimum requirement, the information and data in the logbook set forth in Annex I, II and III.
4. Annex I includes information on vessel, trip and gear configuration for purse seine, longline, gillnet and pole and line, and shall only be completed once for each trip, unless the gear configuration changes during the trip.
5. Annex II contains information for purse seine, longline, gillnet and pole and line operations and catch, which shall be completed for each set/shot/operation of the fishing gear.
6. Annex III contains specifications for handline and trolling gears.
7. The logbook shall be completed by the Master of the fishing vessel to the flag State administration, as well as to the coastal State administration where the vessel has fished in that coastal State's EEZ. Only the part of the logbook corresponding to the activity deployed in the coastal State EEZ shall be provided to the coastal State administration where the vessel has fished in that coastal State's EEZ.
8. The flag State and the States which receive this information shall provide all the data for any given year to the IOTC Secretariat by June 30th of the following year on an aggregated basis. The confidentiality rules set out in Resolution 12/02 *Data Confidentiality Policy and Procedures* for fine-scale data shall apply.
9. Noting the difficulty in implementing a data recording system on fishing vessels from developing CPCs, the data recording systems for vessels less than 24 metres of developing CPCs operating inside the EEZ shall be implemented progressively by 1 July 2014.
10. The Commission shall consider development of special program to facilitate implementation of this Resolution by developing CPCs. Furthermore, developed and developing CPCs are encouraged to work together to identify opportunities for capacity building to assist the long-term implementation of this Resolution.
11. This Resolution supersedes Resolutions 08/04, 10/03 and Recommendation 11/06.

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. IMO number, where available
3. IOTC number
4. Call sign: if call sign is not available, other unique identifying code such as fishing licence number should be used
5. Vessel size: gross tonnage and overall length (meters)

1.3 CRUISE INFORMATION

For multiday fishing operations record the:

1. Departure date (at your location) and port
2. Arrival date (at your location) 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 (Polyethylene or other materials)
 - c) Nylon braided
 - d) Nylon monofilament

5. Branch line material classified into two categories:

- a) Nylon
- b) Other (such as wire)

Purse Seine:

(Gear configuration):

- 1. Length of the purse seine net
- 2. Height of the purse seine net
- 3. Total number of FADs deployed per trip: refer to the Resolution 12/08 *On a Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) Management Plan*

(Search information):

- 1. Days searched
- 2. Spotter plane used (Yes/No)
- 3. Supply vessel used (Yes/No), if yes what is the name and registration number of the supply vessel

Gillnet (Gear Configuration):

- 1. Overall length of net (metres): record the total overall length of the net onboard
- 2. Mesh size of net (millimetres): record the size of the mesh size used during the trip
- 3. Depth of assembled net (meters): height on assembled net in meters
- 4. Netting material: e.g. nylon braid, nylon monofilament, etc

Pole and line (Gear Configuration):

- 1. Number of fishermen

ANNEX II

Record once per set/shot/operation

Note: for all gears in this annex use the follow format for date and time

For date: when recording date of the set/shot/operation: record the YYYY/MM/DD

For time: record 24hr time as either the local time, GMT or national time and clearly specify which time has been used.

2.1 OPERATION**For longline:**

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

For purse seine:

1. Date of set
2. Type of event: **fishing set** or **deployment of a new FAD**
3. Position in latitude and longitude and time of event, or if no event during the day, at noon
4. If fishing set: specify if the set was successful, nil, well; type of school (free swimming school or FAD associated. If FAD associated, specify the type (e.g. log or other natural object, drifting FAD, anchored FAD, etc.)
5. Optionally, sea surface temperature at noon with one decimal point (XX.X°C)

For gillnet:

1. Date of set: 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 time 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 or, if no set, record the latitude and longitude at noon for days without sets
5. Depth at which net is set (meters): approximate depth at which the gillnet is set

For Pole and Line:

1. Date of operation: record the day
2. Position in latitude and longitude at noon
3. Number of fishing poles used during that day
4. Start fishing time (record the time 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) and end fishing time (record the time immediately after fishing is complete from the last school). On multiple days this is the time fishing stopped from the last school
5. 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:

Primary Species	FAO code	Other Species	FAO code
Southern bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus maccoyii</i>)	SBF	Shortbill spearfish (<i>Tetrapturus angustirostris</i>)	SSP
Albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)	ALB	Blue shark (<i>Prionace glauca</i>)	BSH
Bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>)	BET	Mako sharks (<i>Isurus</i> spp.)	MAK

Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)	YFT	Porbeagle shark (<i>Lamna nasus</i>)	POR
Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)	SKJ	Hammerhead sharks (<i>Sphyrna</i> spp.)	SPN
Swordfish (<i>Xiphius gladius</i>)	SWO	Other bony fishes	
Striped marlin (<i>Tetrapturus audax</i>)	MLS	Other sharks	SKH
Blue marlin (<i>Makaira nigricans</i>)	BUM	Seabirds (in number) ¹	
Black marlin (<i>Makaira indica</i>)	BLM	Marine Mammals (in number)	
Indo-Pacific sailfish (<i>Istiophorus platypterus</i>)	SFA	Optional species to be recorded	
		Thresher sharks (<i>Alopias</i> spp.)	THR
		Oceanic whitetip shark (<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>)	OCS
		Tiger shark (<i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i>)	TIG
		Crocodile shark (<i>Pseudocarcharias kamoharai</i>)	PSK
		Great white shark (<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>)	WSH
		Mantas and devil rays (<i>Mobulidae</i>)	MAN
		Pelagic stingray (<i>Pteroplatytrygon violacea</i>)	PSL
		Other rays	

For Purse Seine:

Primary Species	FAO code	Other species	FAO code
Albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)	ALB	Marine turtles (in number)	
Bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>)	BET	Marine mammals (in number)	
Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)	YFT	Whale sharks (<i>Rhincodon typus</i>) (in number)	RHN
Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)	SKJ	Optional species to be recorded	FAO code
Other IOTC species		Oceanic whitetip shark (<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>)	OCS
		Silky sharks (<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>)	FAL
		Thresher sharks (<i>Alopias</i> spp.)	THR
		Mantas and devil rays (<i>Mobulidae</i>)	MAN
		Other sharks	SKH
		Other rays	
		Other bony fish	

¹ When a CPC is fully implementing the observer program the provision of seabird data is optional

For Gillnet:

Primary Species	FAO code	Other Species	FAO code
Albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)	ALB	Shortbill spearfish (<i>Tetrapturus angustirostris</i>)	SSP
Bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>)	BET	Blue shark (<i>Prionace glauca</i>)	BSH
Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)	YFT	Mako sharks (<i>Isurus</i> spp.)	MAK
Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)	SKJ	Porbeagle shark (<i>Lamna nasus</i>)	POR
Longtail tuna (<i>Thunnus tonggol</i>)	LOT	Hammerhead sharks (<i>Sphyrna</i> spp.)	SPN
Frigate tuna (<i>Auxis thazard</i>)	FRI	Other sharks	
Bullet tuna (<i>Auxis rochei</i>)	BLT	Other bony fish	
Kawakawa (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>)	KAW	Marine turtles (in number)	
Narrow barred Spanish mackerel (<i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>)	COM	Marine mammals (in number)	
Indo-Pacific king mackerel (<i>Scomberomorus guttatus</i>)	GUT	Whale sharks (<i>Rhincodon typus</i>) (in number)	RHN
Swordfish (<i>Xiphias gladius</i>)	SWO	Seabirds (in number) ²	
Indo-Pacific sailfish (<i>Istiophorus platypterus</i>)	SFA	Optional species to be recorded	
Marlins (<i>Tetrapturus</i> spp, <i>Makaira</i> spp.)	BIL	Thresher sharks (<i>Alopias</i> spp.)	THR
Southern bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus maccoyii</i>)	SBF	Oceanic whitetip shark (<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>)	OCS
		Tiger shark (<i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i>)	TIG
		Crocodile shark (<i>Pseudocarcharias kamoharai</i>)	PSK
		Mantas and devil rays (Mobulidae)	MAN
		Pelagic stingray (<i>Pteroplatytrygon violacea</i>)	PSL
		Other rays	

For Pole and Line:

Primary Species	FAO code	Other Species	FAO code
Albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)	ALB	Other bony fish	
Bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>)	BET	Sharks	
Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)	YFT	Rays	
Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)	SKJ	Marine turtles (in number)	
Frigate and bullet tuna (<i>Auxis</i> spp.)	FRZ		
Kawakawa (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>)	KAW		
Longtail tuna (<i>Thunnus tonggol</i>)	LOT		
Narrow barred Spanish mackerel (<i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>)	COM		
Other IOTC species			

² When a CPC is fully implementing the observer program the provision of seabird data is optional

2.4 REMARKS

1. Discard of tuna, tuna-like fish and sharks to be recorded by species in weight (kg) or number for all gears should be recorded in the remarks³
2. Any interactions with whale sharks (*Rhincodon typus*), marine mammals, and seabirds should be recorded in the remarks
3. Other information is also written in the remarks

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.

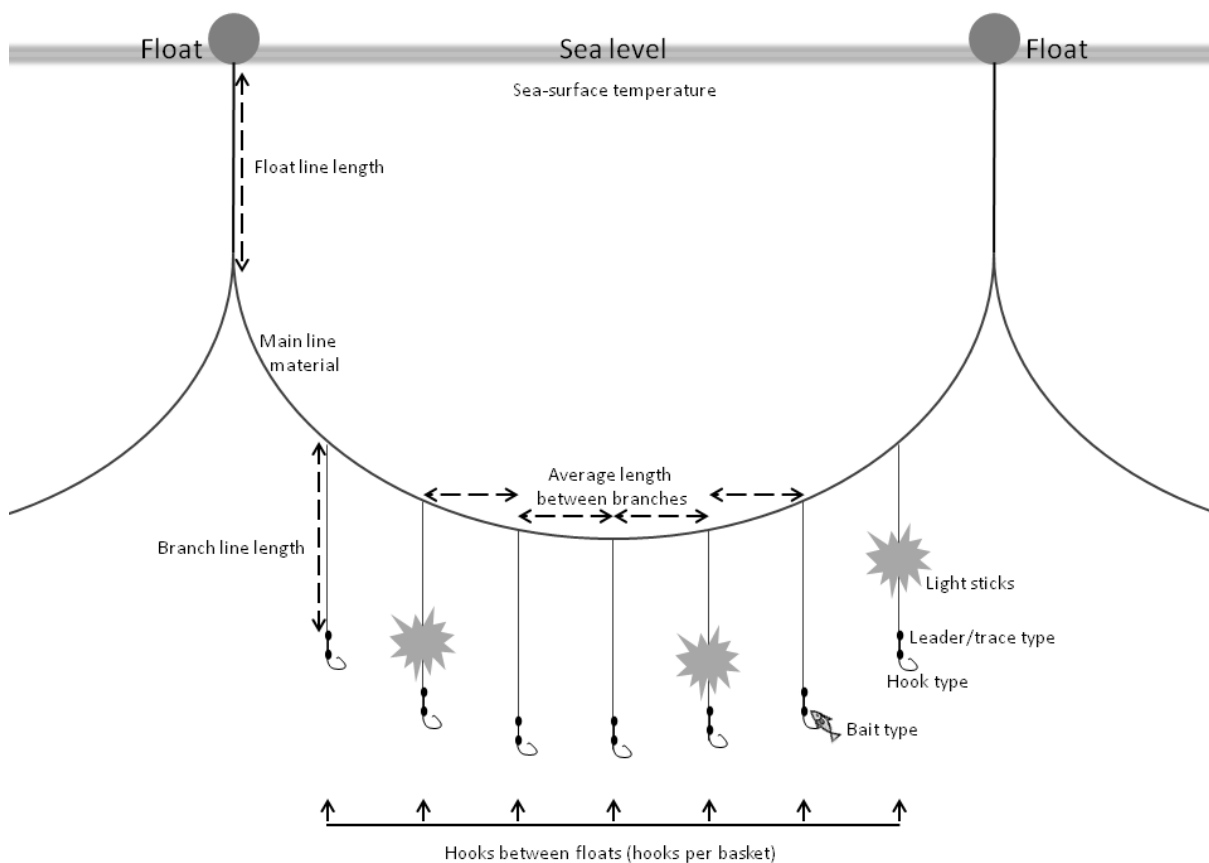


Figure 1. Longline (Gear Configuration): Average branch line length (meters): straight length in meters between snap and hook

³ Recall the Recommendation 10/13 *On the implementation of a ban on discards of skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna, bigeye tuna and non-target species caught by purse seiners*

ANNEX III**Specifications for handline and trolling**

Note: for all gears in this annex use the follow format for date and time

For date: when recording date of the set/shot/operation: record the YYYY/MM/DD

For time: record 24hr time as either the local time, GMT or national time and clearly specify which time has been used.

I - HANDLINE

All logbook information shall be recorded by day; where more than one fishing event is recorded for the same day, it is advisable to record each fishing event separately

Record once in one cruise, or month where daily operation

1.1 REPORT INFORMATION

1. Fishing day (or Date of submission of the logbook, where multiple fishing days)
2. Name of reporting person

1.2 VESSEL INFORMATION

1. Vessel name and registration number and IMO number, where available
2. IOTC number, where available
3. Fishing License number
4. Vessel size: Gross tonnage and/or length overall (in metres)

1.3 CRUISE INFORMATION

1. Departure date and port
2. Arrival date and port

2.1 OPERATION

1. Date of fishing

Record the date of fishing. Each fishing day should be recorded separately

2. Number of fishermen

Record the number of fishermen on the boat by fishing day

3. Number of Fishing Gear

Record the number of fishing lines used during the fishing day. If the exact number is not available a range may be used i) 5 or less lines, ii) 6–10 lines; iii) 11 or more lines

4. Number and type of school (Anchored or drifting FAD, marine mammal, free, other) fished

Record the number and type of school fished (i.e. anchored FAD, drifting FAD, marine mammal associated or free) fished during the day

5. Position of the catch

Position in latitude and longitude: either position at noon or position of start of gear or area code of operation (e.g. Seychelles EEZ, High seas, etc) may be optionally used. Record the latitude and longitude at noon for non-fishing days, where not in port

Where information is recorded by day, record the 1° x 1° area(s) where fishing took place

6. Bait

Record the type of bait used (e.g. fish, squid), where applicable

2.2 CATCH

Catch in number and/or weight (kg) by species

1. Catch number and/or Weight

For each species shown in section 2.3 caught and retained, record the number and estimated live weight (kg), per fishing day

2. Discard number and/or Weight

For each species shown in section 2.3 caught and not retained record the number and estimated live weight (kg) discarded, per fishing day

2.3 SPECIES

Primary Species	FAO code
Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)	YFT
Bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>)	BET
Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)	SKJ
Indo-Pacific sailfish (<i>Istiophorus platypterus</i>)	SFA
Black marlin (<i>Makaira indica</i>)	BLM
Other billfish	
Longtail tuna (<i>Thunnus tonggol</i>)	LOT
Kawakawa (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>)	KAW

Frigate tuna/Bullet tuna (<i>Auxis</i> spp.)	FRZ
Narrow barred Spanish mackerel (<i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>)	COM
Indo-Pacific king mackerel (<i>Scomberomorus guttatus</i>)	GUT
Sharks	
Other fishes	
Rays	
Marine turtles (by number)	

2.4 REMARKS

1. Other relevant information is also written in the remarks

Note: These species included in the logbook are regarded as minimum requirement. Optionally other species should be added as species may differ depending on the area fished and type of fishery.

II - TROLLING VESSELS

All logbook information shall be recorded by day; where more than one fishing event is recorded for the same day, it is advisable to record each fishing event separately

Record once in one cruise

1.1 REPORT INFORMATION

1. Fishing day (or Date of submission of the logbook, where multiple fishing days)
2. Name of reporting person

1.2 VESSEL INFORMATION

1. Vessel name and registration number and IMO number, where available
2. IOTC number, where available
3. Fishing License number
4. Vessel size: Gross tonnage and/or length overall (in metres)

1.3 CRUISE INFORMATION

1. Departure date and port
2. Arrival date and port

2.1 OPERATION**1. Date of fishing**

Record the date of fishing. Each fishing day should be recorded separately

2. Number of fishermen

Record the number of fishermen on the vessel by fishing day

3. Number of Fishing Gear

Record the number of lines used during the fishing day. If the exact number is not available a range may be used i) 3 or less lines, ii) more than 3 lines

4. Number and type of school (Anchored or drifting FAD, marine mammal, free, other) fished

Record the number and type of school fished (i.e. anchored FAD, drifting FAD, marine mammal associated or free) fished during the day

5. Position of the catch

Position in latitude and longitude: either position at noon or position of start of gear or area code of operation (e.g. Seychelles EEZ, High seas, etc) may be optionally used. Record the latitude and longitude at noon for non-fishing days, where not in port

Where information is recorded by day, record the 1° x 1° area(s) where fishing took place

6. Bait

Record the type of bait or indicate if lures are used

2.2 CATCH

Catch in number and/or weight (kg) by species

1. Number and/or Weight of fish retained

For each species shown in section 2–3 caught and retained, record the number or estimated live weight (kg), per fishing day

2. Discard number and/or Weight

For each species shown in section 2-3 caught and not retained record the number and estimated live weight (kg) discarded, per fishing day

2.3 SPECIES

Primary Species	FAO code
Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)	YFT
Bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>)	BET
Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)	SKJ
Albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)	ALB
Swordfish (<i>Xiphias gladius</i>)	SWO
Blue marlin (<i>Makaira nigricans</i>)	BUM
Black marlin (<i>Makaira indica</i>)	BLM
Striped marlin (<i>Tetrapturus audax</i>)	MLS
Indo-Pacific sailfish (<i>Istiophorus platypterus</i>)	SFA
Other billfish	
Longtail tuna (<i>Thunnus tonggol</i>)	LOT
Kawakawa (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>)	KAW
Frigate tuna/Bullet tuna (<i>Auxis</i> spp.)	FRZ
Narrow barred Spanish mackerel (<i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>)	COM
Indo-Pacific king mackerel (<i>Scomberomorus guttatus</i>)	GUT
Sharks	
Other fishes	
Rays	
Marine turtles	

2.4 REMARKS

1. Other relevant information is also written in the remarks

Note: These species included in the logbook are regarded as minimum requirement. Optionally other species should be added as species may differ depending on the area fished and type of fishery.

APPENDIX XVIII
RESOLUTION 12/04
ON THE CONSERVATION OF MARINE TURTLES

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECALLING Recommendation 05/08 *On Sea Turtles* and Resolution 09/06 *On Marine Turtles*;

FURTHER RECALLING that marine turtles, including all species in the family Cheloniidae and *Dermochelys coriacea* (leatherback turtles) are listed in Appendix I of the *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora* (CITES) and that all species of marine turtles are listed on Appendix I or II of *Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*;

AWARE that the populations of the six species of marine turtles under the *Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia* (IOSEA MoU) are listed as Vulnerable, Endangered or Critically endangered on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species;

RECOGNISING that the 26th FAO–COFI Session in March 2005 adopted the *Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations* (hereinafter referred to as “the FAO Guidelines”) and recommended their implementation by regional fisheries bodies and management organizations;

RECOGNISING that some fishing operations carried out in the Indian Ocean can adversely impact marine turtles and the need to implement measures to manage the adverse effects of fishing in the Indian Ocean on marine turtles;

ACKNOWLEDGING the activities undertaken to conserve marine turtles and the habitats on which they depend within the framework of the IOSEA MoU in particular its *Resolution to Promote the Use of Marine Turtle Bycatch Reduction Measures by IOSEA Signatory States* adopted by the Fifth Meeting of the Signatory States;

NOTING the Scientific Committee’s concern that the lack of data from Contracting Parties and cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CPCs) on the interactions and mortality of marine turtles from fisheries under the mandate of the IOTC undermines the ability to estimate levels of turtle bycatch and consequently IOTC’s capacity to respond and manage adverse effects of fishing on marine turtles;

FURTHER NOTING the Scientific Committee’s concern that the expansion of gillnet fishing from traditional fishing grounds into high seas might increase the interaction with marine turtles and lead to increased mortality;

CONVINCED of the need to strengthen Resolution 09/06 *On Marine Turtles* to ensure that the resolution applies equally to all marine turtle species and that CPCs annually report all interactions and mortalities of marine turtles in fisheries under the mandate of the IOTC;

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

1. This Resolution shall apply to all fishing vessels on the IOTC Record of Fishing Vessels.

2. Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (hereinafter referred to as “CPCs”) will implement, as appropriate, the FAO Guidelines.
3. CPCs shall collect (including through logbooks and observer programs) and provide to the IOTC Secretariat no later than 30 June of the following year in accordance with Resolution 10/02 (or any subsequent revision), all data on their vessels’ interactions with marine turtles. The data shall include the level of logbook or observer coverage and an estimation of total mortality of marine turtles incidentally caught in their fisheries.
4. CPCs shall report to the Scientific Committee information on successful mitigation measures and other impacts on marine turtles in the IOTC area, such as the deterioration of nesting sites and swallowing of marine debris.
5. CPCs shall report to the Commission in the annual implementation report, in accordance with Article X of the IOTC Agreement, their progress of implementation of the FAO Guidelines and this Resolution.
6. CPCs shall require fishermen on vessels targeting species covered by the IOTC Agreement to bring aboard, if practicable, any captured marine turtle that is comatose or inactive as soon as possible and foster its recovery, including aiding in its resuscitation, before safely returning it to the water. CPCs shall ensure that fishermen are aware of and use proper mitigation, identification, handling and de-hooking techniques and keep on board all necessary equipment for the release of marine turtles, in accordance with handling guidelines in the IOTC Marine Turtle Identification Cards.
7. CPCs with gillnet vessels that fish for species covered by the IOTC Agreement shall:
 - a) Require that operators of such vessels record all incidents involving marine turtles during fishing operations in their logbooks⁴ and report such incidents to the appropriate authorities of the CPC
8. CPCs with longline vessels that fish for species covered by the IOTC Agreement shall:
 - a) Ensure that the operators of all longline vessels carry line cutters and de-hookers in order to facilitate the appropriate handling and prompt release of marine turtles caught or entangled, and that they do so in accordance with IOTC Guidelines. CPCs shall also ensure that operators of such vessels follow the handling guidelines in the IOTC Marine Turtle Identification Cards
 - b) Where appropriate, encourage the use of whole finfish bait
 - c) Require that operators of such vessels record all incidents involving marine turtles during fishing operations in their logbooks⁵ and report such incidents to the appropriate authorities of the CPC

⁴ This information should include, where possible, details on species, location of capture, conditions, actions taken on board and location of release.

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9. CPCs with purse seine vessels that fish for species covered by the IOTC Agreement shall:
- a) Ensure that operators of such vessels, while fishing in the IOTC area:
 - i. To the extent practicable, avoid encirclement of marine turtles, and if a marine turtle is encircled or entangled, take practicable measures to safely release the turtle in accordance with the handling guidelines in the IOTC Marine Turtle Identification Cards
 - ii. To the extent practicable, release all marine turtles observed entangled in fish aggregating devices (FADs) or other fishing gear
 - iii. If a marine turtle is entangled in the net, stop net roll as soon as the turtle comes out of the water; disentangle the turtle without injuring it before resuming the net roll; and to the extent practicable, assist the recovery of the turtle before returning it to the water
 - iv. Carry and employ dip nets, when appropriate, to handle marine turtles
 - b) Encourage such vessels to adopt FAD designs that reduce the incidence of entanglement of marine turtles according to international standards
 - c) Require that operators of such vessels record all incidents involving marine turtles during fishing operations in their logbooks⁶ and report such incidents to the appropriate authorities of the CPC
10. All CPCs are requested to:
- a) Where appropriate undertake research trials of circle hooks, use of whole finfish for bait, alternative FAD designs, alternative handling techniques, gillnet design and fishing practices and other mitigation methods which may improve the mitigation of adverse effects on marine turtles
 - b) Report the results of these trials to the Scientific Committee (SC), at least 30 days in advance of the annual meetings of the SC
11. The Scientific Committee shall request the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch to:
- a) Develop recommendations on appropriate mitigation measures for gillnet, longline and purse seine fisheries in the IOTC area
 - b) Develop regional standards covering data collection, data exchange and training
-

⁵ This information should include, where possible, details on species, location of capture, conditions, actions taken on board and location of release

⁶ This information should include, where possible, details on species, location of capture, conditions, actions taken on board and location of release

- c) Develop improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of marine turtles, including the use of biodegradable materials

The recommendations of the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch shall be provided to the Scientific Committee for consideration at its annual session in 2012. In developing its recommendations, the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch shall examine and take into account the information provided by CPCs in accordance with paragraph 10 of this measure, other research available on the effectiveness of various mitigation methods in the IOTC area, mitigation measures and guidelines adopted by other relevant organizations and, in particular, those of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission. The Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch will specifically consider the effects of circle hooks on target species catch rates, marine turtle mortalities and other bycatch species.

12. At its annual session in 2013 the Commission shall consider the recommendations of the Scientific Committee, together with socio-economic considerations, with a view to adopting further measures to mitigate interactions with marine turtles in fisheries covered by the IOTC Agreement.
13. In researching new mitigation methods, consideration should be given to ensuring that methods do not cause greater harm than they prevent and do not adversely impact other species (particularly threatened species) and/or the environment.
14. CPCs are encouraged to collaborate with the IOSEA and take into account the IOSEA MoU including the provisions of the Conservation and Management Plan in the implementation of bycatch mitigation measures for marine turtles.
15. The IOTC and IOSEA secretariats are encouraged to intensify their collaboration and exchange of information on marine turtle issues in accordance with the protocols agreed by the Commission.
16. CPCs are encouraged to support developing countries in their implementation of the FAO Guidelines and this Resolution.
17. 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 efforts to reduce marine turtle interactions with IOTC fisheries.
18. This Resolution supersedes Recommendation 05/08 *On Sea Turtles* and Resolution 09/06 *On Marine Turtles*.

APPENDIX XIX
RESOLUTION 12/05
ON ESTABLISHING A PROGRAMME FOR TRANSHIPMENT BY LARGE-SCALE FISHING
VESSELS

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

TAKING ACCOUNT of the need to combat illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing activities because they undermine the effectiveness of the conservation and management measures already adopted by IOTC;

EXPRESSING GRAVE CONCERN that organized tuna laundering operations have been conducted and a significant amount of catches by IUU fishing vessels have been transhipped under the names of duly licensed fishing vessels;

IN VIEW THEREFORE OF THE NEED to ensure the monitoring of the transhipment activities by large-scale longline vessels in the IOTC area of competence, including the control of their landings;

TAKING ACCOUNT of the need to collect catch data of such large scale long-line tuna to improve the scientific assessments of those stocks;

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

SECTION 1. GENERAL RULE

1. Except under the programme to monitor transshipments at sea outlined below in Section 2, all transhipment operations of tuna and tuna like species and sharks caught in association with tuna and tuna-like fisheries in the IOTC area of competence (hereinafter referred to as “tuna and tuna like species and sharks”) must take place in port.
2. The flag Contracting Party, Cooperating non Contracting Party (CPCs) shall take the necessary measures to ensure that large scale tuna vessels (hereafter referred as the “LSTVs”) flying their flag comply with the obligations set out in **Annex 1** when transshipping in port.

SECTION 2. PROGRAMME TO MONITOR TRANSHIPMENTS AT SEA

3. The Commission hereby establishes a programme to monitor transhipment at sea which applies only to large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels (hereafter referred to as the “LSTLVs”) and to carrier vessels authorised to receive transshipments from these vessels at sea. No at-sea transhipment of tuna and tuna like species and sharks by fishing vessels other than LSTLVs shall be allowed. The Commission shall review and, as appropriate, revise this Resolution.
4. The CPCs that flag LSTLVs shall determine whether or not to authorize their LSTLVs to tranship at sea. However, if the flag CPC authorizes the at-sea transhipment by its flag LSTLVs, such transhipment shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures defined in Sections 3, 4 and 5, and annexes 2 and 3 below.

SECTION 3. RECORD OF VESSELS AUTHORISED TO RECEIVE TRANSHIPMENTS-AT-SEA IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE

5. The Commission shall establish and maintain an IOTC Record of Carrier Vessels authorized to receive tuna and tuna-like species and sharks at sea in the IOTC area of competence from LSTLVs. For the purposes of this Resolution, carrier vessels not entered on the record are deemed not to be authorized to receive tuna and tuna-like species and sharks in at-sea transshipment operations.
6. Each CPC shall submit, electronically where possible, to the IOTC Executive Secretary the list of the carrier vessels that are authorized to receive at-sea transshipments from its LSTLVs in the IOTC area of competence. This list shall include the following information:
 - a) The flag of the vessel
 - b) Name of vessel, register number
 - c) Previous name (if any)
 - d) Previous flag (if any)
 - e) Previous details of deletion from other registries (if any)
 - f) International radio call sign
 - g) Type of vessels, length, gross tonnage (GT) and carrying capacity
 - h) Name and address of owner(s) and operator(s)
 - i) Time period authorised for transshipping
7. Each CPC shall promptly notify the IOTC Executive Secretary, after the establishment of the initial IOTC Record, of any addition to, any deletion from and/or any modification of the IOTC Record, at any time such changes occur.
8. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall maintain the IOTC Record and take measures to ensure publicity of the record and through electronic means, including placing it on the IOTC website, in a manner consistent with confidentiality requirements notified by CPCs for their vessels.
9. Carrier vessels authorized for at-sea transshipment shall be required to install and operate a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS).

SECTION 4. AT-SEA TRANSHIPMENT

10. Transshipments by LSTLVs in waters under the jurisdiction of the CPCs are subject to prior authorization from the Coastal State concerned. CPCs shall take the necessary measures to ensure that LSTLVs flying their flag comply with the following conditions:

Flag State Authorization

11. LSTLVs are not authorized to tranship at sea, unless they have obtained prior authorization from their flag State.

Notification obligations***Fishing vessel:***

12. To receive the prior authorization mentioned in paragraph 11 above, the master and/or owner of the LSTLV must notify the following information to its flag State authorities at least 24 hours in advance of an intended transshipment:
- a) The name of the LSTLV and its number in the IOTC Record of Vessels
 - b) The name of the carrier vessel and its number in the IOTC Record of Carrier Vessels authorized to receive transshipments in the IOTC area of competence, and the product to be transhipped
 - c) The tonnage by product to be transhipped
 - d) The date and location of transshipment
 - e) The geographic location of the catches
13. The LSTLV concerned shall complete and transmit to its flag State, not later than 15 days after the transshipment, the IOTC transshipment declaration, along with its number in the IOTC Record of Fishing Vessels, in accordance with the format set out in **Annex 2**.

Receiving carrier vessel:

14. Before starting transshipment, the master of the receiving carrier vessel shall confirm that the LSTLV concerned is participating in the IOTC programme to monitor transshipment at sea (which includes payment of the fee in paragraph 13 of **Annex 3**) and has obtained the prior authorization from their flag State referred to in paragraph 11. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall not start such transshipment without such confirmation.
15. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall complete and transmit the IOTC transshipment declaration to the IOTC Secretariat and the flag CPC of the LSTLV, along with its number in the IOTC Record of Carrier Vessels authorized to receive transshipment in the IOTC area of competence, within 24 hours of the completion of the transshipment.
16. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall, 48 hours before landing, transmit an IOTC transshipment declaration, along with its number in the IOTC Record of Carrier Vessels authorized to receive transshipment in the IOTC area of competence, to the competent authorities of the State where the landing takes place.

Regional Observer Programme

17. Each CPC shall ensure that all carrier vessels transshipping at sea have on board an IOTC observer, in accordance with the IOTC Regional Observer Programme in **Annex 3**. The IOTC observer shall observe the compliance with this Resolution, and notably that the transhipped quantities are consistent with the reported catch in the IOTC transshipment declaration.
18. Vessels shall be prohibited from commencing or continuing at-sea transshipping in the IOTC area of competence without an IOTC regional observer on board, except in cases of “force majeure” duly notified to the IOTC Secretariat.

SECTION 5 GENERAL PROVISIONS

19. To ensure the effectiveness of the IOTC Conservation and Management Measures pertaining to species covered by Statistical Document Programs:
 - a) In validating the Statistical Document, flag CPCs of LSTLVs shall ensure that transshipments are consistent with the reported catch amount by each LSTLV
 - b) The flag CPC of LSTLVs shall validate the Statistical Documents for the transhipped fish, after confirming that the transshipment was conducted in accordance with this Resolution. This confirmation shall be based on the information obtained through the IOTC Observer Programme
 - c) CPCs shall require that the species covered by the Statistical Document Programs caught by LSTLVs in the IOTC area of competence, when imported into the territory of a Contracting Party, be accompanied by statistical documents validated for the vessels on the IOTC record and a copy of the IOTC transshipment declaration
20. The CPCs shall report annually before 15 September to the IOTC Executive Secretary:
 - a) The quantities by species transhipped during the previous year
 - b) The list of the LSTLVs registered in the IOTC Record of Fishing Vessels which have transhipped during the previous year
 - c) A comprehensive report assessing the content and conclusions of the reports of the observers assigned to carrier vessels which have received transshipment from their LSTLVs
21. All tuna and tuna-like species and sharks landed or imported into the CPCs either unprocessed or after having been processed on board and which are transhipped, shall be accompanied by the IOTC transshipment declaration until the first sale has taken place.
22. Each year, the IOTC Executive Secretary shall present a report on the implementation of this Resolution to the annual meeting of the Commission which shall review compliance with this Resolution.
23. The Secretariat shall, when providing CPCs with copies of all raw data, summaries and reports in accordance

with paragraph 10 of **Annex 3** to this Resolution, also indicate evidence indicating possible infraction of IOTC regulations by LSTLVs/carrier vessels flagged to that CPC. Upon receiving such evidence, each CPC shall investigate the cases and report the results of the investigation back to the Secretariat three months prior to the Compliance Committee meeting. The Secretariat shall circulate among CPCs the list of names and flags of the LSTLVs/Carrier vessels that were involved in such possible infraction as well as the response of the flag CPCs 80 days prior to the Compliance Committee meeting.

24. Resolution 11/05 *On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels* is superseded by this Resolution.

ANNEX 1 Conditions relating to in-port transshipment by LSTVs

General

1. Transshipment operations in port may only be undertaken in accordance with the procedures detailed below:

Notification obligations

2. Fishing vessel:
- 2.1. Prior to transshipping, the Captain of the LSTV must notify the following information to the port State authorities, at least 48 hours in advance:
- a) the name of the LSTV and its number in the IOTC record of fishing vessels
 - b) the name of the carrier vessel, and the product to be transhipped
 - c) the tonnage by product to be transhipped
 - d) the date and location of transshipment
 - e) the major fishing grounds of the tuna and tuna-like species and sharks catches
- 2.2. The Captain of a LSTV shall, at the time of the transshipment, inform its Flag State of the following:
- a) The products and quantities involved
 - b) the date and place of the transshipment
 - c) the name, registration number and flag of the receiving carrier vessel
 - d) the geographic location of the tuna and tuna-like species and sharks catches
- 2.3. The captain of the LSTV concerned shall complete and transmit to its flag State the IOTC transshipment declaration, along with its number in the IOTC Record of Fishing Vessels, in accordance with the format set out in **Annex 2** not later than 15 days after the transshipment.

Receiving vessel:

3. Not later than 24 hours before the beginning and at the end of the transshipment, the master of the receiving carrier vessel shall inform the port State authorities of the quantities of tuna and tuna-like species and sharks transhipped to his vessel, and complete and transmit the IOTC transshipment declaration, to the competent authorities within 24 hours.

Landing State:

4. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall, 48 hours before landing, complete and transmit an IOTC transshipment declaration, to the competent authorities of the landing State where the landing takes place.
5. The port State and the landing State referred to in the above paragraphs shall take the appropriate measures to verify the accuracy of the information received and shall cooperate with the flag CPC of the LSTV to ensure that landings are consistent with the reported catches amount of each vessel. This verification shall be carried out so that the vessel suffers the minimum interference and inconvenience and that degradation of the fish is avoided.
6. Each flag CPC of the LSTV shall include in its annual report each year to IOTC the details on the transshipments by its vessels.

ANNEX 2

IOTC Transhipment declaration

Carrier Vessel	Fishing Vessel
Name of the Vessel and Radio Call Sign:	Name of the Vessel and Radio Call Sign:
Flag:	Flag:
Flag State license number:	Flag State license number:
National Register Number, if available:	National Register Number, if available:
IOTC Register Number, if available:	IOTC Register Number, if available:

Day Month Hour Year | 2_|0_|_|_| Agent's name: Master's name of LSTV: Master's name of Carrier:
 Departure |_|_| |_|_| |_|_| from |_____|
 Return |_|_| |_|_| |_|_| to |_____| Signature: Signature: Signature :
 Transhipment |_|_| |_|_| |_|_| |_____|

Indicate the weight in kilograms or the unit used (e.g. box, basket) and the landed weight in kilograms of this unit: |_____| kilograms

LOCATION OF TRANSHIPMENT

Species	Port		Sea	Type of product									
				Whole	Gutted	Headed	Filletted						

If transhipment effected at sea, IOTC Observer Name and Signature:

ANNEX 3
IOTC Regional Observer Programme

1. Each CPC shall require carrier vessels included in the IOTC Record of Carrier Vessels authorised to receive transhipments in the IOTC area of competence and which tranship at sea, to carry an IOTC observer during each transhipment operation in the IOTC area of competence.
2. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall appoint the observers and shall place them on board the carrier vessels authorized to receive transhipments in the IOTC area of competence from LSTLVs flying the flag of Contracting Parties and of Cooperating non-Contracting Parties that implement the IOTC observer program.

Designation of the observers

3. The designated observers shall have the following qualifications to accomplish their tasks:
 - a) sufficient experience to identify species and fishing gear
 - b) satisfactory knowledge of the IOTC conservation and management measures
 - c) the ability to observe and record information accurately
 - d) a satisfactory knowledge of the language of the flag of the vessel observed

Obligations of the observer

4. Observers shall:
 - a) have completed the technical training required by the guidelines established by IOTC
 - b) not be, to the extent possible, nationals of the flag State of the receiving carrier vessel
 - c) be capable of performing the duties set forth in point 5 below
 - d) be included in the list of observers maintained by the Secretariat of the Commission
 - e) not be a crew member of an LSTLV or an employee of an LSTLV company
5. The observer tasks shall be in particular to:
 - a) On the Fishing Vessel intending to tranship to the carrier vessel and before the transhipment takes place, the observer shall:
 - i. check the validity of the fishing vessel's authorisation or licence to fish tuna and tuna-like species and sharks in the IOTC area of competence
 - ii. check and note the total quantity of catch on board, and the quantity to be transferred to the carrier vessel
 - iii. check that the VMS is functioning and examine the logbook
 - iv. verify whether any of the catch on board resulted from transfers from other vessels, and check documentation on such transfers
 - v. in the case of an indication that there are any violations involving the fishing vessel, immediately report the violations to the carrier vessel master
 - vi. report the results of these duties on the fishing vessel in the observers report
 - b) On the Carrier Vessel:

Monitor the carrier vessel's compliance with the relevant Conservation and Management Measures

adopted by the Commission. In particular the observers shall:

- i. record and report upon the transshipment activities carried out
 - ii. verify the position of the vessel when engaged in transshipping
 - iii. observe and estimate products transhipped
 - iv. verify and record the name of the LSTLV concerned and its IOTC number
 - v. verify the data contained in the transshipment declaration
 - vi. certify the data contained in the transshipment declaration
 - vii. countersign the transshipment declaration
 - viii. issue a daily report of the carrier vessels transshipping activities
 - ix. establish general reports compiling the information collected in accordance with this paragraph and provide the captain the opportunity to include therein any relevant information
 - x. submit to the Secretariat the aforementioned general report within 20 days from the end of the period of observation
 - xi. exercise any other functions as defined by the Commission
6. Observers shall treat as confidential all information with respect to the fishing operations of the LSTLVs and of the LSTLVs owners and accept this requirement in writing as a condition of appointment as an observer.
 7. Observers shall comply with requirements established in the laws and regulations of the flag State which exercises jurisdiction over the vessel to which the observer is assigned.
 8. Observers shall respect the hierarchy and general rules of behaviour which apply to all vessel personnel, provided such rules do not interfere with the duties of the observer under this program, and with the obligations of vessel personnel set forth in paragraph 9 of this program.

Obligations of the flag States of carrier vessels

9. The responsibilities regarding observers of the flag States of the carrier vessels and their captains shall include the following, notably:
 - a) Observers shall be allowed access to the vessel personnel and to the gear and equipment
 - b) Upon request, observers shall also be allowed access to the following equipment, if present on the vessels to which they are assigned, in order to facilitate the carrying out of their duties set forth in paragraph 5:
 - i. Satellite navigation equipment
 - ii. Radar display viewing screens when in use
 - iii. Electronic means of communication
 - c) Observers shall be provided accommodation, including lodging, food and adequate sanitary facilities, equal to those of officers
 - d) Observers shall be provided with adequate space on the bridge or pilot house for clerical work, as well as space on deck adequate for carrying out observer duties; and
 - e) The flag States shall ensure that captains, crew and vessel owners do not obstruct, intimidate, interfere with, influence, bribe or attempt to bribe an observer in the performance of his/her duties
10. The IOTC Executive Secretary, in a manner consistent with any applicable confidentiality requirements, shall provide to the flag State of the carrier vessel under whose jurisdiction the vessel transhipped and to the flag

CPC of the LSTLV, copies of all available raw data, summaries, and reports pertaining to the trip four months prior to the Compliance Committee meeting.

Obligations of LSTLV during transshipment

11. Observers shall be allowed to visit the fishing vessel, if weather conditions permit it, and access shall be granted to personnel and areas of the vessel necessary to carry out their duties set forth in paragraph 5.
12. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall submit the observer reports to the Compliance Committee and to the Scientific Committee.

Observer fees

13. The costs of implementing this program shall be financed by the flag CPCs of LSTLVs wishing to engage in transshipment operations. The fee shall be calculated on the basis of the total costs of the program. This fee shall be paid into a special account of the IOTC Secretariat and the IOTC Executive Secretary shall manage the account for implementing the program.
14. No LSTLV may participate in the at-sea transshipment program unless the fees, as required under paragraph 13, have been paid.

APPENDIX XX
RESOLUTION 12/06
ON REDUCING THE INCIDENTAL BYCATCH OF SEABIRDS IN LONGLINE FISHERIES

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECALLING Resolution 10/06 *On reducing incidental bycatch of seabirds in longline fisheries*, and in particular, its paragraph 8;

RECOGNISING the need to strengthen mechanisms to protect seabirds in the Indian Ocean, and to harmonize them with ICCAT measures that will enter into force no later than July 2013;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) International Plan of Action for Reducing the Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries (IPOA-Seabirds);

NOTING the recommendations of the IOTC Scientific Committee, in agreement with the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB) on measures to mitigate seabird interactions as outlined in their 2007, 2009 and 2011 Reports;

ACKNOWLEDGING that to date some IOTC Members and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (hereinafter referred to as “CPCs”) have identified the need for, and have either completed or are near finalizing, their National Plan of Action on Seabirds;

RECOGNISING the global concern that some species of seabirds, notably albatrosses and petrels, are threatened with extinction;

NOTING that the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, which opened for signatures at Canberra on 19 June 2001, has entered into force;

NOTING that the ultimate aim of the IOTC and the CPCs is to achieve a zero bycatch of seabirds for fisheries under the purview of the IOTC, especially threatened albatrosses and petrel species in longline fisheries;

BEARING in mind studies undertaken in other longline tuna fisheries, demonstrating the economical benefit of measures to mitigate incidental bycatch of seabirds, by significantly increasing catches of targeted species;

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

1. CPCs shall record data on seabird incidental bycatch by species, notably through scientific observers in accordance with Resolution 11/04 and report these annually. Observers shall to the extent possible take photographs of seabirds caught by fishing vessels and transmit them to national seabird experts or to the IOTC Secretariat, for confirmation of identification.
2. CPCs that have not fully implemented the provisions of the IOTC Regional Observer Scheme outlined in paragraph 2 of Resolution 11/04 shall report seabird incidental bycatch through logbooks, including details of species, if possible.
3. CPCs shall provide to the Commission as part of their annual reports, information on how they are implementing this measure.
4. CPCs shall seek to achieve reductions in levels of seabird bycatch across all fishing areas, seasons, and fisheries through the use of effective mitigation measures, while giving due consideration to the safety of crew members and the practicability of mitigation measures.
5. In the area south of 25 degrees South latitude, CPCs shall ensure that all longline vessels use at least two of the three mitigation measures in **Table 1**. These measures should also be considered for implementation in other areas, as appropriate, consistent with scientific advice.
6. Mitigation measures used pursuant to paragraph 5 shall conform to the minimum technical standards for these measures, as shown in **Table 1**.

7. The design and deployment for bird scaring lines should also meet the additional specifications provided in **Annex 1**.
8. The Scientific Committee, based notably on the work of the WPEB and information from CPCs, will analyse the impact of this Resolution on seabird bycatch no later than for the 2016 meeting of the Commission. It shall advise the Commission on any modifications that are required, based on experience to date of the operation of the Resolution and/or further international studies, research or advice on best practice on the issue, in order to make the Resolution more effective.
9. The Commission should hold a workshop in the intersessional period before the entry into force of this Resolution to facilitate its implementation, particularly focusing on how to address safety and practical concerns. CPCs shall ensure that fishers make a trial of the safety and practicality of these measures for review at the workshops with a view of resolving their concerns and assuring the orderly implementation, including training for and adaptation to these measures. A second workshop should be held, if necessary to explain the science, theory and application of the line weighting measure.
10. This Resolution shall enter into force on 1 July 2014.
11. As of 1 July 2014, the Resolution 10/06 *on reducing incidental bycatch of seabirds in longline fisheries* and the Recommendation 05/09 *on incidental mortality of seabirds* are superseded by this Resolution.

Table 1. Mitigation measures

Mitigation	Description	Specification
Night setting with minimum deck lighting	No setting between nautical dawn and before nautical dusk. Deck lighting to be kept to a minimum.	Nautical dusk and nautical dawn are defined as set out in the Nautical Almanac tables for relevant latitude, local time and date. Minimum deck lighting should not breach minimum standards for safety and navigation.
Bird-scaring lines (Tori lines)	Bird-scaring lines shall be deployed during the entire longline setting to deter birds from approaching the branch line.	For vessels greater than or equal to 35 m: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deploy at least 1 bird-scaring line. Where practical, vessels are encouraged to use a second tori pole and bird scaring line at times of high bird abundance or activity; both tori lines should be deployed simultaneously, one on each side of the line being set. • Aerial extent of bird-scaring lines must be greater than or equal to 100 m. • Long streamers of sufficient length to reach the sea surface in calm conditions must be used. • Long streamers must be at intervals of no more than 5m. For vessels less than 35 m: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deploy at least 1 bird-scaring line. • Aerial extent must be greater than or equal to 75 m. • Long and/or short (but greater than 1 m in length) streamers must be used and placed at intervals as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Short: intervals of no more than 2 m. ○ Long: intervals of no more than 5 m for the first 55 m of bird scaring line. Additional design and deployment guidelines for bird-scaring lines are provided in Annex 1 of this Resolution.
Line weighting	Line weights to be deployed on the snood prior to setting.	Greater than a total of 45 g attached within 1 m of the hook or; Greater than a total of 60 g attached within 3.5 m of the hook or; Greater than a total of 98 g weight attached within 4 m of the hook.

Annex 1

Supplemental Guidelines for Design and Deployment of Tori Lines**Preamble**

Minimum technical standards for deployment of tori lines are found in **Table 1** of this Resolution, and are not repeated here. These supplemental guidelines are designed to assist in the preparation and implementation of tori line regulations for longline vessels. While these guidelines are relatively explicit, improvement in tori line effectiveness through experimentation is encouraged, within the requirements of **Table 1** in the Resolution. The guidelines take into account environmental and operational variables such as weather conditions, setting speed and ship size, all of which influence tori line performance and design in protecting baits from birds. Tori line design and use may change to take account of these variables provided that line performance is not compromised. On-going improvement in tori line design is envisaged and consequently review of these guidelines should be undertaken in the future.

Tori line design (see Figure 1)

1. An appropriate towed device on the section of the tori line in the water can improve the aerial extension.
2. The above water section of the line should be sufficiently light that its movement is unpredictable to avoid habituation by birds and sufficiently heavy to avoid deflection of the line by wind.
3. The line is best attached to the vessel with a robust barrel swivel to reduce tangling of the line.
4. The streamers should be made of material that is conspicuous and produces an unpredictable lively action (e.g. strong fine line sheathed in red polyurethane tubing) suspended from a robust three-way swivel (that again reduces tangles) attached to the tori line.
5. Each streamer should consist of two or more strands.
6. Each streamer pair should be detachable by means of a clip so that line stowage is more efficient.

Deployment of tori lines

1. The line should be suspended from a pole affixed to the vessel. The tori pole should be set as high as possible so that the line protects bait a good distance astern of the vessel and will not tangle with fishing gear. Greater pole height provides greater bait protection. For example, a height of around 7 m above the water line can give about 100 m of bait protection.
2. If vessels use only one tori line it should be set to windward of sinking baits. If baited hooks are set outboard of the wake, the streamer line attachment point to the vessel should be positioned several meters outboard of the side of the vessel that baits are deployed. If vessels use two tori lines, baited hooks should be deployed within the area bounded by the two tori lines.
3. Deployment of multiple tori lines is encouraged to provide even greater protection of baits from birds.
4. Because there is the potential for line breakage and tangling, spare tori lines should be carried onboard to replace damaged lines and to ensure fishing operations can continue uninterrupted. Breakaways can be incorporated into the tori line to minimize safety and operational problems should a longline float foul or tangle with the in-water extent of a streamer line.
5. When fishers use a bait casting machine (BCM), they must ensure coordination of tori line and machine by: i) ensuring the BCM throws directly under the tori line protection, and ii) when using a BCM (or multiple BCMs) that allows throwing to both port and starboard, two tori lines should be used.
6. When casting branchline by hand, fishers should ensure that the baited hooks and coiled branchline sections are cast under the tori line protection, avoiding the propeller turbulence which may slow the sink rate.
7. Fishers are encouraged to install manual, electric or hydraulic winches to improve ease of deployment and retrieval of tori lines.

Streamer Line

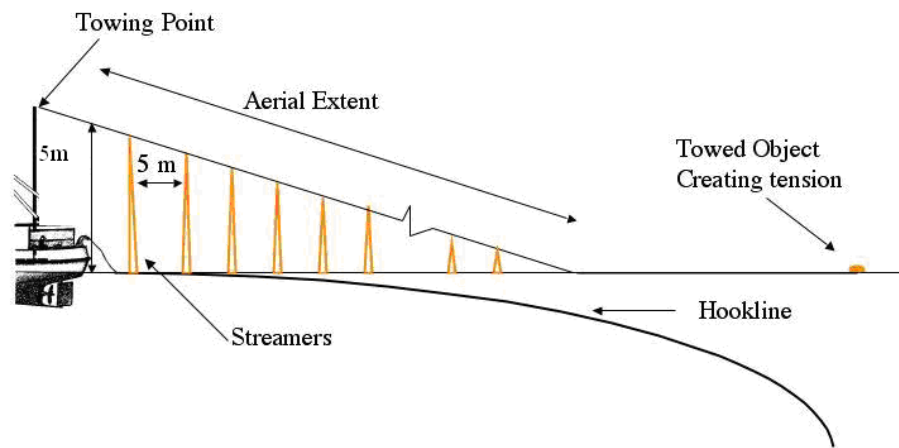


Figure 1. Diagram of Bird Scaring Streamer Line.

APPENDIX XXI
RESOLUTION 12/07

**CONCERNING A RECORD OF LICENSED FOREIGN VESSELS FISHING FOR IOTC SPECIES IN
THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE AND ACCESS AGREEMENT INFORMATION**

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECOGNISING that coastal States have sovereign rights in a 200-nautical mile exclusive economic zone (EEZ) with respect to their natural resources;

CONCIOUS of the provisions of Article 62 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

NOTING that the information on vessels licensed to fish in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of IOTC Members and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CPCs), constitutes a means to identify potential unreported fishing activities;

MINDFUL of the recommendation 17 of the Performance Review Panel, as listed in Resolution 09/01 *on the performance review follow-up*, that the obligation incumbent to a flag State to report data for its vessels be included in a separate Resolution from the obligation incumbent on Members to report data on the vessels of third countries they licence to fish in their EEZs.

AWARE of the data reporting requirements for all CPCs and the importance of complete statistical reporting to the work of the Scientific Community, its Working Parties and the Commission;

MINDFUL of the need to ensure transparency among CPCs, in particular to facilitate joint efforts to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing;

RECALLING the duties of CPCs concerning IUU fisheries as stated in the Resolution 11/03 *establishing a list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the IOTC area of competence*; which requires CPCs to ensure that their vessels do not conduct fishing activities within areas under the national jurisdiction of other States without authorisation and/or infringe the coastal State's laws and resolutions;

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

PRIVATE ACCESS AGREEMENTS:

1. All CPCs which issue licenses to foreign flag vessels to fish in their EEZ for species managed by the IOTC in the IOTC Area of Competence (hereinafter referred to as "the Area"), shall submit to the Secretary, by 15 February every year, a list of all foreign flag vessels to which such licences have been issued during the previous year.
2. This list shall contain the following information for each vessel:
 - IOTC Number
 - Name and registration number
 - IMO number, if available
 - The flag at the time of issuing the licence
 - International radio call sign (if any)
 - Vessel type, length, and gross tonnage (GT)
 - Name and address of owner, and/or charterer and/or operator
 - Main target species
 - Period of licence

GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT ACCESS AGREEMENTS:

3. In cases where coastal CPCs allow foreign-flagged vessels to fish in waters in their EEZ in the IOTC Area for species managed by IOTC through a CPC–to–CPC agreement, CPCs involved in the referred agreement shall jointly notify the Commission prior to beginning fishing activities of the existence of such agreements and provide to the Commission information concerning these agreements, including:
 - a) The CPCs involved in the agreement
 - b) The time period or periods covered by the agreement
 - c) The number of vessels and gear types authorized and vessel information requested in paragraph 2 above
 - d) The stock or species authorized for harvest, including any applicable catch limits
 - e) The CPC’s quota or catch limit to which the catch will be applied, where applicable
 - f) Monitoring, control, and surveillance measures required by the flag CPC and coastal CPC involved
 - g) Data reporting obligations stipulated in the agreement, including those between the parties involved, as well as those regarding information that must be provided to the Commission
 - h) A copy of the written agreement
4. For agreements in existence prior to the entry into force of this Resolution, the information specified in paragraph 3 shall be provided, at the latest, 60 days in advance of the 2013 Commission meeting.
5. When an access agreement is modified in a manner that changes any of the information specified in paragraph 3, these changes shall be promptly notified to the Commission.
6. The Secretariat shall report the information specified in this Resolution annually to the Commission at its annual meeting.
7. This Resolution shall be consistent with domestic confidentiality requirements of the coastal CPC and the flag CPC concerned.
8. IOTC Resolution 10/07 *Concerning a record of licenced vessels fishing for tunas and swordfish in the IOTC Area* is superseded by this Resolution.

APPENDIX XXII
RESOLUTION 12/08
ON A FISH AGGREGATING DEVICES (FADs) MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

BEARING IN MIND that the Agreement for the implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (UNFSA) encourages coastal States and fishing States on the high seas to collect and share, in a timely manner, complete and accurate data concerning fishing activities on, inter alia, vessel position, catch of target and non-target species and fishing effort;

NOTING that the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing provides that States should compile fishery-related and other supporting scientific data relating to fish stocks covered by subregional or regional fisheries management organisations and provide them in a timely manner to the organisation;

RECOGNIZING that all gears deployed to target resources under IOTC competence should be managed to ensure sustainability of fishing operations;

AWARE that the Commission is committed to adopt conservation measures to reduce juvenile bigeye and yellowfin tuna mortalities from fishing effort on Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs);

AWARE that the availability of adequate information is fundamental to carrying out the objectives of the IOTC Agreement laid down in its Article V;

NOTING that the Scientific Committee advised the Commission to conduct an investigation of the feasibility and impacts of a temporary FAD closure as well as other measures in the context of Indian Ocean fisheries and stocks;

RECALLING that the objective of the IOTC Agreement is to ensure, through appropriate management, the conservation and optimum utilization of stocks covered by the mentioned Agreement and encouraging sustainable development of fisheries based on such stocks and minimizing the level of bycatches;

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

1. CPCs having vessels fishing on Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) shall submit, to the Commission, by the end of 2013, Management Plans for the use of FADs by their purse seiners and bait boat vessels. The Plans shall at a minimum meet the Suggested Guidelines for Preparation for FAD Management Plans for each CPC (Annex 1). For the purposes of this Resolution, the term Fish Aggregation Device (FAD) means drifting or anchored floating or submerged objects deployed by fishermen for the purpose of aggregating target tuna species.
2. The Management Plans shall include initiatives or surveys to investigate, and to the extent possible minimize the capture of small bigeye and yellowfin tuna and non-target species associated with fishing on FADs.
3. These Plans shall be analysed by the Compliance Committee at its 2014 session. The information provided in these Plans will be submitted to the Commission, consistent with the IOTC standards for the provision of catch and effort data and will be made available for analysis to the Scientific Committee on the aggregation level set by Resolution 10/02, and under the confidentiality rules set by Resolution 12/02.
4. From 2015 on, CPCs shall submit to the Commission, 60 days before the Annual Meeting, a report on the management of FADs, including any reviews of the initially submitted Management Plans.
5. The Scientific Committee will analyse the information, when available, and provide scientific advice on additional FAD management options for consideration by the Commission in 2015.

Annex 1
GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION OF FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE (FAD) MANAGEMENT PLANS

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

- An objective
- Scope:
 - Description of its application with respect to:
 - Vessel-types and support and tender vessels
 - FAD types (anchored (AFAD) AND drifting (DFAD))
 - FAD numbers and/or FADs beacons numbers to be deployed (per FAD type)
 - reporting procedures for AFAD and DFAD deployment
 - catch reporting from FAD sets (consistent with the IOTC’s Standards for the provision of and Effort Data)
 - distance between AFADs
 - incidental bycatch reduction and utilization policy
 - consideration of interaction with other gear types
 - plans for monitoring and retrieval of lost FADs
 - statement or policy on “FAD ownership”
- Institutional arrangements for management of the FAD Management Plans:
 - Institutional responsibilities
 - application processes for FAD and /or FAD beacons deployment approval
 - Obligations of vessel owners and masters in respect of FAD and /or FAD beacons deployment and use
 - FAD and/or FADs beacons replacement policy
 - reporting obligations
 - observer acceptance obligations
- FAD construction specifications and requirements
 - FAD design characteristics (a description)
 - FAD markings and identifiers, including FADs beacons
 - Lighting requirements
 - radar reflectors
 - visible distance
 - radio buoys (requirement for serial numbers)

- satellite transceivers (requirement for serial numbers)
- Applicable areas
 - Details of any closed areas or periods e.g. territorial waters, shipping lanes, proximity to artisanal fisheries, etc
- Applicable period for the FAD–MP
- Means for monitoring and reviewing implementation of the FAD–MP

APPENDIX XXIII
RESOLUTION 12/09
ON THE CONSERVATION OF THRESHER SHARKS (FAMILY ALOPIIDAE) CAUGHT IN
ASSOCIATION WITH FISHERIES IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

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

CONSIDERING that thresher sharks of the family Alopiidae are caught as bycatch in the IOTC area of competence;

NOTING that at its 2009 meeting, the Working Party on Ecosystems 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 bigeye thresher shark (*Alopias superciliosus*) is particularly endangered and vulnerable;

CONSIDERING that it is difficult to differentiate between the various species of thresher sharks without taking them onboard 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. This measure shall apply to all fishing vessels on the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels.
2. Fishing Vessels flying the flag of an IOTC Member or Cooperating non-Contracting Party (CPCs) are prohibited from retaining on board, transshipping, landing, storing, selling or offering for sale any part or whole carcass of thresher sharks of all the species of the family Alopiidae, with the exception of paragraph 7.
3. CPCs shall require vessels flying their flag to promptly release unharmed, to the extent practicable, thresher sharks when brought along side for taking on board the vessel.
4. CPCs shall encourage their fishers to record and report incidental catches as well as live releases. These data will be then kept at the IOTC Secretariat.
5. Recreational and sport fishing shall release alive all caught animals of thresher sharks of all the species of the family Alopiidae. In no circumstances specimen shall be retained on board, transshipped, landed, stored, sold or offered for sale. The CPCs shall ensure that both recreational and sport fishermen carrying out fishing with high risk of catching thresher sharks are equipped with instruments suitable to release alive the animals.
6. CPCs shall, where possible, implement research on sharks of the species *Alopias* spp, in the Convention area in order to identify potential nursery areas. Based on this research, CPCs shall consider additional management measures, as appropriate.
7. Scientific observers shall be allowed to collect biological samples (vertebrae, tissues, reproductive tracts, stomachs, skin samples, spiral valves, jaws, whole and skeletonised specimens for taxonomic works and museum collections) from thresher sharks that are dead at haulback, provided that the samples are part of the research project approved by the Scientific Committee (or Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB)). In order to obtain the approval, a detailed document outlining the purpose of the work, number and type of samples intended to be collected and the spatio-temporal distribution of the sampling work must be included in the proposal. Annual progress of the work and a final report on completion of the project shall be presented to the WPEB and the Scientific Committee.
8. The Contracting Parties, Co-operating non-Contracting Parties, especially those directing fishing activities for sharks, shall submit data for sharks, as required by IOTC data reporting procedures.
9. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 10/12 *On the Conservation of Thresher Sharks (Family Alopiidae) Caught in Association with Fisheries in the IOTC Area of Competence*.

APPENDIX XXIV
RESOLUTION 12/10
TO PROMOTE IMPLEMENTATION OF CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES
ALREADY ADOPTED BY IOTC

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

CONCERNED that IOTC Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (hereinafter referred to as “CPCs”), particularly developing CPCs, seem to find difficulties in implementing Conservation and Management Measures already adopted by the IOTC;

NOTING that among other things the major reasons for this situation could be:

- Lack of human and financial capacity to implement Conservation and Management Measures,
- Frequent addition of new such measures and modifications to existing ones,
- Complicated structure of Resolutions adopted by IOTC,
- Duplication of Resolutions on one subject.

CONSIDERING that streamlining of IOTC work and enhancement of capacity building are necessary to drastically promote implementation of Conservation and Management Measures;

FURTHER CONCERNED that little progress has been made by the WG on Compendium which was established by Resolution 11/01;

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

ESTABLISHMENT OF FUND FOR CAPACITY BUILDING

1. The Commission shall establish a special fund for capacity building in order to ensure compliance with Conservation and Management Measures adopted by the IOTC. This special fund shall be financed by voluntary contributions. The Secretariat shall contact international organizations, donor agencies and non-governmental organizations to seek voluntary financial contribution.
2. Using the special fund, the Commission shall, during the next three years (2012–2014), focus on, inter alia, (i) how to improve data collection in developing CPCs and (ii) implementation of Conservation and Management Measures.
3. At its plenary meeting in 2015, the Commission shall decide the next priority area for the period from 2015 to 2017.

LIMITATION TO THE NUMBER OF PROPOSALS TO BE CONSIDERED

4. The Commission may consider limiting the number of new proposals to be considered at one plenary meeting.

STREAMLINING OF RESOLUTIONS

5. The Commission shall consider streamlining existing Resolutions by:
 - a) Abolishing outdated Resolutions and then incorporating their important key elements into a latest one
 - b) Combining multiple Resolutions into one
6. For the purpose of paragraph 5 above, CPCs shall submit proposals by two months prior to each annual meeting. The annual meeting shall decide concrete actions on such streamlining.

APPENDIX XXV

RESOLUTION 12/11

ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A LIMITATION OF FISHING CAPACITY OF CONTRACTING PARTIES AND COOPERATING NON-CONTRACTING PARTIES

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

NOTING that the IOTC Scientific Committee during its Eleventh Session agreed that the total overcapacity is a major concern in all Oceans;

RECALLING the adoption by IOTC in 2003 of the Resolution 03/01 on the limitation of fishing capacity of IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non Contracting Parties; the adoption in 2006 of the Resolutions of the Resolution 06/05 on limitation of fishing capacity, in terms of number of vessels, of IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non Contracting Parties, and the adoption in 2007 of the Resolution 07/05 *on limitation of fishing capacity of IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non Contracting Parties in terms of number of vessels targeting swordfish and Albacore*;

RECOGNISING that FAO International Plan of Action for the Management of the Fishing Capacity (IPOA) provides, in its Objectives and Principles that "States and Regional Fisheries Organisations confronted with an overcapacity problem, where capacity is undermining achievement of long-term sustainability outcomes, should endeavour initially to limit at present level and progressively reduce the fishing capacity applied to affected fisheries";

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the need to have due regard for the interests of all Members concerned, in conformity with the rights and obligations of those Members under international law and in particular, to the rights and obligations of developing countries of the Indian Ocean rim with respect to entry into the high-seas fisheries in the IOTC area of competence;

RECOGNISING the need to ensure the proper implementation of the Resolutions 03/01, 06/05 and 07/05, in order to allow the stabilisation of the level of fishing capacity active on the stocks of high commercial value under the IOTC responsibility, and to facilitate the work of the Scientific Committee to be able to provide the Commission with sound scientific advice;

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

1. Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CPCs) shall notify to the IOTC Secretariat, by 31 December 2009, the lists of vessels, by gear type, over 24 meters overall length and over, and under 24 meters if the fished outside their EEZs, and corresponding overall capacity in GT, which have actively fished in accordance with the provision of IOTC Resolution 07/04:
 - for tropical tunas during the year 2006¹
 - for swordfish and albacore during the year 2007

Both lists shall include the vessel at that time considered under administrative process of construction.

2. In notifying their vessels fishing for tropical tunas in the area in 2006, and for swordfish and albacore in 2007, the CPCs shall confirm that they have verified the effective presence and fishing activities of their vessels in the IOTC area in 2006 and in 2007, through their VMS records, catch reports, port calls, or other means. The IOTC Secretariat shall have access to such information upon request.
3. This provision does not apply to those vessels included in the lists, but considered under administrative process of construction in 2006 and in 2007.

¹ Acknowledging that the catch levels and vessels presence in 2006 of certain Members is not representative of their historical presence, and consequently that these Members may increase the number of vessels present during the period of application of the Resolution to a maximum level operating in a season or year since 2000. These Members shall provide the Commission the identified number of vessels and corresponding capacity in GT by 31 December 2009.

4. Within the period of application of this Resolution, CPCs may change the number of their vessels, by gear type, provided that they can either demonstrate to the Commission, under the advice of the Scientific Committee that the change in the number of vessels, by gear type, does not lead to an increase of fishing effort on the fish stocks involved or where they are directly limiting catches using individual transferable quotas under a comprehensive national management plan which has been provided to the Commission.
5. CPCs shall ensure that where there is a proposed transfer of capacity to their fleet that the vessels to be transferred are on the IOTC Record of Vessels or on the Record of Vessels of other tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organizations. No vessels on the List of IUU Vessels of any Regional Fisheries Management Organization may be transferred.
6. The other CPCs which had the objective of developing their fleets following the provisions of IOTC Resolution 03/01, through the introduction to the IOTC of a fleet development plan, shall confirm, by 31 December 2009, *inter alia*, the type, size, gear and origin of the vessels included in the Fleet Development Plans and the programming (precise calendar for the forthcoming 10 years) of their introduction into the fisheries). All future fishing efforts shall be in accordance with such development Plans of the concerned CPCs.
7. The CPCs which have introduced a Fleet Development Plan, and have confirmed the information on the vessels included in those plans according to the provision of paragraph 3, shall implement their Plans according to their programming. Regarding CPCs which fail to introduce vessels in accordance with their Fleet Development Plans, the IOTC Compliance Committee and the Commission will give annual consideration to the problems related to the implementation of Fleet Development Plans.
8. The IOTC Compliance Committee shall verify, at any IOTC Plenary Session, the compliance of CPCs with the provisions of this Resolution, including the implementation, according to the notified programming, of the Fleet Development Plans.
9. In relation to the foregoing, the Commission will give due consideration to the interests of the developing coastal States, in particular small islands developing States and territories within the IOTC area of competence.
10. This Resolution is applicable during the years 2012 and 2013. The Commission shall review its implementation at the 2014 IOTC Session.
11. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 09/02 *on the implementation of a limitation of fishing capacity of Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties*.

APPENDIX XXVI
RESOLUTION 12/12

TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF LARGE-SCALE DRIFTNETS ON THE HIGH SEAS IN THE IOTC AREA

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECALLING that the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 46/215 calls for a global moratorium on large-scale high seas driftnet fishing;

NOTING that a number of vessels continue to engage in large-scale high seas driftnet fishing in the Indian Ocean area (IOTC area of competence);

MINDFUL that any vessel fishing with large-scale driftnets on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence, or configured to conduct large-scale high seas driftnet operations, has the capacity to take species of concern to the IOTC and is likely to undermine the effectiveness of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures;

NOTING with concern that recent information indicates that such vessels are interacting more frequently with highly migratory species, such as tunas, swordfish, sharks, and other species covered by the IOTC Agreement; and that associated “ghost fishing” by lost or discarded driftnets have serious detrimental effects on these species of concern and the marine environment;

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

1. The use of large-scale driftnets¹ on the high seas within the IOTC area of competence shall be prohibited.
2. Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting party (hereinafter referred to as CPCs) shall take all measures necessary to prohibit their fishing vessels from using large-scale driftnets while on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence.
3. A CPC-flagged fishing vessel will be presumed to have used large-scale driftnets on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence if it is found operating on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence and is configured² to use large-scale driftnets.
4. Paragraph 3 shall not apply to a CPC-flagged vessel duly authorized to use large-scale driftnets in their EEZs. While on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence all of such driftnets and related fishing equipment shall be stowed or secured in such a manner that they are not readily available to be used for fishing.
5. CPCs shall include in their Annual Reports a summary of monitoring, control, and surveillance actions related to large-scale driftnet fishing on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence.
6. The IOTC shall periodically assess whether additional measures should be adopted and implemented to ensure that large-scale driftnets are not used on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence. The first such assessment shall take place in 2013.
7. Nothing in this measure shall prevent CPCs from applying more stringent measures to regulate the use of large-scale driftnets.
8. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 09/05 *to prohibit the use of large-scale driftnets on the high seas in the IOTC area*.

¹ “Large-scale driftnets” are defined as gillnets or other nets or a combination of nets that are more than 2.5 kilometers in length whose purpose is to enmesh, entrap, or entangle fish by drifting on the surface of, or in, the water column.

² “Configured” to use large-scale drift-nets means having on board assembled gear that collectively would allow the vessel to deploy and retrieve large-scale driftnets.

APPENDIX XXVII
RESOLUTION 12/13
FOR THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF TROPICAL TUNAS STOCKS IN THE IOTC
AREA OF COMPETENCE

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECOGNISING that based on past experience in the fishery, the potential production from the resource can be negatively impacted by excessive fishing effort;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the available scientific information and advice, in particular the IOTC Scientific Committee conclusions whereby the yellowfin and bigeye tuna stocks might have been over or fully exploited in recent years;

RECOGNISING that during the 12th IOTC scientific meeting held in Seychelles from 30 November to 04 December 2009, the Scientific Committee recommended that yellowfin and bigeye tuna catches should not exceed the MSY levels which have been estimated at 300,000 tonnes for yellowfin and at 110,000 tonnes for bigeye tuna;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the implementation of a TAC without a quota allocation would result in an inequitable distribution of the catches and fishing opportunities among the IOTC Members and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CPCs) and non-CPCs;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that the tuna artisanal fisheries sector needs strengthening in terms of catch statistics reporting in order to more closely follow the catch situations and notwithstanding improvement in the industrial fishery catch statistics reporting requirements;

NOTING the importance of applying the precautionary approach for the management of the tropical tuna and swordfish stock, in particular yellowfin and bigeye tuna in the Indian Ocean;

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

1. This resolution is applicable in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 to all vessels of 24 meters overall length and over, and under 24 meters if they fish outside their EEZ, fishing within the IOTC area of competence.
2. With the view to decreasing the pressure on the main targeted stocks and in particular on the yellowfin tuna and bigeye tuna in the IOTC area of competence for the years 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014, the area defined by the following coordinates (**Annex1**) will be closed for longline vessels in each year from 0000 hours on 1 February to 2400 hours on 1 March, and for purse-seine vessels in each year from 0000 hours on 1 November to 2400 hours on 1 December:

0 ° - 10° North

40° and 60° East
3. All vessels fishing within the IOTC area of competence in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014, regardless of the flag under which they operate or whether they change flag during the year, shall observe the area and period closure.
4. CPCs flag states shall monitor the compliance of their vessels with this Resolution, notably through VMS, and will provide a summary of VMS records related to their fleet operation in the previous year for the consideration of the Compliance Committee.
5. Fishing vessels that do not comply with IOTC Resolution 06/03 "*On establishing a vessel monitoring system programme*" are not allowed to be active in the IOTC area of competence.
6. Landings, transshipments and commercial transactions of all species, and their products, that have been positively identified as originating from fishing activities that contravene this resolution, are prohibited.
7. Each CPC shall no later than 45 days before the date of entry into force of a closure:

- a) take the necessary legal and administrative measures to implement the closure
- b) inform all interested parties and their national tuna and tuna-like species industries of the closure
- c) inform the IOTC Secretary that these steps have been taken

8. In order to have a more extensive knowledge of the exploitation rate of these species and also the assessment of the feasibility of near real time reporting, the IOTC CPCs agree to implement as soon as possible a pilot project within the framework of the port sampling programme under Resolution 11/04, with a view to enhancing the gathering of catch data related to the activities of the artisanal fishery sector and to establishing a catch reporting system.

The pilot project shall be implemented for a 12 months period by the IOTC Secretariat in collaboration with the CPCs concerned.

The pilot project will contribute relevant information to the work of the Scientific Committee in future revision of stock estimates and in the assessment of the reporting requirements in respect of catch quota reporting, particularly in the artisanal fisheries.

The Scientific Committee will examine the results of the pilot project at its 2011 meeting and provide management advice to the Commission.

9. The Scientific Committee will provide at its 2010, 2011 and 2012 plenary Session any appropriate management options based on the Kobe II matrix (**Annex 2**) for the consideration of the Commission.

10. The Scientific Committee will provide at its 2011, 2012 and 2013 Plenary sessions:

- a) an evaluation of the closure area, specifying in its advice if a modification is necessary, its basic scientific rationale with an assessment of the impact of such a closure on the tropical tuna stocks, notably yellowfin and bigeye tuna
- b) an evaluation of the closure time periods, specifying in its advice if a modification is necessary, its basic scientific rationale with an assessment of the impact of such a closure on the tropical tuna stocks, notably yellowfin and bigeye tuna
- c) an evaluation of the impact on yellowfin and bigeye tuna stocks by catching juveniles and spawners taken by all fisheries. The Scientific Committee shall also recommend measures to mitigate the impacts on juvenile and spawners
- d) any other advice on possible different management measures based on the Kobe II matrix, on the main targeted species under the IOTC competence

11. CPCs shall implement the following action plan:

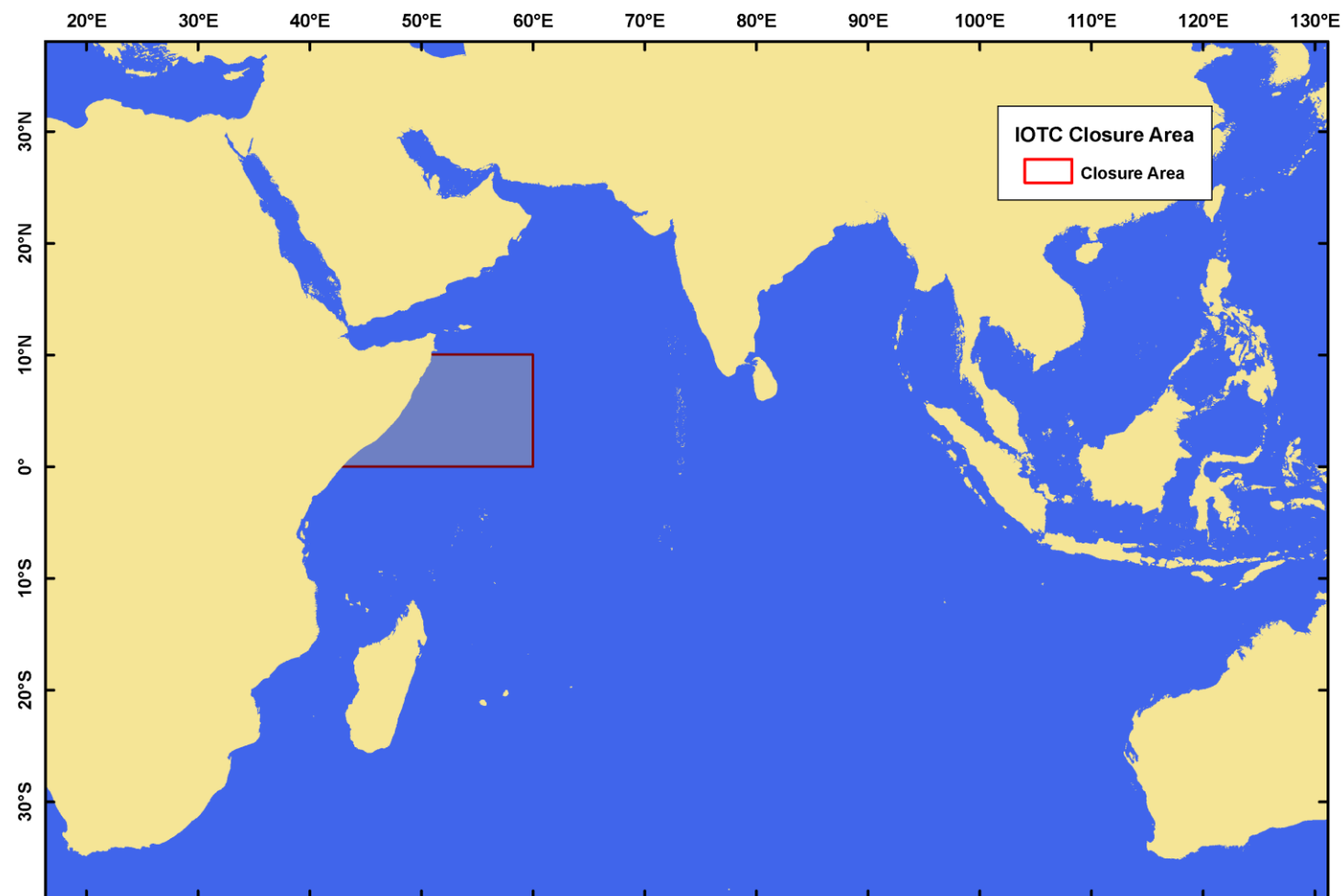
- a) establishment of an allocation system (Quota) or any other relevant measures based on the Scientific Committee recommendations for the main targeted species under the IOTC competence
- b) advice on the best reporting requirement of the artisanal tuna fisheries and implementation of an appropriate data collection system
- c) the pilot project as specified in paragraph 8

12. A technical committee meeting shall be held prior to the Commission Plenary session in 2011 to discuss on allocation criteria for the management of the tuna resources of the Indian Ocean and recommend an allocation quota system or any other relevant measures. CPCs are encouraged to submit proposals one month prior to the meeting.

13. The Commission shall adopt an allocation quota system or any other relevant measure for the yellowfin and bigeye tunas at its plenary session in 2012.

14. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 10/01 *for the conservation and management of tropical tunas stocks in the IOTC area of competence*.

Annex 1



Annex 2

Strategy Matrix for Setting Management Measures

Management Target	Time Frame	Probability of Meeting Target			Data Rich/ Data Poor
		A%	B%	C%	
<Fishing Mortality Target>	In x years				
	In y years				
	In z years				

Management Target	Time Frame	Probability of Meeting Target			Data Rich/ Data Poor
		A%	B%	C%	
<Biomass Target>	In x years				
	In y years				
	In z years				

Management Target		Probability of Maintaining Status Quo			Data Rich/ Data Poor
		A%	B%	C%	
<Status Quo>					

APPENDIX XXVIII
RECOMMENDATION 12/14
ON INTERIM TARGET AND LIMIT REFERENCE POINTS

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECALLING that Article 6, paragraph 3, of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea of December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (UNFSA), establishes the application of precautionary reference points as a general principle for sound fisheries management;

FURTHER RECALLING that Annex II, of UNFSA provides guidelines for the application of precautionary reference points in the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, including the adoption of provisional reference points when information for establishing reference points is absent or poor;

NOTING that Article 7.5.3 of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries also recommends the implementation of stock specific target and limit reference points, *inter alia*, on the basis of the precautionary approach;

NOTING that recommendations 37 and 38 of the Performance Review Panel, adopted by the Commission as Resolution 09/01, indicate that pending the amendment or replacement of the IOTC Agreement to incorporate modern fisheries management principles, the Commission should implement the precautionary approach including, *inter alia*, precautionary reference points, as set forth in the UNFSA;

NOTING Resolution 12/01 *On the implementation of the precautionary approach* that recommends adoption of provisional reference points, and that the Scientific Committee proposed provisional values at its 14th Session;

RECOMMENDS, in accordance with paragraph 8 of Article IX of the IOTC Agreement, to the following:

1. When assessing stock status and providing recommendations to the Commission, the Scientific Committee should apply the following interim target and limit reference points for the species of tuna and tuna-like species listed in [Table 1](#). B_{MSY} refers to the biomass level for the stock that would produce the Maximum Sustainable Yield; F_{MSY} refers to the level of fishing mortality that produces the Maximum Sustainable Yield.

Table 1. Interim target and limit reference points.

Stock	Target Reference Point	Limit Reference Point
Albacore tuna	B_{MSY} ; F_{MSY}	40% of B_{MSY} ; 40% above F_{MSY}
Bigeye tuna	B_{MSY} ; F_{MSY}	50% of B_{MSY} ; 30% above F_{MSY}
Skipjack tuna	B_{MSY} ; F_{MSY}	40% of B_{MSY} ; 50% above F_{MSY}
Yellowfin tuna	B_{MSY} ; F_{MSY}	40% of B_{MSY} ; 40% above F_{MSY}
Swordfish	B_{MSY} ; F_{MSY}	40% of B_{MSY} ; 40% above F_{MSY}

2. These interim target and limit reference points shall remain in effect until the Commission adopts updated, species-specific reference points and harvest control rules, considering the scientific advice supplied by the Scientific Committee.
3. In implementing harvest control rules, the Commission, taking into account the advice of the Scientific Committee, shall act to ensure that there is a high probability of target reference points being reached and a low probability of limit reference points being breached. This may be achieved by managing fishing mortality at levels which will allow stock biomass to be maintained above its limit reference points and around its target reference points.

APPENDIX XXIX
RECOMMENDATION 12/15
ON THE BEST AVAILABLE SCIENCE

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECOGNIZING the importance of sound scientific advice as the centre piece for the conservation and management of tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean and adjacent seas in line with international law and the information needs of the Commission;

AWARE that the availability of adequate scientific information is fundamental to carrying out the objectives of the IOTC Agreement laid down in its Article V;

EMPHASIZING the importance of the effective participation by all CPCs in the work of the Scientific Committee and its Working Parties;

RECOGNIZING the limited financial resources of developing coastal States and wishing to assist in building their scientific capacity;

ACKNOWLEDGING the need to improve the availability and quality of data and analysis used for the provision of scientific advice, including on bycatch and discards;

NOTING that participation of invited experts may advance the quality assurance of the scientific work of the Scientific Committee;

RECOGNIZING the need for broadening and streamlining the scope of financial support for capacity building for the purpose of this Recommendation;

BUILDING on the deliberations and recommendations of the Scientific Committee and of the Kobe process;

NOTING the importance of regular assessments of the performance of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations, including the functioning of their scientific committees;

RECOMMENDS, in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, paragraph 8 of the IOTC Agreement, that CPCs undertake to:

1. Take all measures which would be appropriate:
 - i. To improve the communication between CPCs, the Commission and the Scientific Committee by enabling a continuous dialogue, for example, through the use of electronic discussion groups and tele-/video conferencing
 - ii. To improve the collection and submission of data to the Secretariat, including on bycatch
 - iii. To support research programs and projects relevant to the information needs of the Commission
 - iv. To facilitate participation in meetings of the Scientific Committee, its Working Parties as well as in other relevant scientific bodies of scientists with suitable scientific qualifications
 - v. To contribute to the training of scientific researchers, including young scientists
2. Preserve and promote the professional independence and excellence of the Scientific Committee and its Working Parties, and the relevance of their work to the information needs of the Commission, by:
 - i. Enhancing the participation of scientists in meetings of the Scientific Committee and its Working Parties, including scientists involved in other tuna RFMOs and other relevant scientific bodies
 - ii. Drafting a code of conduct for the Scientific Committee, including for its Working Parties, for adoption by the Commission. For this purpose, the Scientific Committee may develop rules to avoid conflict of interests, to ensure the quality, relevance and professional independence of scientific activities and, where applicable, to maintain the confidentiality of the data used

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- iii. Drafting a strategic plan for the Scientific Committee, including its Working Parties, for adoption by the Commission. The strategic plan shall be used to guide the work of the Scientific Committee, and Working Parties, in assisting the Commission to effectively achieve its mandate
 - iv. Ensuring that relevant, professionally independent and objective scientific advice, based on the best available and peer-reviewed scientific analysis, is presented by the Scientific Committee to the Commission
 - v. Ensuring that sources and history of revisions of all documents submitted to and assessed by the Scientific Committee and its Working Parties are fully documented
 - vi. Providing clear, transparent, and standardized formats for the provision of advice to the Commission
 - vii. Providing for well-defined rules for formulating scientific advice to the Commission, reflecting different views while striving for consensus, to promote consistency and transparency
3. Strengthen peer review mechanisms within the Scientific Committee by participation of invited experts (e.g. from other RFMOs or from academia) in the Scientific Committee activities. These experts shall be subject to the data confidentiality rules and procedures currently applicable in the IOTC.
 4. Continue to support the Scientific Committee's initiatives to publish its scientific findings in the scientific peer-reviewed academic literature.
 5. With the aim of meeting the above-mentioned objectives, consider broadening financial support and mechanisms, including *inter alia*, contributing to the "Meeting Participation Fund" for Developing IOTC Contracting Parties, for the purpose of the implementation of this Resolution, in particular to:
 - i. Contribute to the scientific capacity building of the developing CPCs and to enhance their effective participation in the work of the Scientific Committee and its Working Parties
 - ii. Provide necessary resources for the Scientific Committee and its Working Parties, including consideration of alternative funding models for the commissioning of research
 6. The next independent performance review of IOTC should assess the functioning of the Scientific Committee and its Working Parties as a total quality management process, including an evaluation of the potential role of external reviews.

APPENDIX XXX**STATEMENT OF THE IOTC PLENARY ON PIRACY IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE**

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission "IOTC" recalls its statements on piracy off the coast of Somalia issued in May 2008, March 2009, March 2010 and March 2011. Regrettably, cases of piracy against humanitarian, commercial and fishing vessels off the coast of Somalia have not declined. The Commission continues to be deeply concerned by this upsurge of acts of piracy which put at risk the delivery of humanitarian assistance to the population of Somalia. Piracy continues to have a serious impact on merchant shipping and legitimate fishing activities in the western part of the IOTC area of competence subject to international laws and regulations and where their activities are monitored by IOTC members in accordance with its management measures. Finally, piracy has a negative impact on the scientific research carried out on board of fishing vessels due to the difficulties to carry onboard scientific observers.

The IOTC welcomes the adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolutions (UNSCR) 1814, 1816, 1838, 1846, 1851, 1897, 1918, 1950, 1976, 2015 and 2020 on piracy off the coast of Somalia and urges all States to continue contributing to their rapid and effective implementation.

The UN Security Council Resolution 2015 urges member states to make piracy a crime and establish anti-piracy courts because of the rise in maritime piracy crime off the coast of Somalia. The request was due in part to the recent conclusion by the Malaysia-based International Maritime Bureau's Piracy Reporting Centre that despite increased patrol, Somali pirates are intensifying their attacks. With Somali pirates responsible for 54 percent of the 439 attacks reported last year, the Security Council hopes to increase the number of courts and prisons in Somalia and other regional States in order to increase jurisdiction and accelerate enforcement efforts. The resolution also urges a collaborative effort among states to share evidence and information regarding piracy suspects to further an anti-piracy international community

The UN Security Council Resolution 1918 (2010) calls on all States, including States in the region, to criminalise piracy under their domestic law and favourably consider the prosecution of suspected, and imprisonment of convicted, pirates apprehended off the Coast of Somalia, consistent with the application of international law on human rights.

The implementation of these resolutions helps to ensure the protection of fishermen (of various nationalities) from piracy, and enables them to carry out their fishing activities. Fishing is their livelihood that also generates a significant amount of economic activities in coastal countries of the Indian Ocean. The IOTC expresses its satisfaction with the ongoing efforts of organisations and states contributing to fight piracy off the coast of Somalia. It calls for the international community to devote sufficient means to fully implement the UNSC resolutions, and commends the flagship role that EU is playing with its Operation EUNAVFOR Atalanta and its regional maritime capacity building efforts.

In addition, the IOTC recalls the relevant provisions included in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), notably those included in its article 105, for fighting acts of piracy and calls on State parties to that Convention to take the necessary action in their national legislations to make full use of those provisions.

The IOTC also reiterates the efforts made by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), with its robust code of conduct on piracy and armed robbery against ships for States from the Western Indian Ocean and Gulf of Aden areas of 2009 – the Djibouti Code of Conduct. It calls all eligible states to sign. The IOTC stresses the need to promptly report incidents of piracy and armed robbery, including attempts, thus providing timely and accurate information on the scope of the problem. Sharing relevant information with coastal States and other States potentially affected by such incidents is crucial to addressing the issue. A regional approach is part of the solution and in this context, the IOTC commends the important role of the IMO in implementing the Djibouti Code of Conduct. The IOTC also welcomed the 2011 theme for the World Maritime Day: "Piracy: orchestrating the response". The IOTC commends the work of the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia in facilitating coordination among its members.

The IOTC calls on the International Community to give all its support to ensure the safety of all fishing vessels and their crew in the region from acts of piracy. It calls for full implementation by all crew members and fishermen of the Best Management Practices as agreed by the international maritime community - vessels are encouraged to fully adopt these to help repel piracy attacks.

The IOTC calls for strong and concerted action on the international and political scene. The Regional Strategy on Piracy and Maritime Security adopted in Mauritius in 2010 is a major step towards a regional response to piracy. Although measures are in place to prosecute suspected pirates and to install a proper rule of law in Somalia, there will always be room for improvement, given the changing patterns of piracy.