



Report of the Seventeenth Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission

Mauritius, 6–10 May, 2013

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Contact details:

Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
Le Chantier Mall
PO Box 1011
Victoria, Mahé, Seychelles
Ph: +248 4225 494
Fax: +248 4224 364
Email: secretariat@iotc.org
Website: <http://www.iotc.org>

ACRONYMS

AFAD	Anchored fish aggregating device
BOBP-IGO	Bay of Bengal Programme – Inter-Governmental Organisation
B _{MSY}	Biomass which produces MSY
CFFA	Coalition for Fair Fisheries Arrangement
CMM	Conservation and Management Measure (of the IOTC; Resolutions and Recommendations)
CNCP	Cooperation Non-Contracting Party, of the IOTC
CoC	Compliance Committee of the IOTC
CPCs	Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties
DFAD	Drifting fish aggregating device
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
ERA	Ecological risk assessment
FAD	Fish aggregating device
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
F _{MSY}	Fishing mortality at MSY
GI	Greenpeace International
HCR	Harvest control rule
IO	Indian Ocean
IOC	Indian Ocean Commission
IOTC	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
ISSF	International Seafood Sustainability Foundation
IUU	Illegal, unreported and unregulated
LRP	Limit reference point
LSTLV	Large-scale tuna longline vessel
MPF	Meeting participation fund, of the IOTC
MSC	Marine stewardship council
MSE	Management Strategy Evaluation
OPRT	Organisation for the Promotion of Responsible Tuna Fisheries
PEW	PEW Charitable Trust
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organisation
SC	Scientific Committee of the IOTC
SCAF	Standing Committee on Administration and Finance, of the IOTC
SIOFA	Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
SWIO	Southwest Indian Ocean
SWIOFC	Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission
TCAC	Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria, of the IOTC
TRP	Target reference point
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
USJI	United States–Japan Research Institute
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System
WPEB	Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch, of the IOTC
WPM	Working Party on Methods, of the IOTC
WPTmT	Working Party on Temperate tunas, of the IOTC
WPTT	Working Party on Tropical Tunas, of the IOTC
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature (a.k.a World Wildlife Fund)

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COOPERATING NON-CONTRACTING PARTIES OF THE INDIAN OCEAN TUNA COMMISSION**2 AS OF 6TH MAY 2013**

SENEGAL
SOUTH AFRICA

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Seventeenth Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) was held in Mauritius, from 6 to 10 May 2013, Chaired by Mr Daroomalingum Mauree (Mauritius). A total of 173 Delegates attended the Session, including 133 Delegates from 25 Members of the Commission, 4 Delegates from 2 Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, and 36 Delegates from Observers to the Commission (including 5 invited experts)

The Commission adopted the IOTC IUU Vessels List as provided in [Appendix XI](#) (para. 64)

The Commission granted the status of Cooperating non-Contracting Party until the close of the 18th Session in 2014 to Senegal and South Africa, based on the understanding that Senegal and South Africa will attend the CoC11 meeting in 2014. (para. 68, 70)

The Commission adopted the budget and the scheme of contributions for 2013, and the indicative budget for 2014, as outlined in [Appendix XIII](#) and [Appendix XIV](#) respectively. (para. 92)

The Commission adopted 11 Conservation and Management Measures in 2013, consisting of 11 Resolutions and 0 Recommendations, as follows:

- [Resolution 13/01](#) *On the removal of obsolete Conservation and Management Measures*
- [Resolution 13/02](#) *Concerning the IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC area of competence*
- [Resolution 13/03](#) *On the recording of catch and effort data by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence*
- [Resolution 13/04](#) *On the conservation of cetaceans*
- [Resolution 13/05](#) *On the conservation of whale sharks (*Rhincodon typus*)*
- [Resolution 13/06](#) *On a scientific and management framework on the Conservation of sharks species caught in association with IOTC managed fisheries*
- [Resolution 13/07](#) *Concerning a record of licensed foreign vessels fishing for IOTC species in the IOTC area of competence and access agreement information*
- [Resolution 13/08](#) *Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan, including more detailed specification of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species*
- [Resolution 13/09](#) *On the conservation of albacore caught in the IOTC area of competence*
- [Resolution 13/10](#) *On interim target and limit reference points and a decision framework*
- [Resolution 13/11](#) *On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna and a recommendation for non-targeted species caught by purse seine vessels in the IOTC area of competence*

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The Seventeenth Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) was held in Mauritius, from 6 to 10 May 2013, Chaired by Mr Daroomalingum Mauree (Mauritius). A total of 173 Delegates attended the Session from 25 Members of the Commission, 4 delegates from 2 Cooperating non-Contracting Parties and 36 Delegates from Observers to the Commission (including 5 invited experts). The list of participants is provided at [Appendix I](#).
2. On behalf of the Government of Mauritius, the Honorable L.J. Von-Mally, GOSK, Minister of Fisheries, gave the inaugural address ([Appendix II](#)), welcomed participants to Mauritius and declared the Seventeenth Session of the IOTC open.
3. The Chairperson, Mr Daroomalingum Mauree, and the Executive Secretary Mr Rondolph Payet joined in welcoming participants to the meeting ([Appendix II](#)).

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION

4. The Commission **ADOPTED** the agenda provided at [Appendix III](#), that included two additional items added under ‘Other business’: i) Discussion on the activities of other regional bodies and donors in the Indian Ocean; and ii) To discuss the procedures for the submission of proposals. The documents presented to the Commission are listed in [Appendix IV](#).

3. ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS

5. The Commission **RECALLED** its agreement made in 2012 that meetings of the Commission and 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. Applications by new Observers should continue to follow the procedure as outlined in Rule XIII of the IOTC Rules of Procedure.
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 Organization 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. Russian Federation
 - ii. United States of America
 - iii. Cook Islands
 - 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. Coalition for Fair Fisheries Arrangements (CFFA)
 - iii. Greenpeace International (GI)
 - iv. International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF)
 - v. Organisation for the Promotion of Responsible Tuna Fisheries (OPRT)
 - vi. Marine Stewardship Council (MSC)
 - vii. PEW Charitable Trusts (PEW)
 - viii. US–Japan Research Institute (USJI)
 - ix. 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 **EXPRESSED** its appreciation that the FAO ADG, Mr Arni Mathiesen, was in attendance at the Seventeenth Session of the Commission and who addressed the Commission ([Appendix V](#)).
8. The Commission **NOTED** the written statement by the Russian Federation ([Appendix V](#)).

4. REPORT OF THE 15TH SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

9. The Commission **NOTED** the report of the Fifteenth Session of the Scientific Committee (SC) (IOTC–2012–SC15–R) which was presented by the Chair of the SC, Dr Tsutomu Nishida (Japan). A total of 55 individuals attended the Session, comprised of 46 delegates from 21 Member countries and 0 delegates from Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, as well as 9 observers and invited experts.

4.1 Status of the stocks

10. The Commission **NOTED** the latest stock status and management advice for each of the species under the IOTC mandate as well as seven shark species directly impacted by vessels fishing for tuna and tuna-like species, contained in the stock status table provided at [Appendix VI](#).

4.2 Commission requests to the Scientific Committee

11. The Commission **RECALLED** that in 2012, 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.

4.2.1 Outlook on time-area closures

12. The Commission, at its 16th Session, adopted Resolution 12/13 *for the conservation and management of tropical tunas stocks in the IOTC area of competence*, which superseded Resolution 10/01. Contained within Resolution 12/13 is a requirement that the SC will develop at its 2012 and 2013 sessions, the following:
 - 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.*
13. The Commission **NOTED** the SC conclusion 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.
14. **NOTING** that the objective of Resolution 12/13 is to decrease the overall pressure on the main targeted stocks in the Indian Ocean, in particular bigeye tuna and yellowfin tuna, and also to evaluate the impact of the current time/area closure and any alternative scenarios on tropical tuna populations, the Commission **NOTED** the SC request to specify the level of reduction or the long term management objectives to be achieved with the current or alternative time area closures and/or alternative measures, as these are not contained within Resolution 12/13. This will, in turn, guide and facilitate the analysis of the SC, via the WPTT in 2013 and future years. No additional guidance was provided by the Commission during the 17th Session.

4.2.2 Impacts of catching bigeye tuna and yellowfin tuna juveniles and spawners

15. The Commission **RECALLED** that at its 16th Session, it adopted Resolution 12/13 *for the conservation and management of tropical tunas stocks in the IOTC area of competence*, which superseded Resolution 10/01. Contained within Resolution 12/13 is a requirement that the SC will develop at its 2012 and 2013 sessions, the following:

- 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.*

16. The Commission **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. The Commission **REQUESTED** that the countries engaged in those fisheries take immediate actions to improve fishery statistics reporting to the IOTC Secretariat.
17. The Commission **NOTED** 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.

4.2.3 Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)

18. The Commission **RECALLED** that at its 15th Session, Members ‘*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). MSE is a procedure whereby the performance of alternative management strategies are evaluated using simulations of stock and fishery dynamics.
19. The Commission **NOTED** the progress made by the Working Party on Methods and its informal sub-group, and supported the work plan outlined for 2013 and 2014.
20. The Commission **NOTED** the SC request to develop management objectives to guide the MSE process. No additional guidance was provided by the Commission during the 17th Session, outside of the IOTC Agreement.
21. The Commission **AGREED** to initiate a consultative process among managers, stakeholders and scientists to begin discussions about the implementation of an MSE in the IOTC.

4.2.4 Resolution 12/04 *On the conservation of marine turtles*

22. The Commission **RECALLED** that paragraph 11 of Resolution 12/04 makes the following request to the SC:
- 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.*
 - c) *Develop improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of marine turtles, including the use of biodegradable materials.*
23. The Commission **NOTED** that the recommendations from the SC have been incorporated into a proposal before the Commission and deferred further discussion to Section 9.

4.3 General comments and consideration of other recommendations made by the Scientific Committee in 2012

24. The Commission addressed the list of recommendations made by the SC15 ([Appendix VII](#)) 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:

4.3.1 National Reports

25. **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 providing the reports by all CPCs, the Commission **NOTED** that in 2012, 26 reports were provided by CPCs, up from 25 in 2011, 15 in 2010 and 14 in 2009. In congratulating the 26 CPCs who provided a report in 2012, the Commission also stressed the importance of the submission of National Reports by all CPCs and **REQUESTED** those who did not meet their reporting obligations in this regard (Seven: Eritrea, Guinea, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Vanuatu and Yemen), to provide a National Report to the SC in 2013.
26. The Commission **REMINDED** CPCs that the purpose of the National Reports is to provide relevant information to the SC on fishing activities of Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties operating in the IOTC area of competence. The report should include all fishing activities for species under the IOTC mandate as well as sharks and other byproduct / bycatch species as required by the IOTC Agreement and decisions by the Commission. The submission of a National Report is mandatory, irrespective if a CPC intends on attending the annual meeting of the SC.

4.3.2 Alternative management measures for swordfish

27. The Commission, at its 16th Session requested *‘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.’* (para. 21 of the S16 report).
28. 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 that biomass remains below the level that would produce the 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 the 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} .
29. The Commission **REQUESTED** 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.
30. The Commission **ACKNOWLEDGED** 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

4.3.3 Kobe II Strategy Matrix

31. 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 **REQUESTED** 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 2013 and all future reports.

4.3.4 On data

32. The Commission **NOTED** the paucity of catch statistics for the main species of sharks, by major fisheries (gears), for the period 1950–2011, as provided in the SC15 report. 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** as the information on retained catches and discards of sharks contained in the IOTC database remains very incomplete for most fleets despite their mandatory reporting status, and that catch-and-effort as well as size data are essential to assess the status of shark stocks.
33. The Commission **NOTED** the statement from the SC that despite the mandatory reporting requirements detailed in IOTC Resolutions 05/05, 10/02, 12/03, 12/04 and 12/06, bycatch data remain largely unreported by CPCs.
34. The Commission **NOTED** some minor improvements in the quantity of fisheries statistics available to the SC and its Working Parties in 2012 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 such, the Commission **REQUESTED** that all CPCs 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.

4.3.5 Ecological Risk Assessment

35. The Commission **NOTED** the results of a preliminary ecological risk assessment (ERA) of shark species caught in the Indian Ocean by longline and purse seine gears, which was a request made by the Commission at its 15th Session in 2011. The Commission **RECOGNISED** the highly valuable information provided by this ERA which produced a ranked list of the shark species estimated to be most vulnerable to longline and purse seine gears as detailed in the SC15 report. Japan stressed that the results were based on ranking and thus absolute degree of vulnerability could not be evaluated by the ERA.
36. The Commission **NOTED** the list of the 10 shark species estimated to be most vulnerable to longline gear and purse seine gear agreed to at SC15, as determined by the productivity susceptibility analysis, compared to the list of shark species/groups required to be recorded for each gear, contained in Resolution 12/03 on the recording of catch and effort by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence. Japan stressed that the results were based on ranking and thus absolute degree of vulnerability could not be evaluated by the ERA.

4.3.6 Fin to body weight ratio

37. The Commission **NOTED** the SC advice 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 their fins attached (naturally or by other means) to their respective carcass. The Commission also **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.

4.3.7 Wire leaders/traces

38. The Commission **NOTED** the advice from the SC15 that on the basis of information presented to the SC in 2012 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.

4.3.8 Science budget

39. 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.

4.3.9 Chairs and Vice-Chairs

40. 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 VIII](#).

5. REPORT OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON ALLOCATION CRITERIA

41. The Commission **NOTED** the report of the Second Session of the Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria (TCAC) (IOTC–2013–TCAC02–R) which was presented by the Chair of the TCAC, Mr Daroomalingum Mauree (Mauritius). A total of 82 individuals attended the Session, comprised of 69 delegates from 23 Member countries, 1 delegate from 1 Cooperating Non-Contracting Party, 9 delegates from 5 observer organisations and 3 invited experts.
42. The Commission addressed the list of recommendations made by the TCAC02 ([Appendix IX](#)) in its 2013 report that related specifically to the Commission or concerned the work of the Secretariat. The Commission **ENDORSED** the list of recommendations.
43. The Commission **NOTED** the TCAC02 agreement to organise a next Session of the TCAC, however, the exact dates and meeting venue will be confirmed and communicated by the Secretariat at a later date.
44. The Commission **NOTED** that five proposals and 1 information proposal were submitted by Members for consideration at the TCAC02 meeting (respectively Japan, Seychelles, European Union, I.R. Iran, Mozambique and Indonesia).

6. REPORT OF THE 10TH SESSION OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

45. The Commission **NOTED** the report of the Tenth Session of the Compliance Committee (CoC) (IOTC–2013–CoC10–R) which was presented by the Vice-Chair of the CoC, Mr. Hosea Gonza Mbilinyi (Tanzania). A total of 113 delegates from 25 Members of the Commission, 2 Cooperating non-Contracting Parties and 9 Observers attended the Session.
46. The Commission addressed the list of recommendations made by the CoC10 ([Appendix X](#)) in its 2013 report that related specifically to the Commission or concerned the work of the Secretariat. The Commission **ENDORSED** the list of recommendations, noting the following:
47. The Commission **NOTED** that in 2013, a total of 27 national ‘Reports of Implementation’ were provided by CPCs (25 Members and 2 Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties), down from 28 in 2012. The Commission stressed the importance of the timely 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, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Sudan and Yemen), to provide a national Report of Implementation to the Secretariat as soon as possible.

48. The Commission **REMINDED** CPCs of their obligation under Article X.2 of the IOTC Agreement to transmit to the Commission a national ‘Reports of Implementation’ on the actions it has taken to make effective the provisions of the IOTC Agreement and to implement CMMs adopted by the Commission. Such ‘Reports of Implementation’ shall be sent to the Executive Secretary of the Commission not later than 60 days before the date of the following regular session of the Commission.

49. The Commission **AGREED** that appropriate legal support be present during future CoC Sessions to aid Members deliberations of alleged IUU cases.

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

50. The Commission **EXPRESSED** concern about the absence of several CPCs at the CoC10 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 S17, this would be done during the presentation of the CoC10 Report. For those CPCs who do not attend S17, 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.

51. 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.

52. The Commission **AGREED** that a deadline of 60 days before the next annual Session of the Commission be established for all CPCs to respond to the ‘feedback letters on compliance issues’ from the Commission and based on the deliberations of the CoC each year.

53. The Commission **RECOMMENDED** that the Secretariat continue developing follow-up actions on the issues, including potential capacity building activities to address these matters, particularly for developing coastal States.

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

54. The Commission **AGREED** that Sri Lanka continue to provide monthly reports including: i) evidences of the actions it had taken against IUU vessels; ii) name of the past and present owner and skipper; and iii) IOTC numbers from the Record of authorised vessels, in a standardised format in the future, irrespective of whether new information had become available, for each of the vessels reported to IOTC for IUU fishing.

55. The Commission **AGREED** that Sri Lanka provide regular updates in the implementation of their road map for 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.

6.3 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.

6.3.1 Txori Argi (EU(Spain))

56. The Commission **NOTED** that bilateral discussions between the European Union and Mozambique had taken place and the Parties had agreed to resolve the issue at the CoC10. The Agreement between Parties is to be fully executed within 30 days of the signing of the Agreement after which Mozambique shall report to the Commission on the execution of the Agreement.

6.3.2 Ocean Lion (flag unknown)

57. The Commission **AGREED** that the *Ocean Lion* remain on the IOTC IUU Vessels List as no further information was provided to the CoC10 during its deliberations.

6.3.3 Yu Maan Won (flag unknown)

58. The Commission **AGREED** that the *Yu Maan Won* remain on the IOTC IUU Vessels List as no further information was provided to the CoC10 during its deliberations.

6.3.4 Gunuar Melyan 21 (flag unknown)

59. The Commission **AGREED** that the *Gunuar Melyan 21* remain on the IOTC IUU Vessels List as no further information was provided to the CoC10 during its deliberations.

6.3.5 Hoom Xiang II (flag unknown)

60. The Commission **AGREED** that the *Hoom Xiang II* remain on the IOTC IUU Vessels List and the government of Malaysia make further efforts to identify the flag of this vessel.

6.3.6 FU HSIANG FA No. 21 (flag Unknown)

61. The Commission **AGREED** that the *FU HSIANG FA No. 21* be added to the IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 13.

6.3.7 Full Rich (flag unknown)

62. The Commission **AGREED** that the *Full Rich* be added to the IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 13.

6.3.8 HSIANG FA 26 (Seychelles)

63. The Commission **AGREED** to retain the *HSIANG FA 26* on the Provisional IOTC IUU Vessels List, as provided under Resolution 11/03 para. 14.

6.3.9 Hwa Kun No. 168 (Taiwan, Province of China)

64. The Commission **AGREED** to retain the *Hwa Kun No. 168* on the Provisional IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 14.

6.3.10 IUU Vessels List for 2012

65. The Commission **ADOPTED** the IOTC IUU Vessels List as provided in [Appendix XIa](#) and the Provisional IOTC IUU Vessels list as provided in [Appendix XIb](#).

6.4 Review of the effects of piracy on at sea inspections

66. The Commission **DISCUSSED** the recommendation from the CoC10 for a potential best practice protocol for vessels in transit with armed guards on board and whether a formal and binding management measure on a regional high-seas boarding and inspection scheme should be developed in the future.
67. The Commission **REQUESTED** that the Secretariat review similar practices by other RFMOs and develop a paper for the next CoC in 2014.

6.5 Applications for Cooperating non-Contracting Party status

6.5.1 Senegal

68. The Commission **NOTED** Senegal's application for the renewal of its status as a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party of the IOTC (paper IOTC–2013–CoC10–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 CMMs.
69. The Commission **GRANTED** the status of Cooperating non-Contracting Party until the close of the 18th Session in 2014 to Senegal based on the understanding that Senegal will attend the CoC meeting in 2014.

6.5.2 South Africa

70. The Commission **NOTED** South Africa's application for the renewal of its status as a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party of the IOTC (paper IOTC–2013–CoC10–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 CMMs as indicated in their Report of Implementation.
71. The Commission **GRANTED** the status of Cooperating non-Contracting Party until the close of the 18th Session in 2014 to South Africa based on the understanding that South Africa will attend the CoC meeting in 2014.

6.5.3 Democratic People's Republic of Korea

72. 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–2013–CoC10–CNCP01). The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, via its submission, informed the Commission that it intended on complying fully to the terms of the IOTC Agreement and all IOTC CMMs adopted by it.

73. The Commission **NOTED** the concerns raised by Members regarding the application for CNCP status by the DPRK. As the DPRK was not present at the Compliance Committee or the Commission meeting, the Commission **AGREED** that the application could not be considered. The DPRK application for CNCP status should be resubmitted to and presented at the next Compliance Committee meeting to be held in 2014, by the DPRK.

6.5.4 Djibouti

74. The Commission **NOTED** Djibouti's application for the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party of the IOTC (paper IOTC–2013–CoC10–CNCP04). Djibouti, via its written submission, informed the Commission that it intended on complying fully to the terms of the IOTC Agreement and all IOTC CMMs adopted by it.
75. The Commission **NOTED** the concerns raised by Members regarding the application for CNCP status by Djibouti. As Djibouti was not present at the Compliance Committee or the Commission meeting, the Commission **AGREED** that the application could not be considered. Djibouti's application for CNCP status should be resubmitted to and presented at the next Compliance Committee meeting to be held in 2014, by Djibouti.

6.5.5 General comments on CNCP applications

76. The Commission **AGREED** that applications for CNCP status shall not be considered unless they are present at the Compliance Committee and/or Commission meetings to present their application and respond to questions from Members.

6.5.6 Election of a Chair and Vice-Chair

77. The Commission **CALLED** for nominations for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair of the CoC for the next biennium. Mr. Herminio Tembe (Mozambique) was nominated and elected as Chair, and Mr. Hosea Gonza Mbilinyi (Tanzania) was nominated and elected as Vice-Chair for the next biennium.

7. REPORT OF THE 10TH SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

78. The Commission **NOTED** the report of the Tenth Session of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF) (IOTC–2013–SCAF10–R) which was presented by the acting Vice-Chair of the SCAF, Dr. Kandachamy Vijayakumaran (India) in the absence of the Chair, Mr Godfrey Monor (Kenya). 172 Delegates from 25 Members of the Commission, 2 Cooperating non-Contracting Party and 16 Observers attended the Session.
79. The Commission addressed the list of recommendations made by the SCAF10 ([Appendix XII](#)) in its 2013 report that related specifically to the Commission or concerned the work of the Secretariat. The Commission **ENDORSED** the list of recommendations, noting the following:

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

80. The Commission **AGREED** that capacity building activities, including workshops on compliance, data and science be continued in 2013 and financially supported by Members through the Commission's budget, as well as through voluntary contributions by CPCs and other interested parties.

7.1.1 Member contributions

81. The Commission **NOTED** that the cumulative total of outstanding contribution payments has increased from US\$1,054,572 as of December 31st 2011, to US\$1,069,802 as of December 31st 2012, an increase of US\$15,320 (1.4%) with ten Members having payments in arrears (excluding minor outstanding payments resulting from bank charges).
82. The Commission **NOTED** that as of 12 April 2013, six IOTC Members (Eritrea, Guinea, I.R. Iran, Pakistan, Sierra Leone and Sudan), have contributions that are in arrears by two years or more. The Islamic Republic of Iran has encountered difficulties to submit funds through regular banking channels to the accounts provided by FAO. A solution was found by depositing funds with the office of the FAO Representative in Tehran, and outstanding payments were being received through this procedure, however due to the changing situation in I.R. Iran, this solution is no longer viable.

83. The Commission **REQUESTED** 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, with the assistance of the Executive Secretary, shall write to each of the CPCs with contributions in arrears totalling 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 consideration at the 18th Session of the Commission.

7.1.2 Capacity building

84. The Commission **CONSIDERED** the recommendation from the SCAF, that in addition to the funds included in the budget for 2013, the Commission may wish to consider further increasing the Capacity Building budget line to cover the additional recommendations from the Scientific Committee. The Commission did not agree to increase the Capacity Building budget line at this point in time
85. The Commission **AGREED** that capacity building activities, including workshops on science (stock assessment), compliance with IOTC CMMs, data collection and reporting, and bridging the gap between IOTC science and management advice, be continued in 2013 and financially supported through the IOTC budget and through voluntary contributions from Members and other interested parties.

7.1.3 Meeting participation fund (MPF)

86. The Commission **NOTED** that the increased attendance by national scientists from developing CPCs to IOTC Working Parties and the SC in 2012 (46 in 2012; 33 in 2011) was partly due to the IOTC 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 **AGREED** that the MPF should be maintained into the future.
87. The Commission reiterated its previous **REQUEST** that the MPF 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.
88. The Commission **AGREED** the rules of procedure for the administration of the IOTC MPF be modified to include funding for Chairs and Vice-Chairs from IOTC developing coastal states, noting that without access to this fund, the ability of developing coastal state scientists to offer their services as Chairs and Vice-Chairs will be very limited. The text recommended by the SCAF10 shall be inserted into the rules of procedure for the administration of the MPF, under the ‘**Eligibility criteria**’ section.
89. The Commission **NOTED** that Resolution 10/05 *on the establishment of a meeting participation fund for developing IOTC Member and Non-Contracting Cooperating Parties (CPC's)* 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. No additional procedures for replenishing the MPF was identified by the Commission during its 17th Session.
90. The Commission **AGREED** that the MPF (established under Resolution 10/05) be replenished to its initial level of US\$200,000 for the financial (calendar) year 2013, through the allocation of funds from the IOTC accumulated funds.

7.1.4 Call-for-funds process

91. The Commission **CONSIDERED** the potential options as to when the call-for-funds should occur each year as part of the IOTC Financial Regulations, however agreement could not be reached. The current timings mean that for a period of at least six months, from 1 January until the end of June, or July as will be the case in 2013, accumulated funds from previous years need to be used to support the activities of the Commission and its Secretariat until contributions are received from Members. Although paragraph 1 of Regulation V of the IOTC Financial Regulations permit the use of uncommitted funds from the Administrative Budgets of previous years, paragraph 2 requests that the budget is presented prior to the calendar year in which the funds are due. The majority of CPCs favoured the option of presenting both the 2014 and 2015 budgets at the 2014 Commission meeting for adoption. Thus, call-for-funds letters would be distributed after the Commission meeting in 2014 for the 2014 budget and then again in December 2014 for the 2015 budget.
92. The Commission **AGREED** to discuss this matter at SCAF11 in 2014, and **REQUESTED** that the Secretariat provide a detailed budget for 2014 and 2015 for adoption. This would allow for an early call-for-funds for 2015, at the end of 2014.

7.1.5 Fisheries Officer (Science)

93. The Commission **AGREED** that a Fishery Officer (Science), working on science support, be employed at the Secretariat and for this to be incorporated in the Commission's budget on an ongoing basis.

7.2 Programme of work and budget estimates

94. The Commission thanked the Secretariat for the work conducted during 2012, and **ENDORSED** the IOTC Secretariat's programme of work for the financial period 01 January 2013 to 31 December 2013, as outlined in paper IOTC–2013–SCAF10–05.
95. The Commission **ADOPTED** the budget and the scheme of contributions for 2013, and the indicative budget for 2014, as outlined in [Appendix XIII](#) and [Appendix XIV](#) respectively.

7.3 Election of a Vice-Chair

96. The Commission **CALLED** for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the SCAF for the next biennium. Dr. Benjamin Tabios (Philippines) was nominated and elected as Vice-Chair for the next biennium.

8. PERFORMANCE REVIEW UPDATE (RESOLUTION 09/01 ON THE PERFORMANCE REVIEW FOLLOW-UP)

97. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC–2013–S17–05 which outlined the current status of implementation for each of the recommendations arising from the report of the Performance Review Panel.
98. 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 XV](#). 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.
99. 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.
100. The Commission **NOTED** that the IOTC Agreement, and the institutional links with the FAO, inhibits the full involvement of all fleets in the Commission. This results in an element contributing for non-compliance by some vessels in certain important fleets, with little action available to the Commission to deal with them.
101. The Commission **AGREED** that a second Performance Review of the IOTC be undertaken in 2014, with terms of reference to be developed by interested CPCs and circulated for wider agreement via an IOTC Circular.

9. REPORT OF THE CMM COMPENDIUM WORKING GROUP (RESOLUTION 11/01 REGARDING CONSOLIDATION OF IOTC RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS)

102. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC–2013–S17–06 which outlined the conclusions of the IOTC CMM Compendium Working Group, mandated under Resolution 11/01 *Regarding consolidation of IOTC Resolutions and Recommendations*.
103. The Commission **NOTED** the proposal to supersede the following Resolutions: 98/03, 99/01, 99/03, 00/01, 00/02, 01/04, 01/07, 02/08, 03/01, 03/07 and Recommendations: 01/01, 02/06, 02/07, 03/04, 03/05, 03/06 and 05/06. The Commission **DEFERRED** discussion on this proposal to Agenda item 11.
104. The Commission **AGREED** to consider the proposal to integrate Resolutions 01/02, 01/03, 03/03, 05/03, 07/01 and Recommendation 05/07, into existing Resolutions before then being superseded/ revoked, and **TASKED** the interested Members in conjunction with the IOTC Secretariat, to undertake to amend the CMMs with existing relevant Resolutions for the consideration of the Commission at the 18th Session of the Commission in 2014.
105. The Commission **CONSIDERED** and **ADOPTED** a revised structure of a paper-based compendium, with the following structure: reverse chronological order of active CMMs; contents; index of all CMMs (active and superseded); and for the IOTC Secretariat to update all internal references in active CMMs to other active CMMs. It was also agreed that a compendium structure organised by theme of active CMMs could be elaborated in the future.

106. The Commission **REQUESTED** that the IOTC Secretariat facilitate a legal review of the CMMs specifically to identify any inconsistencies between the remaining CMMs and the Agreement, the revised Rules of Procedure and relevant international laws in advance of the 18th Session of the IOTC. The Commission did not allocate budgetary funds in the IOTC budget for 2013 and 2014 to undertake this task.
107. The Commission **CONSIDERED** the two recommendations from the working group on the IOTC Rules of Procedure and deferred discussion to Agenda item 10.

10. RULES OF PROCEDURE

108. The Commission **CONSIDERED** the revised IOTC Rules of Procedure which included the content from the following administrative Resolutions 98/05, 02/09, 03/02, 10/05 and 10/09, and thanked those involved in its development.
109. The Commission **NOTED** that a Member expressed its interest in leading a Working Group of interested CPCs to further revise the IOTC Rules of Procedure, by ensuring that the rules accurately reflect the contemporary nature of the Commission's activities, and for the working group to provide a report of its recommendations no later than 90 days before the next Commission meeting, so that, as per rule XVI of the Rules of Procedure, *amendments or additions to the Rules may be adopted on the motion of any delegation by a two-thirds majority of the members of the Commission at any plenary meeting of the Commission provided that copies of the proposals for amendment or addition have been distributed or circulated to the delegations at least 60 days before the session of the Commission*, the IOTC rules of Procedure are amended at S18.
110. The Commission **NOTED** recommendation 4 from the compendium working group, and **AGREED** to consider the proposal to move the following 5 Resolutions, which are of a procedural or administrative nature, into the IOTC's Rules of Procedure when it is next revised, taking into account any modernisation required:
- a) Resolution 98/05 *On Cooperation With Non-Contracting Parties*
 - b) Resolution 02/09 *Establishment Of The Standing Committee On Administration And Finance (SCAF)*
 - c) Resolution 03/02 *On Criteria For Attaining The Status Of Co-Operating Non-Contracting Party*
 - d) Resolution 10/05 *On The Establishment Of A Meeting Participation Fund For Developing State Members*
 - e) Resolution 10/09 *Concerning The Functions Of The Compliance Committee*

11. CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

111. The Commission **NOTED** with appreciation that all proposals for new or revised Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) 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 gives all CPCs an opportunity to thoroughly review the proposals. In doing so, CPCs are 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.
112. The Commission reiterated its previous **DECISION** that the 30 day rule shall continue to 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 Commission's consideration, if received after the 30 day deadline.
113. The Commission **NOTED** the statements from Mauritius and the United Kingdom (OT) provided at [Appendix XVI](#).

11.1 Previously adopted Conservation and Management Measures requiring action by the Commission in 2013

114. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC–2013–S17–08 outlined previous decisions contained in IOTC Conservation and Management Measures, on which the Commission agreed to action at the 17th Session in 2013. Due to a lack of time, the Commission deferred discussion on these matters until its next Session in 2014, unless otherwise dealt with in a revised CMM adopted during the current Session.

11.2 Proposals for Conservation and Management Measures adopted by the Commission

115. The Commission **CONSIDERED** and **ADOPTED** 11 proposals as Conservation and Management Measures as detailed below:

11.2.1 On the removal of obsolete Conservation and Management Measures

116. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 13/01 *On the removal of obsolete Conservation and Management Measures* ([Appendix XVII](#)). This Resolution supersedes a range of Recommendations that have been fulfilled or are obsolete, as they have been replaced without being superseded or are no longer relevant to the conservation and management of tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean. This Resolution supersedes Recommendations 01/01, 02/06, 03/04, 03/05, 03/06 and 05/06. Recommendation 02/07, proposed for revoking by the Compendium Working Group was not superseded as Japan indicated it believed the Recommendation was still current.

11.2.2 Concerning the IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC area of competence

117. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 13/02 *Concerning the IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC area of competence* ([Appendix XVIII](#)). This Resolution includes a requirement to submit a copy of the template, or official document used to give authorisation to fish outside National Jurisdictions for publication on a secure part of the IOTC website. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 07/02. India expressed reservations and concerns regarding its ability to comply with the requirements detailed in the Resolution and indicated that they could not support the Resolution in its current form. India reserved its right to lodge an objection to the Resolution, as permitted under Article IX, paragraph 9 of the IOTC Agreement.

11.2.3 On the recording of catch and effort data by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence

118. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 13/03 *On the recording of catch and effort data by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence* ([Appendix XIX](#)). This Resolution introduces amendments to Resolution 12/03 *on the recording of catch and effort by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence* by including a requirement for the submission to the IOTC Secretariat of the template of all flag and coastal State logbooks to record data for the IOTC catches for publishing on the IOTC web page to facilitate port and at-sea inspections. For CPCs that use electronic logbook systems, a copy of the applicable regulations implementing the electronic logbook system in that CPC, a set of screen captures and the name of the certified software may be provided. Thresher sharks and Oceanic whitetip shark, which are prohibited to be retained onboard, are moved from “optional species” to “other species” to be required to be recorded in logbooks for longline, purse seine and gillnet. Marine turtles (in number) are also now required to be recorded in logbooks not only for purse seine and gillnet vessels but also for longline vessels. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 12/03. India expressed reservations and concerns regarding its ability to comply with the requirements detailed in the Resolution and indicated that they could not support the Resolution in its current form. India reserved its right to lodge an objection to the Resolution, as permitted under Article IX, paragraph 9 of the IOTC Agreement.

11.2.4 On the conservation of cetaceans

119. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 13/04 *On the conservation of cetaceans* ([Appendix XX](#)). The Resolution aims 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 requests that the IOTC SC develop best practice mitigation and handling guidelines for consideration by the Commission at its 18th Session in 2014, to mitigate the impacts of fishing on cetaceans in the IOTC area of competence.

11.2.5 On the conservation of whale sharks (*Rhincodon typus*)

120. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 13/05 *On the conservation of whale sharks (*Rhincodon typus*)* ([Appendix XXI](#)). This Resolution aims to mitigate the interactions between whale sharks and purse seine fishing gear; gather additional information from CPCs on the interaction rates with other fishing gears, in particular gillnets and longlines; and requests that the IOTC SC develop best practice mitigation and handling guidelines for consideration by the Commission at its 18th Session in 2014, to mitigate the impacts of fishing on whale sharks in the IOTC area of competence.

11.2.6 On a scientific and management framework on the conservation of sharks species caught in association with IOTC managed fisheries

121. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 13/06 *On a scientific and management framework on the Conservation of sharks species caught in association with IOTC managed fisheries* ([Appendix XXII](#)). This Resolution prohibits, as an interim pilot measure, the retention onboard, transshipment, landing or storing any part or whole carcass of oceanic whitetip sharks (*Carcharhinus longimanus*) by all vessels on the IOTC record of authorized vessels or authorised to fish for tuna or tuna-like species, with the exception of observers who are permitted to collect biological samples (vertebrae, tissues, reproductive tracts, stomachs) from oceanic whitetip sharks that are dead at haulback and artisanal fisheries for the purpose of local consumption, and will conduct a review and an evaluation of the interim measure in 2016.

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

122. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 13/07 *Concerning a record of licensed foreign vessels fishing for IOTC species in the IOTC area of competence and access agreement information* ([Appendix XXIII](#)). This Resolution introduces amendments to Resolution 12/07 by requiring the submission of a range of additional documents on access agreements, and templates of licenses issued to foreign fishing vessels to the IOTC Secretariat for publication in a secure part of the IOTC website. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 12/07.

11.2.8 Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan, including more detailed specifications of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species

123. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 13/08 *Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan, including more detailed specification of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species* ([Appendix XXIV](#)). This Resolution introduces amendments to Resolution 12/08 by including principles for the design and deployment of FADs to reduce the entanglement of sharks, marine turtles or any other species as well as the inclusion in the suggested Guidelines for Preparation of FAD Management Plans for each CPC with more detailed specifications of catch reporting from FAD sets. This Resolution also prohibits the abandonment at sea, in the IOTC area of competence, of drifting FADs composed of synthetic materials. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 12/08.

11.2.9 On the conservation of albacore caught in the IOTC area of competence

124. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 13/09 *On the conservation of albacore caught in the IOTC area of competence* ([Appendix XXV](#)). This Resolution requires the Scientific Committee to assess the coverage and the quality of catch and effort data made available by CPCs targeting albacore, and to advise the Commission before the end of 2014 on target and limit reference points (LRPs, TRPs) which may be used when assessing the albacore stock status and when evaluating potential management measures. In addition, the Scientific Committee, through its Working Parties on Temperate Tunas (WPTmT) and on Methods (WPM), is required to examine and evaluate potential management measures which would allow the achievement of the conservation and optimal utilization of the albacore stock.

11.2.10 On interim target and limit reference points and a decision framework

125. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 13/10 *On interim target and limit reference points and a decision framework* ([Appendix XXVI](#)). This Resolution establishes the general principles that would guide the application of the precautionary approach in the context of IOTC, including the adoption of provisional reference points that would apply until such time as the Commission decides to update the reference points after considering the advice of the Scientific Committee following the management strategy evaluation exercise. The Resolution also considers a decision framework to facilitate management measures that are currently being undertaken by the Commission. This Resolution supersedes Recommendation 12/14.

11.2.11 On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna and a recommendation for non-targeted species caught by purse seine vessels in the IOTC area of competence

126. The Commission **ADOPTED** Resolution 13/11 *On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna and a recommendation for non-targeted species caught by purse seine vessels in the IOTC area of competence* ([Appendix XXVII](#)). The Resolution bans the discard of three tropical tuna species, with the

exception of fish unfit for human consumption or if no space available to accommodate all fish. This Resolution supersedes Recommendation 10/13.

11.3 Proposals for Conservation and Management Measures not endorsed by the Commission

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

11.3.1 On the conservation of sharks

128. 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 encouraged research into the effectiveness of prohibiting 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.

11.3.2 On the conservation of silky sharks (*Carcharhinus falciformis*) caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC

129. The Commission **CONSIDERED** a proposal on the conservation of silky sharks (*Carcharhinus falciformis*) caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence, but agreement could not be reached and the proposal was deferred until the next meeting of the Commission. Many Members could not support the proposal and Japan, China and the Republic of Korea indicated that there were insufficient scientific justifications for the prohibition of retention of this species.

11.3.3 On the conservation of hammerhead sharks (Family Sphyrnidae) caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC

130. The Commission **CONSIDERED** a proposal on the conservation of hammerhead sharks (Family Sphyrnidae) caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence, but agreement could not be reached and the proposal was deferred until the next meeting of the Commission. Many Members could not support the proposal and Japan and China indicated that there were insufficient scientific justifications for the prohibition of retention of this species.

11.3.4 Mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPC'S)

131. The Commission **CONSIDERED** a proposal on *Mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC Members and Cooperating Contracting Parties (CPC's)* but agreement could not be reached and the proposal was deferred until the next meeting of the Commission. This proposal aimed to introduce amendments to Resolution 10/02 *Mandatory statistical requirements for IOTC Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPC's)* by including a list of the most commonly caught elasmobranch species for which nominal catch data could be reported as part of the statistical requirement for IOTC CPCs. In addition, the amendments aimed to improve the completeness of the fisheries data by including new obligations on data reporting on FADs, marine turtles and seabirds as well as better defining fishing gears.

11.3.5 On establishing a list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the IOTC area of competence

132. The Commission **CONSIDERED** a proposal on establishing a list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the IOTC area of competence, but agreement could not be reached and the proposal was deferred until the next meeting of the Commission. The proposal aimed to introduce an amendment to Resolution 11/03 by inserting a mechanism for inter-sessional listing of IUU vessels to eliminate the potential of the vessel being permitted to continue fishing for almost one year or more after conducting illegal, unreported or unregulated fishing activities in the IOTC area of competence.

11.3.6 On an IOTC tropical tuna – bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna and yellowfin tuna, catch certification scheme

133. The Commission **CONSIDERED** a proposal on an IOTC tropical tunas – bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna and yellowfin tuna - catch certification scheme but agreement could not be reached and the proposal was deferred until the next meeting of the Commission. An addition to the proposal during the Session outlined terms of reference for an IOTC intersessional working party to progress on a catch documentation scheme for tropical tuna species.

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

134. 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.

11.3.8 On the implementation of an interim harvest control rule for skipjack tuna

135. The Commission **CONSIDERED** a proposal on the implementation of an interim harvest control rule for skipjack tuna, but agreement could not be reached and it was deferred until the next meeting of the Commission

12. OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 Proposal for a statement on piracy

136. 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.

137. The Commission **ISSUED** a new Statement on the issue of piracy ([Appendix XXVIII](#)), 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.

12.2 Discussion on the activities of other regional bodies and donors in the Indian Ocean

138. The Commission **RECOGNISED** the importance of ensuring that the mandate of the IOTC is not undermined by the activities of other regional bodies in the Indian Ocean, such as SIOFA, BOBP-IGO and the SWIOFC.

139. The Commission **RECALLED** that the IOTC Secretariat is the current repository of data for the SIOFA, as it does not yet have its own Secretariat. In this context, it was **AGREED** that the IOTC shall seek to be represented at the first plenary of the SIOFA, to better support the implementation of this new RFMO.

12.3 To discuss the procedures for the submission of proposals

140. The Commission **RECOGNISED** the need to utilise the time resources during Sessions of the Commission so that Proposals for Conservation and Management Measures are fully considered, including discussions on budgetary consequences. Proposals from Members should include, as part of their Explanatory Statements, any budgetary consequences, as well as consideration of the feasibility of implementation by CPCs.

12.4 Election of a Chair and Vice-Chair/s for the next biennium

141. The Commission **CALLED** for nominations for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair for the next biennium. Mr Daroomalingum Mauree (Mauritius) was nominated and re-elected as Chair, and Dr Ahmed Mohammed Al-Mazroui (Oman) and Mr Jeongseok Park (Rep. of Korea) were nominated and elected as Vice-Chairs of the Commission for the next biennium.

142. The Commission **ENDORSED** the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of its subsidiary bodies as listed in [Appendix VIII](#).

13. DATE AND PLACE OF THE 18TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION AND OF THE COMMISSION'S SUBSIDIARY BODIES

143. The Commission was unanimous in its thanks to Mauritius for hosting the 17th Session of the Commission and commended Mauritius on the warm welcome, the excellent facilities and assistance provided to the Secretariat in the organisation and running of the Session.

144. The Commission **AGREED** that the SCAF11 shall held on the day immediately prior to the Commission meeting, so that a full five (5) days may be allocated to the deliberations of the Commission.

145. The Commission **NOTED** that no invitation was received from a CPC to host the next sessions of the 11th Compliance Committee, 11th Standing Committee on Administration and Finance and the 18th Session of the Commission. The Chair, with support from the Secretariat shall seek a suitable host as soon as possible so that the necessary planning may commence for the meeting to be held in the first half of 2014. The exact dates and meeting venue will be confirmed and communicated by the Secretariat at a later date.
146. The Commission **THANKED** the Republic of Korea for its generous offer to host the 9th Session of the Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics (29 to 30 November, 2013) and the 16th Session of the Scientific Committee (2 to 6 December, 2013). The location within the Rep. of Korea will be communicated at a later date. The Commission **AGREED** to the schedule of meetings for its subsidiary bodies for 2013, and tentatively for 2014 as detailed in [Appendix XXIX](#).

14. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 17TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

147. The report of the 17th Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission was **ADOPTED** by correspondence on the 26 July 2013.

APPENDIX I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

CHAIRPERSON

Mr Daroomalingum **Mauree**
Director of Fisheries
Email: dmauree@mail.gov.mu

IOTC MEMBERS**AUSTRALIA****Head of Delegation**

Mr Gordon **Neil**
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Email: Gordon.Neil@daff.gov.au

Alternate

Ms Claire **Van der Geest**
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Email: claire.vandergeest@daff.gov.au

Advisor(s)

Mr Steve **Auld**
Australian Fisheries Management Authority
Email: Steve.Auld@afma.gov.au

Mr Nathaniel **Pelle**

Email: nathaniel.pelle@greenpeace.org

BELIZE**Head of Delegation**

Mr Robert Anthony **Robinson**
Belize Fisheries Department
Email: robertrbz@gmail.com

Alternate

Mr Wilfrido **Pott**
Belize Fisheries Department
Email: wilpott@gmail.com

CHINA**Head of Delegation**

Mr Chen **Wan**
Division of Distant Water Fishing Bureau of Fisheries
Ministry of Agriculture of China
Email: bofdwf@agri.gov.cn

Alternate

Mr Saixing **Zhou**
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Email: zhou_saixing@mfa.gov.cn

Advisor(s)

Ms Mengjie **Xiao**
China Overseas Fisheries Association
Email: admin@tuna.org.cn

Mr Wenyu **Shi**
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Email: shi_wenyu@mfa.gov.cn

Pr Liuxiong **Xu**
College of Marine Science, Shanghai Ocean University
Email: lxu@shou.edu.cn

COMOROS**Head of Delegation**

Mr Ahmed Said **Soilihi**
Ministère de l'Agriculture, de la Pêche, de l'Environnement, de l'Energie, de l'Industrie et de l'Artisanat
Email: ahmed_ndeou@yahoo.fr

ERITREA

Absent

EUROPEAN UNION (MEMBER ORGANIZATION)**Head of Delegation**

Mr Stefaan **Depypere**
International Affairs and Markets European Union
Email: stefaan.depypere@ec.europa.eu

Alternate

Mr Seppo **Nurmi**
Email: seppo.nurmi@ec.europa.eu

Advisor(s)

Mr Orlando **Fachada**
DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
Email: Orlando.fachada@ec.europa.eu

Ms Rikke **Nielsen**

Email: rikke.nielsen@ec.europa.eu

Mr Patrick **Daniel**

European commission - DG Mare
Email: patrick.daniel@ec.europa.eu

Mr Mirko **Marcolin**

European Commission
Email: mirko.marcolin@ec.europa.eu

Mr Denis **Reiss**

EU Mauritius
Email: denis.reiss@eeas.europa.eu

Mr Thomas **Roche**

Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable development and Energy - Fisheries department, France
Email: thomas.roche@developpement-durable.gouv.fr

Mr Jean-Luc **Hall**

Direction of the South Indian Ocean
Email: jean-luc.hall@developpement-durable.gouv.fr

Mr Jean René **Enilorac**

E-mail: crpm.reunion@wannadoo.fr

Mr David **Guyomard**

Email: dguyomard.crpm@wannadoo.fr

Mr Carlos **Moreno Blanco**

Spain European Union
Email: cmorenob@magrama.es

Ms Mar **Fernandez Merlo**

Spain European Union
Email: mafmerlo@magrama.es

Dr. Hilario **Murua**

AZTI Tecnalia
Email: hmurua@azti.es

Dr Julio **Morón**

OPAGAC
Email: opagac@arrakis.es

Mr Pierre **Dufour**

ORTHONGEL / SAPMER
Email: pdufour@sapmer.fr

Mr Anertz **Muniategi**

ANABAC
Email: anabac@anabac.org

Dr Michel **Goujon**

Orthongel
Email: mgoujon@orthongel.fr

FRANCE**Head of Delegation**

Mr Jonathan **Lemeunier**
MEDDE-DPMA
Email: jonathan.lemeunier@developpement-durable.gouv.fr

Alternate

Ms Christiane **Laurent-Montpetit**
Chargée de mission pêche
Ministère de l'outre-mer
Email: christiane.laurent-monpetit@outre-mer.gouv.fr

Advisor(s)

Mr Emmanuel **Reuillard**
Advisor(s), TAAF
Email: Emmanuel.reuillard@taaf.fr

Mr Serge Edouard **Chiarovano**

Unité territoriale de Mayotte DMSOI (French Territories)
Email: serge.chiarovano@developpement-durable.gouv.fr

GUINEA

Absent

INDIA**Head of Delegation**

Dr Raja Sekhar **Vundru**
Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries
Ministry of Agriculture
Email: jsfy@nic.in

Alternate

Dr Kandachamy **Vijayakumaran**
Fishery Survey of India
Email: vijayettan@yahoo.com

INDONESIA**Head of Delegation**

Mr Agus A **Budhiman**
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
Email: budhiman2004@yahoo.com

Alternate

Ms Erni **Widjajanti**
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
Email: erwijaya@yahoo.com

Advisor(s)

Mr Yayan **Hernuryadin**
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
Email: boyan_nuryadin@yahoo.co.id

Mr Trigustono **Supriyanto**
Ministry of Foreign Affairs Email: Email:
trigustono@yahoo.com

Ms Fifi **Rifiani**
Ministry of Marine Affairs and
Email: rifiani.fifi@gmail.com

Dr Ali **Suman**
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
Email: alisuman_62@yahoo.com

Mr Muhammad **Taufik**
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
Email: taufik.brpl@gmail.com

Mr **Mahrus**
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
Email: mahrus_mmaf@yahoo.com

Ms Sere Alina **Tampubolon**
Marine and Fisheries Resources Surveillance
Email: serealinat@yahoo.com

IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF)**Head of Delegation**

H.E.Mr Gholam Reza **Razeghi**
Iran Fisheries Organization
Email:

Alternate

Mr Ali Asghar **Mojahedi**
Iran Fisheries Organization
Email: a_mojahedi@hotmail.com

JAPAN**Head of Delegation**

Mr Hiromi **Isa**
Fisheries Agency of Japan
Email: isa_hiromi@nm.maff.go.jp

Alternate

Mr Morio **Kaneko**
Fisheries Agency of Japan
Email: morio_kaneko@nm.maff.go.jp

Advisor(s)

Mr Tsunehiko **Motooka**
Fisheries Agency of Japan
Email: tsunehiko_motooka@nm.maff.go.jp

Mr Yuki **Morita**
Fisheries Agency of Japan
Email: morita_yuuki@nm.maff.go.jp

Mr Takeshi **Kodo**
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Email: takeshi.kodo@mofa.go.jp

Dr Tsutomu **Nishida**
National Research Institute of Far Seas
Fisheries
Email: tnishida@affrc.go.jp

Mr Kojiro **Gemba**
Japan Tuna Fisheries Co-operative
Association
Email: gvojyo@japantuna.or.jp

Mr Michio **Shimizu**
National Ocean Tuna Fishery Association
Email: ms-shimizu@zengyoren.jf-net.ne.jp

Mr Sakae **Terao**
Japan Far Seas Purse Seine Fishing
Association
Email: japan@kaimaki.or.jp

Mr Hiroyuki **Yoshida**
Japan Tuna Fisheries Co-operative
Association
Email: gvojyo@japantuna.or.jp

KENYA**Head of Delegation**

Ms Lucy Ayugi **Obungu**
Ministry of Fisheries Development
Email: lucyobungu@yahoo.com

KOREA (REPUBLIC OF)**Head of Delegation**

Mr Kuk Il **Choi**
Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries
Email: galaxy038@korea.kr
icdmomaf@chol.com

Alternate

Mr Jeongseok **Park**
Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries
Email: jeongseok.korea@gmail.com
icdmomaf@chol.com

Advisor(s)

Dr Zang Geun **Kim**
National Fisheries Research and Development
Institute
Email: zgkim@korea.kr

Ms Jiwon **Yoon**
Institute for International Fisheries
Cooperation
Email: jiwon.yoon@ififc.org

Mr Bruce **Lee**
Dongwon Industries Co., Ltd
Email: bruce2891@dongwon.com

Mr Soungho **Shin**
Dongwon Fisheries Co., Ltd

Mr Kim **Hyosang**
Korea Overseas Fisheries Association
Email: coelho@kosfa.org

Mr Jong Koo **Lee**
Dongwon Industries Co., Ltd
Email: jkleee@dongwon.com

Mr Jihun **Jang**
Sajo industries co.,ltd
Email: skiff@sajo.co.kr

Mr Shia **Pole**
Dongwon Industries Co., Ltd
Email: gossh@dwsusan.com

MADAGASCAR**Head of Delegation**

Mr Désiré **Tilahy**
Directeur Général de la Pêche et des
Ressources Halieutiques
Email: tilahydesire@yahoo.fr

Alternate

Mr Harimandimdy **Rasolonjatovo**
Chef du Centre de Surveillance de la Pêche
Email: rasolo.vevey@blueline.mg

Advisor(s)

Mr Benedictu **Hur**
Dae Young Fisheries Pty Ltd
Email: daeyoung@bigpond.net.au

Mr Raymond **Lin**
Reb International Fishery Management Co.,
Ltd
Email: tovlin@yahoo.com

MALAYSIA**Head of Delegation**

Ms Syahrizad **Mahpar**
Crops, Livestock and Fisheries Industry
Division
Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based
Industry
Email: syahrizad@moa.gov.my

Alternate

Ms Nur Shahzatsulshima **Ramli**
Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-based
Industry
Email: shima@moa.gov.my

Advisor(s)

Mr Mohd Noor **Noordin**
Department of Fisheries Malaysia
Email: mnn@dof.gov.my

Mr Samsudin **Bin Basir**
Department of Fisheries Malaysia
Email: s_basir@yahoo.com
samsudin@dof.gov.my

Mr Lim Chin **Hock**
Kha Yang Marine Sdn. Bhd.
Email: lim@khayang.com

Mr Ooi Wee **Seong**
Kha Yang Marine Sdn. Bhd.
Email: ows@khayang.com

Mr Adrian Lee Szion **Wye**
Blue Ocean Holding Sdn. Bhd.

Mr Halim **Hamat**
Malaysia Tuna Association
Email: h3halim@gmail.com

Ms Adrian **Lee**
 Forte Venture Marine Surveys and Services
 Sdn Bhd
 Email: adriansw_@hotmail.com

MALDIVES**Head of Delegation**

Dr Hussain Rasheed **Hassan**
 Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture
 Email: hussain.hassan@fishagri.gov.mv

Alternate

Dr Mohammed Shiham **Adam**
 Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture
 Email: msadam@mrc.gov.mv

MAURITIUS**Head of Delegation**

Mr Sreenivasan **Soondron**
 Ministry of Fisheries
 Email: ssoondron@gmail.com

Alternate

Mr Sunil Panray **Beeharry**
 Ministry of Fisheries
 Email: sbeeharry@mail.gov.mu

Advisor(s)

Mr Deavanand **Norungee**
 Ministry of Fisheries
 Email: dnorungee@gmail.com

Mr Subhas Chandra **Bauljeewon**
 Ministry of Fisheries
 Email: sbauljeewon@mail.gov.mu

Ms Zahirah **Dhurmeea**
 Ministry of Fisheries (Albion Fisheries
 Research Centre)
 Email: zdhurmeea@mail.gov.mu

Ms Clivy Lim **Shung**
 Ministry of Fisheries
 Email: clivilim@yahoo.com

Ms Trishna **Sooklall**
 Ministry of Fisheries (Albion Fisheries
 Research Centre)
 Email: tsooklall@mail.gov.mu

Mr Sewraj **Nundall**
 Board of Investment

Ms Nawshin **Mahadoo**
 Board of Investments
 Email: nawshin@investmentmauritius.com

Ms Veronique **Garrioche**
 Thon des Mascareignes Ltd.
 Email: vero.garrioch@gmail.com

Mr Philip **Ryle**
 Princes Tuna (Mauritius) Limited
 Email: pryle@princesmauritius.com

Mr Gurroby **Nitiraj**
 Deepconcept Ltd

Ms Sadna **Ammearally**
 Mauritius Export Association
 Email: sadna@mexa.mu

Mr Ellès **Andre**
 Deepconcept Ltd
 Email: mitch@deepconcept.com

Mr Ken Goshigen **Sabapathie**
 Euro Seafood Hub Ltd
 Email: ken@euroseafoodhub.com

Ms Jaqueline **Sauzier**
 Earth Island Institute
 Email: ejimau@intnet.mu

MOZAMBIQUE**Head of Delegation**

Vice-Minister Gabriel **Muthisse**
 Ministry of Fisheries
 Email: gabriel.muthisse91@gmail.com

Alternate(s)

Mr Simeao **Lopes**
 National Fisheries Administration
 Ministry of Fisheries
 Email: slopes@adnap.gov.mz
slopes41@hotmail.com

Mr Herminio **Tembe**
 Ministry of Fisheries
 Email: htembe@mozpesca.gov.mz

Advisor(s)

Mr Manuel **Castiano**
 Ministry of Fisheries
 Email: mcastiano@mozpesca.gov.mz
mcastiano@gmail.com

Mr Avelino Alfiado **Munwane**
 Ministry of Fisheries-ADNAP
 Email: avelinoalfiado@hotmail.co.uk

Mr Peter **Flewelling**
 Ministry of Fisheries (Fisheries Law
 Enforcement Directorate)
 Email: peteflewelling@yahoo.ca

OMAN**Head of Delegation**

Dr Ahmed Mohammed **Al-Mazroui**
 Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
 Email: ahmed.mazroui@mofw.gov.om
Ahmed.almazrui20@gmail.com

Alternate

Mr Tariq **Al-Mamari**
 Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
 Email: tariq_almamari@yahoo.com

Advisor(s)

Mr Mohammed Said **Al Muslimani**
 Sea's Tawariq Co.
 Email: mohamed.aba@hotmail.com

Mr Said Ali **Al Arami**
 Sea's Tawariq Co.
 Email: areen.s_595@hotmail.com

Mr Hisa Chieh **Liu**
 Sea's Tawariq Co.
 Email: jesssley@hotmail.com

PAKISTAN

Absent

PHILIPPINES**Head of Delegation**

Mr Benjamin F. S. **Tabios Jr.**
 Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
 Email: btabios@bfar.da.gov.ph

Alternate

Mr Richard **Sy**
 OPRT Philippine
 Email: syrichard139@gmail.com

SEYCHELLES**Head of Delegation**

Mr Philippe **Michaud**
 Chairman, Seychelles Fishing Authority
 Email: pmichaud@mfa.gov.sc

Alternate

Mr Roy **Clarisse**
 Seychelles Fishing Authority
 Email: royc@sfa.sc

Advisor(s)

Ms Elisa **Socrate**
 Seychelles Fishing Authority
 Email: esocrate@sfa.sc

Mr Tan Kay **Hwee**
 Deepsea Fisheries
 Email: deepsea-fishery@mail.hinet.net

SIERRA LEONE

Absent

SRI LANKA**Head of Delegation**

Mr Nimal **Hettiarachchi**
 Department of Fisheries and Aquatic
 Resources
 Email: nimalhetti@gmail.com

Alternate

A.D.P.C **Wijegoonawardana**
 Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources
 Email: cwijegoonawardana@gmail.com

Advisor(s)

Dr Rekha **Maldeniya**
 National Aquatic Resources Research and
 Development Agency
 (NARA)
 Email: rekhamaldeniya@gmail.com

SUDAN

Absent

TANZANIA (UNITED REPUBLIC OF)**Head of Delegation**

Dr Kassim Juma **Gharib**
 Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries
 Email: kassimjuma52@yahoo.com

Alternate

Mr Hosea Gonza **Mbilinyi**
 Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries
 Development
 Email: hoseagonza@yahoo.com
hoseagonza@gmail.com

Advisor(s)

Mr Zahor Mohamed **El-Kharousy**
 Tanzania Deep Sea Fishing Authority
 Email: zahor1m@hotmail.com

Mr Per Erik **Bergh**
DSFA
Email: pbergh@nfd.info

Mr Philippe **Cacaud**
DSFA
Email: pcacaud@nfd.info

Omar Ali **Amir**
Email: oamakando@yahoo.com

THAILAND

Head of Delegation
Ms Pattira **Lirdwitayaprasit**
Department of Fisheries , Thailand
Email: pattiral@hotmail.com

Alternate
Dr Smith **Thummachua**
Overseas Fisheries Management and
Economic Cooperation Group
Department of Fisheries
Email: thuma98105@yahoo.com

UNITED KINGDOM
Head of Delegation
Dr Chris **Mees**
MRAG Ltd
Email: c.mees@mrags.co.uk

VANUATU
Head of Delegation
Mr Laurent **Parenté**
Government of the Republic of Vanuatu
Email: laurentparente-vanuatu-imo@hotmail.com

Alternate
Mr Tony **Taleo**
Fisheries Department
Email: taleo@gmail.com

Advisor(s)
Mr Laurent **Dezamy**
VMS Expert
Email: ldezamy@cls.fr

YEMEN
Absent

COOPERATING NON-CONTRACTING PARTIES

SENEGAL
Head of Delegation
Mr Camille Jean Pierre **Manel**
Ministry of Fisheries and Maritimes affairs
Email: cjpmanel@gmail.com

Alternate
Mr Sidi **Ndaw**
Direction Des Pêches Maritimes
Email: sidindaw@hotmail.com

SOUTH AFRICA
Head of Delegation
Mr Craig **Smith**
Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries
Email: CraigS@daff.gov.za

Alternate
Mr Ceba **Mtoba**
Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries
Email: CebaM@daff.gov.za

OBSERVERS

COOK ISLANDS
Mr Garth Mitchell **Broadhead**
Ministry of Marine Resources
Email: g.broadhead@mnr.gov.ck

RUSSIAN FEDERATION
Dr Sergey **Leontiev**
Russian Research Institute of
Fisheries and Oceanography
(VNIRO)
Email: leon@vniro.ru

Mr Stanislav **Standrik**
FSUE The National Fish Resources
Email: nfr@nfr.ru

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Ms Deirdre M. **Warner-Kramer**
Sr. Foreign Affairs Officer
Department of State
Email: warner-kramerdm@state.gov

Ms Erika **Carlsen**
Foreign Affairs Specialist
Email: erika.carlsen@noaa.gov

FAO
Mr Arni **Mathiesen**
Email: Arni.Mathiesen@fao.org

Dr Gail **Lugten**
Email: Gail.Lugten@fao.org

INDIAN OCEAN COMMISSION
Jérôme Kompe **Fanjavirina**
Email: Jerome.fanjavirina@coi-ioc.org

Mr Jude **Talma**
IOC SMARTFISH
Email: jude.talma@coi-ioc.org

BIRDLIFE INTERNATIONAL
Dr Ross **Wanless**
Email: ross.wanless@birdlife.org.za

Ms Bronwyn Anne **Maree**
Email: bronwyn.maree@birdlife.org.za

Ms Andrea **Angel**
Email: andreaangel.g@gmail.com

COALITION FOR FAIR FISHERIES
ARRANGEMENTS
Ms Helene **Bours**
Email: bours.helene@scarlet.be

GREENPEACE INTERNATIONAL
Ms Sari **Tolvanen**
Email: sari.tolvanen@greenpeace.org

Mr Vassen **Kauppamuthoo**
Email: vassen.kauppamuthoo@delphiniumconsulting.com

IFAW
Mr Ralf **Sonntag**
Email: rsonntag@ifaw.org

INTERNATIONAL SEAFOOD
SUSTAINABILITY FOUNDATION

Dr Gerald P **Scott** Email:
gpconfig_fish@hotmail.com

Ms Holly R. **Koehler**
Email: hkoehler@iss-foundation.org

MARINE STEWARDSHIP
COUNCIL
Mr Martin **Purves**
Email: martin.purves@msc.org

OPRT
Mr Wenjung **Hsieh**
Email: wenjung@tuna.org.tw

Mr Yinbo **Liu**
Email: simon@tuna.org.tw

Mr Kuanting **Lee**
Email: simon@tuna.org.tw

PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS
Mr Luke **Warwick**
Email: lwarwick@pewtrusts.org

Ms Kerrilynn **Miller**
Email: klmiller@pewtrusts.org

Mr Maximiliano **Bello**
Email: mbello-consultant@pewtrusts.org

Ms Kristin **Von Kistowski**
Email: kristin@kistowski.de

Ms Adriana **Fabra**
Email: afabra@yahoo.es

Prof Isao **Sakaguchi**
Email: isao.sakaguchi@gakushuin.ac.jp

WORLDWIDE FUND FOR NATURE

Dr Wetjens **Dimmlich**
WWF Smart Fishing Initiative
Email: wdimmlich@wwf.panda.org

US-JAPAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Mr Hiroshi **Ohta**
Email: h-ohta@y.waseda.jp

Mr Domingos **Gove**
Email: dgove@wvfesarpo.org

INVITED EXPERTS

Mr Chi-Chao **Liu**
Fisheries Agency of Taiwan,
Province of China
Email: chichao@msl.f.gov.tw

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

Ms Hsiang-Yin **Chen** Fisheries
Agency of Taiwan, Province of China
Email: hsianyin@msl.f.gov.tw

Dr Shih-Ming **Kao**
Taiwan, Province of China
Email: kaosm@mail.ntou.edu.tw

Mr Wei-Yang **Liu**
Fisheries Agency of Taiwan,
Province of China
Email: weiyang@ofdc.org.tw

Mr Shiaw-shyuen **Chou**
Taiwan, Province of China
Email: chou8155@livemail.tw

IOTC SECRETARIAT

Mr Rondolph **Payet**
Executive Secretary
rp@iotc.org

Mr Alejandro **Anganuzzi**
Technical Advisor
aa@iotc.org

Ms Claudia **Marie**
Programme Assistant
cm@iotc.org

Dr David **Wilson**
Deputy Secretary/ Science Manager
dw@iotc.org

Mr Gerard **Domingue**
Compliance Officer
gd@iotc.org

Mr Olivier **Roux**
olivier@otolith.com

INTERPRETERS

Ms Catherine **Jele**
Email: c.jele@aiic.net

Ms Marie Françoise **La Hausse De
Lalouviere**
Email: françoise@lahausse.co.za

Ms Michelle **Searra**
Email: franglais@icon.co.za

Mr Muteba **Kasanga**
Email: kasangam@gmail.com

Mr Gilbert **Manirakiza**
Email: manigilbert@gmail.com

Mr Martyn **Swain**
Email: m.swain@aiic.net

Support Staff

Mr Noel Wan Sai **Cheong**
Mr Gajendra **Geeane**
Mr Santaram **Soorkea**
Mr Nitish **Teelwah**

APPENDIX II
OPENING ADDRESSES

Opening Address by the Honorable L.J.Von-Mally, GOSK
Minister of Fisheries

Excellencies,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to be associated with the official opening of the 17th Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) Meeting organized by the IOTC in collaboration with my Ministry. I extend a very warm welcome to all foreign delegates who have responded positively to attend this Commission meeting.

I recalled that in October last I addressed you from this very stage for the Tuna Tagging Symposium. This is the second time that Mauritius is hosting the Commission Meeting and this marks a decisive landmark in the commitment of Mauritius to cooperate with all the IOTC member States, other cooperating parties and international organizations to achieve sustainability through the application of precautionary and ecosystem approach to fisheries.

The expectations placed on IOTC have grown exponentially over the years. A plethora of Resolutions and management instruments that address fisheries governance have been produced and best management practices are being fostered.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

You will agree that today our seas are characterized by overfishing or overexploitation. Fish stocks are being depleted and catches are a mere fraction of what they used to be in the past decades. Hence, the urgent need to ensure sustainable fisheries development, sustain capture fisheries production, accelerate the growth of aquaculture and mariculture besides increasing benefits from trade and markets.

Much of the benefits that we, IOTC member States, derive originate from the exploitation of fishery resources found in our EEZ and from the adjacent high seas. Hence, it is in our interest that fishery resources of the region are exploited sustainably and are protected against illegal fishing. In this endeavor, we need efficient management measures through the application of precautionary and ecosystem approach to fisheries. We need to have effective instruments and tools such as Port State Measures to combat Illegal Unreported and Unregulated fishing.

I can assure you that Mauritius is complying and will continue to comply with all resolutions concerning IUU fishing in order to contribute to the sustainable management of fishery resources in the region and at the same time ensure that exports of our fish and fish products are based on internationally acceptable norms.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The IOTC is the stepping stone in our region for ensuring that the best available scientific advice is provided to bring economic social and environmental considerations into the entire policy process for policy-making and sound decisions. Hence, the need to promote a policy process that adopts participatory, responsive, transparent and adaptive approaches.

Successful implementation of a policy relies on the support of a wide range of stakeholders who have diverse values and interest. Amidst all this, Regional Cooperation is a key component given that it is a major contributor to social, economic and cultural growth. The IOTC provides the platform to engage in practical and pragmatic cooperation to address many challenges in the fishing sector. This is a strong signal of unity and determination to achieve ambitious and concrete results amongst all stakeholders whilst underlining our commitment to transparency, openness and the rule of law.

Those from the scientific arena know better that fisheries management strategy and development are characterised by multiple and conflicting objectives, multiple stakeholders with divergent interests and high levels of uncertainty about the dynamics of the resources being managed. We, therefore have to build a fishing industry that is sustainable, well managed, cost effective and supports the fishing community.

Cooperation in fisheries is only one part of this wider need for the economies of the region to work together and foster mutual understanding. You would agree that the uses of best scientific information through better and up-to-date data are critical to ensure long-term sustainability of marine resources. All the participants to this meeting are involved in one way or another in securing data for better scientific advice in fisheries management and the fact you are all here

shows how committed you are to improving the management and conservation of the valuable tuna resources we all share.

Ladies and Gentlemen

There will be no progress in fisheries management without a shared commitment to the key objectives of sustainability and responsibility. Collaborative work does provide the much needed mechanism for integrating the unique knowledge, experience, and skills of fisheries stakeholders, fisheries managers and scientists. It promotes communication and mutual trust among fisheries scientists and managers to provide the much-needed scientifically valid data for fisheries management to maximize economic value and promote an economically viable industry that is able to withstand supply and demand shocks, and meeting the growing demand for seafood.

We are fully cooperating with all the stakeholders at the regional and international level. Being a member to the IOTC is like holding an insurance policy indispensable against the brunt challenges facing the tuna industry at large in uncertain and rapid changing economic and environmental conditions. We, therefore, have a stake in ensuring that IOTC succeeds as an organization both in terms of its operations and in the delivery of its services.

Discussions that will follow hereafter on the proposed Resolutions based on the outcome of the Scientific Committee is a milestone in itself and is another step in advancing our commitment to the long-term conservation and sustainability of the living marine resources of the region. It shows the excellent cooperation and commitment to sustainable, science-based marine resources management coupled with sharing experiences and best practices in fisheries science.

I have no doubt that the IOTC would continue to support Member States in meeting the challenges in fisheries resource management and sustainable development in the years ahead.

I know that you are fully dedicated to the sessions that will follow and you will contribute to the success of the Meeting. I do hope you will also take time to enjoy fascinating Mauritius with its tropical setting, friendly people and multi-cultural cuisine.

I now have the pleasure to declare the meeting open.

Thank you.

Mr Daroomalingum Mauree, Chair of the Commission

Honorable Ministers,
Ambassadors,
Executive Secretary of IOTC
Distinguished Guests,
Distinguished Representatives of Members
Non Contracting Cooperating Members,
Invited Observers,
Ladies and gentlemen;

1. Let me wish you a very good morning and welcome to Grand Baie International Conference Centre, in Mauritius for the 17th Session of the Indian Tuna Ocean Commission. It is a great honour for me to be addressing you today on this occasion.

2. Firstly of all, on your behalf I would like to express our deepest gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Mauritius for kindly hosting the IOTC Commission meeting. The Government of Mauritius has provided us, in this exquisite location, excellent facilities for us to do our work.

3. The IOTC serves as a harbinger for intensive and wide ranging engagement in the management of tuna and tuna like resources in the Indian Ocean region. We therefore have a stake in ensuring that IOTC succeeds as an organization in its mission in the delivery of its mandate for the sustainable management of our marine resources based on international law and all the relevant recommendations.

4. As each year goes by, the challenges faced and the questions asked to this Commission by the international community continue to grow. However, let me give you an overview of the fishery stock situation and most recent progress recorded since the last IOTC Commission meeting in 2012:

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- The Indian Ocean has remained the second most productive ocean.
 - The situation of the tuna fishery and stocks in the Indian Ocean reveals that all major stocks are being exploited in a sustainable manner, except possibly for albacore, where further studies are required for its confirmation.
 - The issue of piracy is improving in the high seas and coastal fisheries in Western Indian Ocean, resulting in longline fleets returning to the Western Indian Ocean.

5. Progress has been noted in various areas of the IOTC processes whilst ensuring that management measures are based on the best available scientific advice:

- IOTC members are implementing a precautionary approach based on the principles adopted in April 2012, accompanied by the recommended Provisional Reference Point along with commitment to a process to develop Permanent Reference Points and Harvest Control Rules for future management measures.
- In the process to develop management measures, rights-based management approach has been considered through a Technical Committee to discuss allocation criteria. Quota allocation is still on the agenda in spite of the non-conclusive Oman meeting, inasmuch as actions will need to be taken soon for stocks such as albacore. In absence of an established allocation criteria, alternative management measures would have to be considered as advocated by some members
- In terms of compliance the Commission has taken many measures to strengthen and enhance monitoring and control which are being enforced by member states. However, effective compliance still remains a major challenge. Fortunately, our Compliance Committee has consolidated its mechanism to monitor and improve compliance in member states.
- The pole -and -line skipjack fishery in Maldives has been certified by the Marine Stewardship’s Council (MSC).
- Members have adopted the Port States Measures which are now in force for more than a year.
- Ecosystem approach to fisheries management is paving its way through measures adopted for the conservation and preservation of seabirds, marine turtles and thresher sharks. Proposals for cetaceans, whale sharks, hammerhead, oceanic whitetip sharks will be considered as from 2013.
- Positive results on Governance have been achieved through membership to the IOTC being expanded now to 31 members with Maldives, Mozambique and Yemen being the last signatories.
- There has been much better participation from civil society being given that 11 NGOs were represented at the 16th IOTC Commission Meeting. The last Commission Meeting also witnessed better and more effective participation from coastal states. The number of proposals in respect of management measures adopted in April 2012 reached a record level.
- Most recommendations of the 2009 Performance Review were implemented. However, revision of the IOTC Agreement remains the most outstanding issue.

6. The governance issue might be short-lived unless the implementation of the precautionary approach is consolidated and progress made on quota allocation. Future market access and certification opportunities largely depend on these governance issues being addressed.

7. I look forward to working with all of you in an evenhanded and fair manner to achieve the desired results. I am counting on the chairpersons of the Compliance and, the Standing Committee on Finance and Administration to move forward on the different issues.

8. Understanding similarities and differences will allow us to more effectively communicate and partner in the resources management.

9. I have no doubt that, hand in hand, we can move ahead with confidence. Confidence, that IOTC has the strength to sail with a good compass with its crew aboard the same vessel to preserve management values. Smaller steps that show demonstrable progress might inspire the confidence and trust to weave our inspiration into a final package.

10. The way we approached challenges, collectively as members of IOTC has laid a solid foundation to address fisheries management ahead. I thus look forward to constructive decisions for the 17th Session of the Indian Tuna Ocean Commission. I am sure we could not have been in a better location than this to work and also to enjoy the beautiful paradise island of Mauritius.

Thank You.

Mr. Rondolph Payet, Executive Secretary, IOTC

Honorable Minister Von-Mally, Ministry of Fisheries, Mauritius
Honorable Deputy Minister of Fisheries, Mozambique
Minister of State for Fisheries, Maldives
FAO Assistant Director General for Fisheries
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries, Mauritius
Secretary General, Indian Ocean Commission
Mr. Mauree, Chairman of IOTC
Distinguished Guests, ladies and gentlemen

This a special occasion for me, as it marks my first Session as the Executive Secretary of this organization. It is mixed with excitement, hopefulness, as well as anxiety, but I feel good to be with you here today. When you elected me last year I was thrilled but two weeks later I said to myself “What have I done”. I cannot express to you how much I appreciate your confidence and trust in my ability to be able to deliver on this task. I have an excellent team at the secretariat and we will work diligently to meet your needs as members.

Tuna fisheries will always play an important role in securing a better future not only for Mauritius, but also for other countries in the region. It is clear, at least from my perspective, that over the past 5 years, coastal States have become more engaged in the IOTC process and contributing to success of this organization. Still there is much more to be done.

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission is unique amongst tuna RFMOs, for its diversity of cultures and economic situations. It has the highest proportion of catches for the main species coming from artisanal fisheries, and, on the other hand, a large proportion of the catches come from areas beyond national jurisdiction. This diversity creates challenges that sometimes threaten our inner conviction whether this organisation is making progress. However, as we confront the uncertainties for the future, we must not relax in face of conflicting demands. We are unique and we need to be innovative through the exchange of ideas and be prepared to challenge the *status quo*. If that does not happen, a way forward will be difficult to find, and the IOTC process itself will be at risk with negative consequences for all.

From the point of view of the Secretariat, our work has extended beyond the traditional scientific support, as we continue to work with Member states and other regional initiatives to promote better compliance.

The Secretariat has provided services to Member States, especially developing coastal States, to assist in improving the level of compliance of all parties, and to promote a better understanding of the requirements for an effective participation in the IOTC process. We have conducted two compliance missions so far and they are already starting to reap some benefits. We have more of such missions planned this year.

We would like to cry and laugh with you and be your partner – and you know what I mean.

In closing, I would like to express my gratitude to my staff, in particular my Deputy and Science Manager – David Wilson, the Compliance Coordinator - Gerard, the Fisheries Officer - Florian and Claudia who is in the back office, and also all in the secretariat back in Seychelles. I owe much of the success of this meeting to them. My thanks also go to the local organizing committee, the Ministry of Fisheries and the supporting consultants (Julien and Olivier) who have worked long hours to ensure the success of this meeting. I am very grateful.

Last but not least I would like to sincerely thank Alejandro, the former Executive Secretary, who has been an excellent inspiration to me in this transition. I have admired his endless passion and the willingness to share his knowledge without hesitation. I would not have expected any less.

I'm definitely not Alejandro and I hope I will bring a different spin and beat to the Secretariat and the way we serve you. I will continue to build on what has been achieved and also bring my own vision with even greater passion.

I look forward to working with you in an evenhanded manner, this week and in the years to come and as you may wish.

Thank you very much.

APPENDIX III**AGENDA OF THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION OF THE INDIAN OCEAN TUNA COMMISSION****Date:** 6–10 May, 2013**Location:** Grand Baie International Conference Centre (GBICC)

Royal Road, Grand Baie, Mauritius

Time: 09:00 – 17:00 daily**Chair:** Mr. Mauree Daroomalingum; **Vice-Chair:** Vacant

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. **REPORT OF THE 15TH SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE** (SC Chair)
5. **REPORT OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON ALLOCATION CRITERIA** (TCAC Chair)
6. **REPORT OF THE 10TH SESSION OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE** (CoC Chair)
7. **REPORT OF THE 10TH SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE** (SCAF Chair)
8. **PERFORMANCE REVIEW UPDATE (RESOLUTION 09/01 ON THE PERFORMANCE REVIEW FOLLOW-UP)** (Chair & Secretariat)
9. **REPORT OF THE CMM COMPENDIUM WORKING GROUP (RESOLUTION 11/01 REGARDING CONSOLIDATION OF IOTC RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS)** (WG Chair)
10. **RULES OF PROCEDURE** (Chair)
Amendments or additions to these Rules may be adopted on the motion of any delegation by a two thirds majority of the Members of the Commission at any plenary meeting of the Commission provided that copies of the proposals for amendment or addition have been distributed or circulated to the delegations at least 60 days before the session of the Commission.
11. **CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES** (Members)
Noting that in 2012, 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. (para 88, S16 report).
12. **OTHER BUSINESS** (Chair)
 - 12.1 Proposal for a statement on piracy (European Union)
 - 12.2 Discussion on the activities of other regional bodies and donors in the Indian Ocean
 - 12.3 To discuss the procedures for the submission of proposals
 - 12.4 Election of a Chair and Vice-Chair/s for the next biennium

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- 13. DATE AND PLACE OF THE 18th SESSION OF THE COMMISSION AND OF THE COMMISSIONS
SUBSIDIARY BODIES (Chair)**
- 14. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 17th SESSION OF THE
COMMISSION (Chair)**

APPENDIX IV
LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Document	Title	Availability
IOTC–2013–S17–01a	Provisional agenda for the Seventeenth Session of the Commission	5 March, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–01b	Provisional annotated agenda for the Seventeenth Session of the Commission	8 April, 2012
IOTC–2013–S17–02	Draft list of documents for the Seventeenth Session of the Commission	6 April, 2012
IOTC–2013–S17–03	Draft indicative schedule for the Seventeenth Session of the Commission (and SCAF10)	12 March, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–04	Draft list of participants for the Seventeenth Session of the Commission	25 April, 2012
IOTC–2013–S17–05	Performance review update (Resolution 2009/01 <i>on the performance review follow-up</i>)	28 March, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–06	Outcomes of the Working Groups Deliberations on Resolution 11/01 <i>regarding consolidation of IOTC Resolutions and Recommendations</i>	3 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–07	Proposal to revise the IOTC Rules of Procedure, based on the recommendation from the compendium working group	6 March, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–08	Current conservation and management measures requiring action by the Commission in 2013 (Secretariat)	11 March, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–09	Proposal: Statement of the IOTC plenary on piracy in the western part of the IOTC area of competence – 2013 (European Union)	5 April, 2013
Committee Reports		
IOTC–2012–SC15–R	Report of the Fifteenth Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee	21 December, 2012
IOTC–2013–TCAC02–R	Report of the Second Session of the Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria	11 March, 2013
IOTC–2013–CoC10–R	Report of the Tenth Session of the IOTC Compliance Committee	4 May 2013
IOTC–2013–SCAF10–R	Report of the Tenth Session of the IOTC Standing Committee on Administration and Finance	10 May 2013
Conservation and Management Measures – Proposals		
IOTC–2013–S17–PropA	On the removal of obsolete Conservation and Management Measures – Australia & European Union (to replace a range of CMMs)	3 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropB	On the conservation of sharks – Australia, Maldives (revision of Resolution 05/05)	5 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropC	On conservation of shark caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC – European Union (revision of Resolution 05/05)	5 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropD	On the conservation of whale sharks (<i>Rhincodon typus</i>) – Australia, Maldives (new proposal)	5 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropE	On the conservation of silky sharks (<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>) caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC – European Union (new proposal)	5 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropF	On the conservation of oceanic whitetip sharks (<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>) caught in association with IOTC managed fisheries – European Union (new proposal)	5 April, 2013

Document	Title	Availability
IOTC–2013–S17–PropG	On the conservation of hammerhead sharks (Family Sphyrnidae) caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC – European Union (new proposal)	5 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropH	On the conservation of cetaceans – Australia, Maldives (new proposal)	5 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropI	On the recording of catch and effort by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence – Mozambique (revision of Resolution 12/03)	29 March, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropJ	On the recording of catch and effort by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence – European Union (revision of Resolution 12/03)	5 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropK	Mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPC'S) – Mozambique (revision of Resolution 10/02)	29 March, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropL	Mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPC'S) – European Union (revision of Resolution 10/02)	5 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropM	On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna and non targeted species caught by purse seine vessels in the IOTC area of competence – Seychelles (revision of Recommendation 10/13)	5 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropN	On interim target and limit reference points – Maldives (revision of Recommendation 12/14)	6 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropO	On the implementation of an interim harvest control rule for skipjack tuna – Maldives (new proposal)	6 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropP	Concerning the IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC area of competence – Mozambique (revision of Resolution 07/02)	29 March, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropQ	On establishing a list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the IOTC area of competence – Mozambique (revision of Resolution 11/03)	29 March, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropR	Concerning a record of licensed foreign vessels fishing for IOTC species in the IOTC area of competence and access agreement information – Mozambique (revision of Resolution 12/07)	29 March, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropS	Prohibiting the abandonment of fish aggregating devices (FADs) on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence France(OT) (new proposal)	5 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropT	Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan, including more detailed specifications of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species – European Union (revision of Resolution 12/08)	5 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropU	Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan – Mauritius (revision of Resolution 12/08)	6 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropV Rev_1	On an IOTC tropical tuna – bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna and yellowfin tuna, catch certification scheme – European Union (new proposal)	5 & 6 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropW	On penalties to be applied in case of non fulfilment of reporting obligations in the IOTC – European Union (new proposal)	5 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–PropX	On the conservation of albacore caught in the IOTC area of competence – European Union (new proposal)	5 April, 2013

Document	Title	Availability
<i>Information papers</i>		
IOTC–2013–S17–INF01	On Conservation and Management Measures that may no longer be applicable	4 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–INF02	ISSF guide for non-entangling FADs	22 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–INF03	Information paper for reducing unreported at-sea tuna transshipment in the Indian Ocean – Indonesia	24 April, 2013
IOTC–2013–S17–INF04	FAO legal office review: IOTC–2013–S17–07 – proposal to revise the IOTC Rules of Procedure	26 April, 2013
<i>NGO Statements</i>		
ISSF	ISSF Position Statement	19 March, 2013
PEW	PEW Position Statement	16 April, 2013
Greenpeace	Greenpeace Position Statement	22 April, 2013
WWF	WWF Position Statement	2 May, 2013
IFAW	IFAW Position Statement	8 May, 2013

APPENDIX V
OPENING STATEMENTS FROM OBSERVERS

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) – ADG, Mr Arni Mathiesen

Mr. Chairman,

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

I am very pleased to be with you here today and get the opportunity to address the IOTC annual meeting. I would have liked to be at earlier meetings but since I joined the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department there have been very busy times. First getting acquainted with the Department or FI as we call it and then, both with regards to reorganizing the Department and since the arrival of our new DG, reorganizing FAO itself. This of course has a bearing on the relationship with the IOTC which I will touch upon a bit later.

The regional fisheries bodies and the RFMOs including the tuna RFMOs are in my opinion and experience, extremely important in international fisheries management and beyond. This is regardless of their origin, structure, type or relationship with FAO FI. They are multinational fora of cooperation and decision making which have mandates which no other organizations have. These mandates are furthermore embedded in international law. There is however no doubt that the tasks that they have been given are difficult and complex ones, dealing with national and international as well as stakeholder interests. As with any other endeavor, sometimes they succeed and sometimes they don't, all depending on the will of the member countries. Their task is not an enviable one and this can very well be judged by the criticism they often receive.

Fortunately, the oceans, fisheries management and conservation issues linked to them have received much greater attention lately than before. This attention is not always followed by the same amount of understanding of the issues, current situations or what there is at stake for those that rely on the oceans for their livelihoods. Partly due to this attention many large initiatives have recently been taken or are being prepared on ocean and fisheries matters. Some have been taken by FAO on its own or jointly with others. Some have been taken by others and they have then invited FAO to join. In some cases we have had to knock on the door to participate. In any case we are involved in one way or another in most if not all of these initiatives. That I believe is a good thing particularly due to our representation of issues that are of importance to those that rely on fisheries for their livelihoods but we find that more support is needed.

RFBs and RFMOs are not always as visible in these initiatives as I think is warranted. There may be reasons for that and some may be found in the lack of understanding of the issues I mentioned earlier. Others because of the tendency of people for while promoting a cause they have to criticize others and find culprits to blame for the state of affairs they mean to rectify. This we have all seen and it is both unfortunate, unjustified and unhelpful. The Department has tried to promote the participation of the RFBs and on occasions as you know made quite an effort to do so. I however believe that this situation I have described needs to be changed.

I mentioned earlier that FAO as an organization has been undergoing reorganisation. These changes are quite extensive and are related to both the way we work, what we do, how we are structured and has also led to great changes in senior management. So many major changes are not easy to do in a relatively short time as the case is this time and are bound to affect almost if not just plainly everybody. In general I believe that these changes, which basically are about introducing a matrix structure and reduce the number of Strategic Objectives, will be positive for the organization. The organization will be more focused and more cross cutting in its operations. I think that at the present we are as well advanced as can be expected at this stage but still there are major undertakings still to be done and major operational decisions still need to be taken before the new Strategic Framework becomes operational at the beginning of next year. It may sound as if I am complaining about the process but I am not and the main reason for that is the opportunities that come up in a process of change like this one. They actually can far exceed the proposed changes themselves, if we

want, and give us the opportunity to make changes that we have been talking about for a long time but never really got off the ground.

I believe this applies to RFBs and their work in relation to FI. Both COFI and the Secretariat have been of the opinion and talked about the need for better cooperation, better support and more synchronization in this kind of work for a while. Charity begins at home and even though as yet how the article 6 RFBs will be handled in detail in the new SFW is not clear the department has set up a task force to look at how we can make them more effective, more relevant and more able to participate in wider cooperation to promote their cause. The task force is not only to concentrate on article 6 bodies but also to help us be more effective in cooperation with other RFBs regardless of type or linkage to FI. In the case of the article 14 bodies their position in the SFW is much clearer as they will be a part of a Strategic Objective but with ring fenced resources and under the direct supervision of the ADGs. I therefore find it appropriate since this change will take place at the beginning of next year and my personal involvement will increase to initiate a dialogue with you on how we can better work together in the future, how we can better cooperate together in relation to the many oceans initiatives I mentioned earlier and strengthen our joint position there. Basically in general how we can together better fulfill our mandates.

I am at this stage not proposing a particular process and don't expect you to make this a major issue at this meeting but would welcome the opportunity to interact with you on this issue informally over the next couple of days while I am here. We can then carry on through other methods after the meeting and then if and when we deem it appropriate initiate something more formal, a process in line with what we would jointly see as a possible outcome in the future. I also propose to raise this issue with other RFMOs beginning with GFCM in Croatia next week.

I thank you for your patience and I look forward to our discussions.

Russian Federation

First of all, I would like to extend my gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Mauritius for kindly hosting the 17th Meeting of the IOTC. I would also like to thank the members of IOTC Secretariat and the Chairman of IOTC, Mr. Daroomalingum Mauree, for efforts they put into preparing this meeting.

The records of tuna fishery research in the Indian Ocean by the USSR and the Russian Federation date back very much. In the 1970-s and 1980-s, up to the early 1990-s, the scientific research vessels of the USSR performed three to five tuna finding and research cruises in the Indian Ocean. That is, in total, the USSR and the Russian Federation made about one hundred exploratory and research cruises to the ocean, thus accumulating a huge fishery and biology database. Besides, in the late 1970-s and early 1980-s the USSR conducted targeting research from R/V “Professor Mesyatsev” under the FAO programme to study the status of the Indian Ocean fishery resources. Those studies involved experts of the coastal nations (Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique) and FAO experts. The results of that work remain unique even now, both in terms of the magnitude of research, and the volume of scientific data collected.

The longline and purse seine tuna fisheries by the USSR and the Russian Federation in the Indian Ocean have a record of thirty years. The initial Soviet tuna fishery cruises to the Indian Ocean were run on tuna catching longliners in the late 1960-s. Mid – sized tuna long-liners were constructed or re-designed in the mid 1970-s; those vessels fished for tunas in a vast area between the Gulf of Aden and Madagascar. In addition, up to five “Rodina” and seven “Kauri” type tuna purse seiners joined the tuna fishery in the Indian Ocean in the late 1980-s. The Russian tuna – targeted fisheries continued until the early 1990-s using various vessel types.

It is publicly known that the Russian Federation, being a member of FAO and numerous international fishery organizations, has a responsible and transparent fishery policy, both in international waters, and in its own EEZ.

The interest of the Russian Federation in the work of IOTC is primarily in the compliance with the generally accepted principles of optimum and responsible fisheries.

At present, the Russian Federation government has resolved to start the process of acceding to the IOTC Convention.

The Delegation of the Russian Federation wishes success to the 17th Meeting of IOTC.

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	2012	Advice to the Commission
Temperate and tropical tuna stocks: These are the main stocks being exploitation by industrial, and to a lesser extent, artisanal fisheries throughout the Indian Ocean, both on the high seas and in the EEZ of coastal states.						
Albacore <i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	Catch 2011: 38,946 t Average catch 2007–2011: 41,609 t MSY (80% CI): 33,300 t (31,100–35,600 t) F ₂₀₁₀ /F _{MSY} (80% CI): 1.33 (0.9–1.76) SB ₂₀₁₀ /SB _{MSY} (80% CI): 1.05 (0.54–1.56) SB ₂₀₁₀ /SB ₁₉₅₀ (80% CI): 0.29 (n.a.)	2007				Maintaining or increasing effort in the core albacore fishing grounds is likely to result in further declines in albacore biomass, productivity and CPUE. The impacts of piracy in the western Indian Ocean has resulted in the displacement of a substantial portion of longline fishing effort into the traditional albacore fishing areas in the southern and eastern Indian Ocean. It is therefore unlikely that catch and effort on albacore will decline in the near future unless management action is taken.
Bigeye tuna <i>Thunnus obesus</i>	Catch in 2011: 87,420 t Average catch 2007–2011: 101,639 t SS3 ³ ASPM ⁴ MSY (1000 t): 114 t (95–183 t) 103 t (87–119 t) ² F _{curr} /F _{MSY} : 0.79 (0.50–1.22) 0.67 (0.48–0.86) ² SB _{curr} /SB _{MSY} : 1.20 (0.88–1.68) 1.00 (0.77–1.24) ² SB _{curr} /SB ₀ : 0.34 (0.26–0.40) 0.39	2008				The recent declines in longline effort, particularly from the Japanese, Taiwan, China and Republic of Korea longline fleets, as well as purse seine effort have lowered the pressure on the Indian Ocean bigeye tuna stock, indicating that current fishing mortality would not reduce the population to an overfished state in the near future.
Skipjack tuna <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	Catch 2011: 398,240 t Average catch 2007–2011: 435,527 t MSY (1000 t): 478 t (359–598 t) F ₂₀₁₁ /F _{MSY} : 0.80 (0.68–0.92) SB ₂₀₁₁ /SB _{MSY} : 1.20 (1.01–1.40) SB ₂₀₁₁ /SB ₀ : 0.45 (0.25–0.65)					The recent declines in catches are thought to be caused by a recent decrease in purse seine effort as well as due to a decline in CPUE of large skipjack tuna in the surface fisheries. Catches in 2010 (428,000 t) and 2011 (398,240 t) as well as the average level of catches of 2007–2011 (435,527 t) are below MSY targets though may have exceeded them in 2005 and 2006.
Yellowfin tuna <i>Thunnus albacares</i>	Catch 2011: 302,939 t Average catch 2007–2011: 302,064 t MSY (1000 t): 344 (290–453) F ₂₀₁₀ /F _{MSY} : 0.69 (0.59–0.90) SB ₂₀₁₀ /SB _{MSY} : 1.24 (0.91–1.40) SB ₂₀₁₀ /SB ₀ : 0.38 (0.28–0.38)	2008				The decrease in longline and purse seine effort in recent years has substantially lowered the pressure on the Indian Ocean stock as a whole, indicating that current fishing mortality has not exceeded the MSY-related levels in recent years. If the security situation in the western Indian Ocean were to improve, a rapid reversal in fleet activity in this region may lead to an increase in effort which the stock might not be able to sustain, as catches would then be likely to exceed MSY levels.

Stock	Indicators	Prev ¹	2010	2011	2012	Advice to the Commission
Billfish: These are the billfish stocks being exploitation by industrial and artisanal fisheries throughout the Indian Ocean, both on the high seas and in the EEZ of coastal states. The marlins and sailfish are not usually targeted by most fleets, but are caught and retained as byproduct by the main industrial fisheries. They are important for localised small-scale and artisanal fisheries or as targets in recreational fisheries.						
Swordfish (whole IO) <i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Catch 2011: 19,631 t Average catch 2007–2011: 21,870 t MSY: 29,900–34,200 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				The decrease in longline catch and effort in recent years has lowered the pressure on the Indian Ocean stock as a whole, indicating that current fishing mortality would not reduce the population to an overfished state. There is a low risk of exceeding MSY-based reference points by 2019 if catches reduce further or are maintained at current levels until 2019 (<11% risk that $B_{2019} < B_{MSY}$, and <9% risk that $F_{2019} > F_{MSY}$).
Swordfish (southwest IO) <i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Catch 2011: 6,559 t Average catch 2007–2011: 6,939 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					The decrease in catch and effort over the last few years in the southwest region has reduced pressure on this resource. However, in 2010, catches exceeded the maximum recommended by the WPB09 and SC14 in 2011 (6,678 t), with 8,046 t caught in this region. The WPB09 estimated that there is a low risk of exceeding MSY-based reference points by 2019 if catches reduce further or are maintained at 2009 levels (<25% risk that $B_{2019} < B_{MSY}$, and <8% risk that $F_{2019} > F_{MSY}$). There is a risk of reversing the rebuilding trend if there is any increase in catch in this region.
Black marlin <i>Makaira indica</i>	Catch 2011: 6,890 t Average catch 2007–2011: 6,292 t MSY (range): unknown					Longline catch and effort for black marlin in recent years has continued to increase to a total of 7,021 tonnes in 2010. Although a lower catch of 6,890 tonnes was caught in 2011, the pressure on the Indian Ocean stock as a whole remains highly uncertain. Thus, there remains insufficient information to evaluate the effect this will have on the resource.
Blue marlin <i>Makaira nigricans</i>	Catch 2011: 12,115 t Average catch 2007–2011: 9,443 t MSY (range): unknown					The decrease in longline catch and effort in recent years has lowered the pressure on the Indian Ocean stock as a whole, although 2011 catches increased substantially to 12,115 t. There is insufficient information to evaluate the effect this will have on the resource at this point in time. Given the concerning results obtained from the preliminary stock assessments carried out in 2012 for blue marlin, the data and other inputs for stock assessment urgently needs to be revised so that a new assessment may be carried out in 2013.
Striped marlin <i>Tetrapturus audax</i>	Catch 2011: 1,885 t Average catch 2007–2011: 2,245 t MSY (range): unknown					The decrease in longline catch and effort in recent years has lowered the pressure on the Indian Ocean stock as a whole, however there is insufficient information to evaluate the effect this will have on the resource. Given the concerning results obtained from the preliminary stock assessments carried out in 2012 for striped marlin, the data and other inputs for stock assessment urgently needs to be revised so that a new assessment may be carried out in 2013.
Indo-Pacific Sailfish <i>Istiophorus platypterus</i>	Catch 2011: 32,503 t Average catch 2007–2011: 27,103 t MSY (range): unknown					The increase in longline catch and effort in recent years is a substantial cause for concern for the Indian Ocean stock as a whole, however there is not sufficient information to evaluate the effect this will have on the resource.
Neritic tunas and mackerel: These six species have become as important or more important as the three tropical tuna species (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna and yellowfin tuna) to most IOTC coastal states with a total estimated catch of 605,359 t being landed in 2011. They are caught primarily by coastal fisheries, including small-scale industrial and artisanal fisheries. They are almost always caught within the EEZs of IO coastal states. Historically, catches were often reported as aggregates of various species, making it difficult to obtain appropriate data for stock assessment analyses.						

Stock	Indicators	Prev ¹	2010	2011	2012	Advice to the Commission
Bullet tuna <i>Auxis rochei</i>	Catch 2011: 4,949 t Average catch 2007–2011: 2,961 t MSY (range): unknown					<p>The continued increase of annual catches for these species are likely to have 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 resources. Research emphasis on improving indicators and exploration of stock structure and stock assessment approaches for data poor fisheries are warranted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bullet tuna • frigate tuna • kawakawa • longtail tuna • Indo-Pacific king mackerel • narrow-barred Spanish mackerel
Frigate tuna <i>Auxis thazard</i>	Catch 2011: 83,210 t Average catch 2007–2011: 75,777 t MSY (range): unknown					
Kawakawa <i>Euthynnus affinis</i>	Catch 2011: 143,393 t Average catch 2007–2011: 134,314 t MSY (range): unknown					
Longtail tuna <i>Thunnus tonggol</i>	Catch 2011: 177,795 t Average catch 2007–2011: 134,871 t MSY (range): unknown					
Indo-Pacific king mackerel <i>Scomberomorus guttatus</i>	Catch 2011: 49,832 t Average catch 2007–2011: 44,457 t MSY (range): unknown					
Narrow-barred Spanish mackerel <i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>	Catch 2011: 146,180 t Average catch 2007–2011: 130,476 t MSY (range): unknown					

Sharks: Although sharks are not part of the 16 species directly under the IOTC mandate, sharks are frequently caught in association with fisheries targeting IOTC species. Some fleets are known to actively target both sharks and IOTC species simultaneously. 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 IOTC fisheries, although the list is not exhaustive.

Blue shark <i>Prionace glauca</i>	Reported catch 2011: 9,540 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 55,135 t Average reported catch 2007–2011: 9,452 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 63,783 t MSY (range): unknown					<p>Maintaining or increasing effort will probably result in further declines in biomass, productivity and CPUE. The impact of piracy in the western Indian Ocean has resulted in the displacement and subsequent concentration of a substantial portion of longline fishing effort into certain areas in the southern and eastern Indian Ocean. It is therefore unlikely that catch and effort on sharks will decline in these areas in the near future, and may result in localised depletion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • blue shark • oceanic whitetip shark • scalloped hammerhead shark • shortfin mako shark • silky shark • bigeye thresher shark • pelagic thresher shark
Oceanic whitetip shark <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>	Reported catch 2011: 388 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 55,135 t Average reported catch 2007–2011: 347 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 63,783 t MSY (range): unknown					
Scalloped hammerhead shark <i>Sphyrna lewini</i>	Reported catch 2011: 120 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 55,135 t Average reported catch 2007–2011: 36 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 63,783 t MSY (range): unknown					
Shortfin mako <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>	Reported catch 2011: 1,361 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 55,135 t Average reported catch 2007–2011: 1,207 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 63,783 t MSY (range): unknown					
Silky shark <i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>	Reported catch 2011: 3,353 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 55,135 t					

	Average reported catch 2007–2011: 1,396 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 63,783 t MSY (range): unknown					
Bigeye thresher shark <i>Alopias superciliosus</i>	Reported catch 2011: 330 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 55,135 t Average reported catch 2007–2011: 68 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 63,783 t MSY (range): unknown					
Pelagic thresher shark <i>Alopias pelagicus</i>	Reported catch 2011: 10 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 55,135 t Average reported catch 2007–2011: 4 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 63,783 t MSY (range): unknown					

¹ This indicates the last year taken into account for assessments carried out before 2010

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

³ Central 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.

⁴ Median 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.

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

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTEENTH SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
(10–15 DECEMBER, 2012) TO THE COMMISSION

Note: paragraphs allusions refer to paragraphs in the Report of the 15th Session of the Scientific Committee (IOTC–2012–SC15–R)

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

Tuna – Highly migratory species

- SC15.01 (para. 207) 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 IX](#)
 - Bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) – [Appendix X](#)
 - Skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) – [Appendix XI](#)
 - Yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) – [Appendix XII](#)

Billfish

- SC15.02 (para. 210) 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 XIII](#)
 - Black marlin (*Makaira indica*) – [Appendix XIV](#)
 - Blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*) – [Appendix XV](#)
 - Striped marlin (*Tetrapturus audax*) – [Appendix XVI](#)
 - Indo-Pacific sailfish (*Istiophorus platypterus*) – [Appendix XVII](#)

Tuna and mackerel – Neritic species

- SC15.03 (para. 211) 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:
- Bullet tuna (*Auxis rochei*) – [Appendix XVIII](#)
 - Frigate tuna (*Auxis thazard*) – [Appendix XIX](#)
 - Kawakawa (*Euthynnus affinis*) – [Appendix XX](#)
 - Longtail tuna (*Thunnus tonggol*) – [Appendix XXI](#)
 - Indo-Pacific king mackerel (*Scomberomorus guttatus*) – [Appendix XXII](#)
 - Narrow-barred Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus commerson*) – [Appendix XXIII](#)

STATUS OF MARINE TURTLES, SEABIRDS AND SHARKS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN

Sharks

- SC15.04 (para. 212) 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 XXIV](#)
 - Oceanic whitetip sharks (*Carcharhinus longimanus*) – [Appendix XXV](#)
 - Scalloped hammerhead sharks (*Sphyrna lewini*) – [Appendix XXVI](#)
 - Shortfin mako sharks (*Isurus oxyrinchus*) – [Appendix XXVII](#)
 - Silky sharks (*Carcharhinus falciformis*) – [Appendix XXVIII](#)
 - Bigeye thresher sharks (*Alopias superciliosus*) – [Appendix XXIX](#)
 - Pelagic thresher sharks (*Alopias pelagicus*) – [Appendix XXX](#)

Marine turtles

- SC15.05 (para. 213) 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 XXXI](#)

Seabirds

- SC15.06 (para. 214) 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 XXXII](#)

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMISSION

Meeting Participation Fund (MPF)

- SC15.07 (para.13) The SC **NOTED** that the increased attendance by national scientists from developing CPCs to IOTC Working Parties and the SC in 2012 (46 in 2012; 33 in 2011) was partly due to the IOTC 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.
- SC15.08 (para.15) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the rules of procedure for the administration of the IOTC meeting participation fund be modified to include funding for Chairs and Vice-Chairs from IOTC developing coastal states, noting that without access to this fund, the ability of developing coastal state scientists to offer their services as Chairs and Vice-Chairs will be very limited. The same rules for document provision shall apply to Chairs and Vice-Chairs funded by the MPF.

National Reports from CPCs

- SC15.09 (para.29) **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 providing the reports by all CPCs, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note that in 2012, 26 reports were provided by CPCs, up from 25 in 2011, 15 in 2010 and 14 in 2009 ([Table 2](#)).

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

- SC15.10 (para.37) 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 2013, 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.
- SC15.11 (para.38) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the updated status of development and implementation of National Plans of Action for sharks and seabirds, by each CPC as provided at [Appendix V](#).

Report of the Fourth Session of the Working Party on Temperate Tunas (WPTmT04)

Sampling coverage

- SC15.12 (para.48) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that IOTC CPCs having fleets targeting albacore or ports where albacore landings are high, in particular Mauritius and Indonesia, make every possible effort to collect biological information on albacore in the future. In this regard China informed the SC about the difficulties that Chinese observers are experiencing to collect biological samples of albacore onboard longliners flagged to China. China indicated that it would make every possible effort to maintain data collection at reasonable levels in the future.

Report of the Tenth Session of the Working Party on Billfish (WPB10)

Non-compliance matters

- SC15.13 (para.87). **NOTING** that despite the mandatory reporting requirements detailed in Resolutions 10/02 and 12/03 data on billfish fisheries, in particular for the marlins, remain largely unreported by CPCs, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Compliance Committee and the Commission note these non-compliance matters, develop mechanisms to ensure that CPCs fulfil their reporting obligations.

Report of the Eighth Session of the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB08)

Data reporting requirements

- SC15.14 (para.89) **NOTING** that despite the mandatory reporting requirements detailed in Resolutions 05/05, 10/02, 10/06, 12/03 and 12/04, 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.

Gillnet fisheries of the Indian Ocean

- SC15.15 (para.90) The SC **NOTED** that gillnet fisheries are expanding rapidly in the Indian Ocean, with gillnets often being longer than 2.5 km in contravention with UN and IOTC Resolutions, and that their use is considered to have a substantial impact on marine ecosystems. **NOTING** that in 2012 the Commission adopted Resolution 12/01 on the implementation of the precautionary approach, the majority of the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission freeze catch and effort by gillnet fisheries in the Indian Ocean in the near future, until sufficient information has been gathered to determine the impact of gillnet fleets on IOTC stocks and bycatch species caught by gillnet fisheries targeting tuna and tuna-like species, noting that the implementation of any such measure would be difficult.
- SC15.16 (para.91) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission considers allocating funds to support a regional review of the data available for gillnet fleets operating in the Indian Ocean. The scientists from all CPCs having gillnet fleets in the Indian Ocean should provide at the next session of the WPEB, a report summarising the known information on bycatch in their gillnet fisheries, including sharks, marine turtles and marine mammals, with estimates of their likely order of magnitude where more detailed data are not available.
- SC15.17 (para.92) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission allocate funds to carry out training for CPCs having gillnet fleets on species identification, bycatch mitigation and data collection methods and also to identify other potential sources of assistance to carry out such activities.

Sharks – Status of catch statistics and data reporting

- SC15.18 (para.96) **NOTING** that the information on retained catches and discards of sharks contained in the IOTC database remains very incomplete for most fleets despite their mandatory reporting status, and that catch-and-effort as well as size data are essential to assess the status of shark stocks, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that all CPCs collect and report catches of sharks (including historical data), catch-and-effort and biological data on sharks, as per IOTC Resolutions, so that more detailed analysis can be undertaken for the next WPEB meeting.
- SC15.19 (para.97) **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 organisations, 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 SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission allocates funds for this activity, in the 2013 IOTC budget.
- SC15.20 (para.99) **NOTING** that Resolution 10/02 *mandatory statistical requirements for IOTC members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPC's)*, makes provision for data to be reported to the IOTC on “*the most commonly caught shark species and, where possible, to the less common shark species*”, without giving any list defining the most common and less common species, and recognising the general lack of shark data being recorded and reported to the IOTC Secretariat, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that Resolution 10/02 is revised in order to include the list of most commonly caught elasmobranch species (Table 3) for which nominal catch data shall be reported as part of the statistical requirement for IOTC CPCs.

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 – Mitigation measures

SC15.21 (para.100) The SC **RECOMMENDED** research and development of mitigation measures to minimise bycatch of the oceanic whitetip shark and its unharmed release for all types of fishing gears, and that CPCs with data on oceanic whitetip sharks (i.e. total annual catches, CPUE time series and size data) make these available to the next WPEB meeting.

Sharks – Shark mortality in relation with the use of drifting FADs

SC15.22 (para.103) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the following in regards to the request to the SC outlined in paragraph 11 of Resolution 12/04, on FAD design:

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

Only non-entangling FADs, both drifting and anchored, should be designed and deployed to prevent the entanglement of sharks, marine turtles or any other species, based on the following three basic principles:

1. The surface structure of the FAD should not be covered, or only covered with non-meshed material.
2. If a sub-surface component is used, it should not be made from netting but from non-meshed materials such as ropes or canvas sheets.
3. To reduce the amount of synthetic marine debris, the use of natural or biodegradable materials (such as Hessian canvas, hemp ropes, etc.) for drifting FADs should be promoted.

Sharks – Inclusion of two additional shark species to the list of mandatory data requirements for longline gear (Res 12/03)

SC15.23 (para.110) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that, in line with Recommendation 12/15 on the best available science, the list of shark species (or groups of species) for longline gear under Resolution 12/03 should be supplemented by two other shark species which were estimated to be at risk in longline fisheries by the ERA conducted in 2012, the silky shark (*Carcharinus falciformis*) and the oceanic whitetip shark (*Carcharinus longimanus*). The SC **ADVISED** the Commission to define the most appropriate means of collecting this additional information, considering the limitations of both options (logbooks and/or regional observer scheme) presented in paragraphs [108](#) and [109](#).

Sharks – Fin to body weight ratio

SC15.24 (para.111) 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 – Wire leaders/traces

SC15.25 (para.113) 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.

Marine turtles – Data and reporting requirements

SC15.26 (para.114) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that IOTC Resolution 12/04 *on the conservation of marine turtles* is strengthened to ensure that CPCs report annually on the level of incidental catches of marine turtles by species, as provided at Table 6.

TABLE 6. Marine turtle species reported as caught in fisheries within the IOTC area of competence.

Common name	Scientific name
Flatback turtle	<i>Natator depressus</i>
Green turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>

Hawksbill turtle	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>
Leatherback turtle	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>
Loggerhead turtle	<i>Caretta caretta</i>
Olive ridley turtle	<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>

SC15.27 (para.117) The SC **NOTED** that it is mandatory for marine turtles (in number) to be recorded on logbooks for purse seine and gillnet but not for longline and **RECOMMENDED** that marine turtles, as a group, be added to Resolution 12/03 *on the recording of catch and effort by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence*, in Annex II (Record once per set/shot/operation) paragraph 2.3 (SPECIES) for longline gear.

SC15.28 (para.118) **NOTING** that Resolution 10/02 does not make provisions for data to be reported to the IOTC on marine turtles, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that Resolution 10/02 is revised in order to make the reporting requirements coherent with those stated in Resolution 12/04 on the conservation of marine turtles.

Marine turtles – Ecological Risk Assessment Marine Turtles

SC15.29 (para.122) **NOTING** that only a few CPCs have made data available to the consultant, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that all IOTC CPCs contact the scientist leading the ERA in order to refine and complete the analysis before the next WPEB meeting.

SC15.30 (para.123) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the IOTC Secretariat include an additional 20 day consultancy in the 2013 IOTC budget for the Commission's consideration, so that the Ecological Risk Assessment for marine turtles may be continued and that new information received may be incorporated.

Requests contained in IOTC Conservation and Management Measures

SC15.31 (para.124) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the following in regards to the requests to the SC outlined in paragraph 11 of Resolution 12/04:

a) *Develop recommendations on appropriate mitigation measures for gillnet, longline and purse seine fisheries in the IOTC area*

Gillnet: The absence of data for marine turtles on effort, spatial deployment and bycatch in the IOTC area of competence makes any recommendation regarding mitigation measures for this gear premature. Improvements in data collection and reporting of marine turtle interactions with gillnets, and research on the effect of gear types (i.e. net construction and colour, mesh size and soak times) are necessary.

Longline: Current information suggests inconsistent spatial catches (i.e. high catches in few sets) and by gear/fishery. The most important mitigation measures relevant for longline fisheries are to:

1. Support further research into the effectiveness of circle hooks as part of a multiple species approach, so as to avoid, as far as possible, promoting a mitigation measure for one bycatch taxon that might exacerbate bycatch problems for other taxa.
2. Release live animals after careful dehooking/disentangling/line cutting (see handling guidelines in the IOTC marine turtle identification cards).

Purse seine: see c) below

b) *Develop regional standards covering data collection, data exchange and training*

1. The development of standards using the IOTC guidelines for the implementation of the Regional Observer Scheme should be undertaken, as it is considered the best way to collect reliable data related to marine turtle bycatch in the IOTC area of competence.
2. The Chair of the WPDCS to work with the IOSEA MoU Secretariat, which has already developed regional standards for data collection, and revise the observer data collection forms and observer reporting template as appropriate, as well as current recording and reporting requirements through IOTC Resolutions, to ensure that the IOTC has the means to collect quantitative and qualitative data on marine turtle bycatch.
3. Encourage CPCs to use IOSEA expertise and facilities to train observers and crew to increase post-release survival rates of marine turtles.

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

1. Refer to paragraph [103](#) above.

Report of the Fourth Session of the Working Party on Methods (WPM04)***Capacity building***

SC15.32 (para.128) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the IOTC Secretariat coordinate the development and delivery of several training workshops focused on providing assistance to developing CPCs to better understand the MSE process, including how reference points and harvest control rules are likely to function in an IOTC context. The implications of IOTC Resolution 12/01 *on the implementation of the precautionary approach* and IOTC Recommendation 12/14 *on interim target and limit reference points* should be incorporated into the workshop. The SC **REQUESTED** that the Commission's budget incorporate appropriate funds for this purpose.

Work on MSE development

SC15.33 (para.134) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission allocate funds in the 2013 and 2014 IOTC budgets, for an external expert on MSE to be hired for 30 days per year, to supplement the skill set available within IOTC CPCs, and for the establishment of a participation fund to cover the planned WPM workshops.

Report of the Fourteenth Session of the Working Party on Tropical Tunas (WPTT14)***Yellowfin tuna – Stock Assessment***

SC15.34 (para.158) The SC **AGREED** that a comparative analysis on the Multifan-CL / SS3 assessments in both the Indian Ocean and East Pacific Ocean should be performed by a small group of experts (at least the IOTC consultant and the IATTC expert) working jointly. The objective of this comparative work is to understand why the biomass estimated by the models differ by a ratio 1:10 when many parameters driving the assessment are very similar, i.e. spatial extent of the fishery, estimated MSY, size range of fish caught and growth pattern. One of the aims would be to understand why such differences exist in order to revisit some of the basic assumptions of the models. Therefore, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider funding this proposed work which would need to cover one consultant airfare (up to US\$6,000), DSA (up to US\$350 per day – 7 days), plus an FAO consultancy rate of US\$450 per day (7 days). The total amount requested for this comparative study is US\$11,600 per consultant.

Stock assessment consultant

SC15.35 (para.161) The SC **NOTED** the excellent work done by Mr. Adam Langley (consultant) and his contributions and expertise on integrated stock assessment models, and **RECOMMENDED** that his engagement be renewed for the coming year.

Report of the Second Session of the Working Party on Neritic Tunas (WPNT02)

SC15.36 (para.165) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note that neritic tuna and tuna-like species under the IOTC mandate have become as important or more important as the three tropical tuna species (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna and yellowfin tuna) to most IOTC coastal states with a total estimated catch of 605,359 t being landed in 2011, and as a result, should be receiving appropriate management resources from the IOTC. In fact, neritic tuna species are in many cases, the major commercial tuna and tuna-like species being exploited by the majority of Indian Ocean coastal states and as such, should be given the same status in terms of time and resource investment.

SC15.37 (para.166) **NOTING** that monofilament gillnets are recognised to have highly detrimental impacts on fishery ecosystems, as they are non-selective, and that the use of monofilament gillnets have already been banned in a large number of IOTC CPCs, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the IOTC Secretariat facilitate a review of the use of monofilament gillnets by IOTC CPCs to i) determine the number of CPCs using them, ii) estimate total catch and bycatch, etc., taken by monofilament gillnets in comparison to other net material, and iii) to report the findings at the next WPNT meeting.

IOTC database for neritic tunas

SC15.38 (para.168) The SC **NOTED** that some CPCs have data collection systems that do not include provisions for the sampling of neritic tuna species, as required by the Commission, and **RECOMMENDED** that the existing sampling systems are extended to facilitate data collection for neritic tunas, by species, so as to fulfil their mandatory reporting requirements regarding those species. The SC further **NOTED** that some CPCs have fisheries directed at neritic tuna species and may require assistance with the implementation of data collection for those fisheries and

RECOMMENDED that such CPCs contact the IOTC Secretariat for further guidance.

Summary discussion of matters common to Working Parties

Capacity building activities

SC15.39 (para.177) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission increase the IOTC Capacity Building budget line so that capacity building workshops/training can be carried out in 2013 and 2014 on the collection, reporting and analyses of catch and effort data for neritic tuna and tuna-like species. Where appropriate this training session shall include information that explains the entire IOTC process from data collection to analysis and how the information collected is used by the Commission to develop Conservation and Management Measures.

Funding for Chairs and Vice-Chairs to attend IOTC meetings

SC15.40 (para.178) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the IOTC Secretariat include a proposed budget line in the IOTC budget for 2013 and all future years, that would cover the travel expenses of Chairs and Vice-Chairs from developing countries (and developed countries when they are not attached to any national institutions) who are otherwise unable to obtain funding to support their attendance at their respective working party meeting, and for a Chair or Vice-Chair to attend the SC meeting each year.

IOTC species identification cards

Billfish identification cards

SC15.41 (para.179) **NOTING** that the IOTC Secretariat has developed identification cards for billfish species at the request of the WPB and SC, but no funds have yet been allocated to print the cards, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission allocate funds in the 2013 budget to print sets of identification cards for the billfish species, noting that the total estimated printing costs for the first 1000 sets of the identification cards is around a maximum of US\$6,700 (Table 7). The IOTC Secretariat shall seek funds from potential donors to print additional sets of the identification cards at US\$5,500 per 1000 sets of cards.

TABLE 7. Estimated production and printing costs for 1000 sets of billfish species identification cards

Description	Unit price	Units required	Total
Printing plates / plate	US\$100	12	1,200
Printing /1000 sets	US\$5500	1	5,500
Total estimate (US\$)			6,700

Shark, marine turtle and seabird identification cards

SC15.42 (para.181) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission allocate additional funds in 2013 to print further sets of the shark, seabird and marine turtle identification cards developed by the IOTC Secretariat, noting that expected costs are in the vicinity of US\$6,000 per 1000 sets of cards.

Tunas and mackerels

SC15.43 (para.183) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission allocate funds in the 2013 budget to develop and print sets of identification cards for the three tropical tuna, two temperate tuna, and six neritic tuna and seerfish species under the IOTC mandate, noting that the total estimated production and printing costs for the first 1000 sets of the identification cards is around a maximum of US\$16,200 (Table 8). The IOTC Secretariat shall seek funds from potential donors to print additional sets of the identification cards at US\$5,500 per 1000 sets of cards.

TABLE 8. Estimated production and printing costs for 1000 sets of tuna species identification cards (11 species of tropical, temperate and neritic tunas and mackerels)

Description	Unit price	Units required	Total
Purchase images	US\$100	22 (2 per species, plus 2 covers)	2,200
Contract days	US\$350	20	7,000
Printing plates / plate	US\$100	15	1,500
Printing /1000 sets	US\$5500	1	5,500
Total estimate (US\$)			16,200

Fishing hook identification cards

SC15.44 (para.184) Noting the continued confusion in the terminology of various hook types being used in IOTC fisheries, (e.g. tuna hook vs. J-hook; definition of a circle hook), the SC **RECOMMENDED**

that the IOTC Secretariat develop an identification guide for hooks and pelagic gears used in IOTC fisheries, as staffing and financial resources permit, and to distribute the guide to all CPCs once completed. The SC also **AGREED** that circle hooks are defined by hooks having their point turned at least 90° from their shank.

Identification cards – general

SC15.45 (para.185) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that IOTC CPCs translate, print and disseminate the identification cards to their observers and field samplers (Resolution 11/04), and as feasible, to their fishing fleets targeting tuna, tuna-like and shark species. This would allow accurate observer, sampling and logbook data on tuna and tuna-like species to be recorded and reported to the IOTC Secretariat as per IOTC requirements.

Dedicated workshop on CPUE standardisation

SC15.46 (para.189) **NOTING** the combined recommendations from the WPB, WPTmT and WPTT to hold a dedicated workshop on CPUE standardisation, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that a dedicated, informal workshop on CPUE standardisation, including issues of interest for other IOTC species, should be carried out before the next round of stock assessments in 2013. The terms of reference (TORs) for the workshop are provided in Appendix VII. 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 main tuna fishing countries, and supported by the IOTC Secretariat. The IOTC Secretariat shall include a budget item for this workshop, for the consideration of the Commission.

On Interim Target and Limit Reference Points

SC15.47 (para.194) **NOTING** the completion of the MSE work on tropical tunas is likely to take several years, and that the lack of data or information to improve the work on formal stock assessments should not hinder the application of the Precautionary Approach, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider the adoption of the interim target and limit reference points as a Resolution. Furthermore, interim harvest controls rules should be considered by the Commission for adoption in the Resolution.

Employment of a Fisheries Officer (Science)

SC15.48 (para.195) **NOTING** the rapidly increasing scientific workload at the IOTC Secretariat, including a wide range of additional science related duties assigned to it by the SC and the Commission, and that the current Fishery Officer supporting the IOTC scientific activities will depart at the end of February 2013, the SC strongly **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission approve the hiring of a Fishery Officer (Science) to work on a range of matters in support of the scientific process, including but not limited to science capacity building, bycatch and regional observer schemes.

Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Working Parties

SC15.49 (para.196) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note and endorse the Chairs and Vice-Chairs for each of the IOTC Working Parties, as provided in [Appendix VIII](#).

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

SC15.50 (para.204) 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. The Chair of the WPTT shall facilitate the analysis and report back to the SC in 2013.

Implementation of the Regional Observer Scheme

SC15.51 (para.218) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that all IOTC CPCs urgently submit, and keep up-to-date, their list of accredited observers to the IOTC Secretariat and 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)

SC15.52 (para.220) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission 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 XXXIII](#).

Outlook on Time-Area Closures

SC15.53 (para.225) The SC reiterated its previous **RECOMMENDATION** 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.

SC15.54 (para.226) **NOTING** that the objective of Resolution 12/13 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 populations, the SC reiterated its previous **RECOMMENDATION** 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 and/or alternative measures, as these are not contained within the Resolution 12/13. This will, in turn, guide and facilitate the analysis of the SC, via the WPTT in 2013 and future years.

SC15.55 (para.227) **NOTING** the lack of research examining time-area closures in the Indian Ocean by the WPTT in 2011 and 2012, as well as the slow progress made in addressing the Commission request, the SC reiterated its **RECOMMENDATION** 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.

Impacts of Catching Bigeye Tuna and Yellowfin Tuna Juveniles and Spawners

SC15.56 (para.231) 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.

Progress on the Implementation of the Recommendations of the Performance Review Panel

SC15.57 (para.235) 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 XXXIV](#).

Schedule and Priorities of Working Party and Scientific Committee Meetings for 2013 and Tentatively for 2014

Schedule of meetings for 2013 and 2014

SC15.58 (para.234) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission endorse the schedule of Working Party and Scientific Committee meetings for 2013, and tentatively for 2014 (Table 10).

TABLE 10. Schedule of Working Party and Scientific Committee meetings for 2013, and tentatively for 2014.

Meeting	2013		2014 (tentative)	
	Date	Location	Date	Location
Working Party on Neritic Tunas	2–5 July (4d)	Bali, Indonesia or Tanzania	13–16 July (4d)	Bali, Indonesia or Tanzania
Working Party on	Nil	Nil	5–8 Aug (4d)	TBD

Temperate Tunas				
Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch	12–16 Sept (5d)	La Réunion	9–13 Sept (5d)	TBD
Working Party on Billfish	18–22 Sept (5d)	La Réunion	17–21 Sept (5d)	TBD
Working Party on Tropical Tunas	22–27 Oct (6d)	Bilbao or San Sebastián, Spain	21–26 Oct (6d)	TBD
Working Party on Methods	Nil	Nil	30 Nov (1d)	Victoria, Seychelles
Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics	29–30 Nov (2d)	Victoria, Seychelles	Nil	Nil
Scientific Committee	2–6 Dec (5d)	Victoria, Seychelles	1–5 Dec (5d)	Victoria, Seychelles
Working Party on Fishing Capacity	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

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

SC15.59 (para.251) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider the consolidated set of recommendations arising from SC15, provided at [Appendix XXXVIII](#).

RECOMMENDATIONS TO SPECIFIC CPCs AND/OR OTHER BODIES

IOTC-OFCF Project, 2012

SC15.60 (para.18) The SC **THANKED** Japan and the IOTC Secretariat for providing financial and technical support to assist the implementation of the IOTC Observer Scheme in coastal countries of the IOTC area of competence and **RECOMMENDED** that Japan consider an extension of IOTC–OFCF Project activities in the future.

Report of the Fourth Session of the Working Party on Temperate Tunas (WPTmT04)

Data available at the Secretariat for temperate tuna species

SC15.61 (para.40) The SC **NOTED** the main albacore data issues that are considered to negatively affect the quality of the statistics available at the IOTC Secretariat, by type of dataset and fishery, which are provided in Appendix VI of the WPTmT04 report (IOTC–2012–WPTmT04–R), and **RECOMMENDED** that the CPCs listed in the appendix, make efforts to remedy the data issues identified and to report back to the WPTmT at its next meeting.

SC15.62 (para.44) The SC **NOTED** that following a request by the Ministry of Fisheries of Mauritius, the IOTC-OFCF Project had provided assistance for an independent evaluation of data collection and reporting systems in Mauritius, in particular evaluation of catch, effort, and size data collection systems for albacore, as recommended by the SC in 2011. The SC **THANKED** Mauritius and the IOTC-OFCF Project for this initiative and **RECOMMENDED** that the Project considers extending support in the future to assist Mauritius to address the recommendations issuing from the evaluation, where possible.

Stock assessments

SC15.63 (para.50) **NOTING** that the Taiwan,China indices of abundance used by the WPTmT for the assessment of albacore covered the period from 1984 to 2010, despite the fact that catch-and-effort

data for this fleet are available from the late 1960's, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the WPTmT uses a standardised CPUE series using the complete catch-and-effort data series in the future.

Parameters for future analyses: CPUE standardisation and stock assessments

SC15.64 (para.52) The SC **AGREED** that there is value in undertaking a number of different modelling approaches to facilitate comparison, and **RECOMMENDED** that spatially structured integrated models, which are capable of more detailed representation of complicated population and fishery dynamics, and integrate several sources of data and biological research that cannot be considered in the simpler production models, be carried out for the next WPTmT, as data and resources permit.

Report of the Tenth Session of the Working Party on Billfish (WPB10)

Data available at the Secretariat for billfish species

SC15.65 (para.62) The SC **NOTED** the main billfish data issues that are considered to negatively affect the quality of the statistics available at the IOTC Secretariat, by type of dataset and fishery, which are provided in Appendix VI of the WPB10 report (IOTC–2012–WPB10–R), and **RECOMMENDED** that the CPCs listed in the appendix, make efforts to remedy the data issues identified and to report back to the WPB at its next meeting.

Length-age keys

SC15.66 (para.64) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that as a matter of priority, CPCs that have important fisheries catching billfish (EU, Indonesia, Japan, Sri Lanka and Taiwan, China,) to collect and provide basic or analysed data that would be used to establish length-age keys and non-standard measurements to standard measurements keys for billfish species, by sex and area.

Data inconsistencies

SC15.67 (para.73) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that as a matter of priority, India, Iran and Pakistan provide catch-and-effort data and size data for billfish, in particular for gillnet fisheries, as soon as possible, noting that this is already a mandatory reporting requirement.

Madagascar's billfish landings

SC15.68 (para.78) **NOTING** that the longline fishery in Madagascar is a new and developing fishery, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that Madagascar ensure that it develops and implements a data collection system, including sampling, logbooks and observers, which would adequately cover the entire fishery.

Maldives billfish landings

SC15.69 (para.80) The SC **NOTED** that the level of capture of marlins from the Maldivian artisanal fishery appears to be very high compared to the total catches reported for the Indian Ocean and **RECOMMENDED** that the Maldives provide a review of its landings of each marlin species at the next WPB meeting

SC15.70 (para.81) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Maldives implement data collection systems, through logbooks and sampling for its fisheries that incorporate species level information requirements for billfish, as per IOTC Resolution 12/03. The information collected should allow the Maldives to estimate species level catches by gear for billfish and other important IOTC or bycatch species.

Mozambique billfish landings

SC15.71 (para.82) **NOTING** that at present no scientific observers are being placed on board foreign flagged vessels licensed to fish in the Mozambique EEZ, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that Mozambique make it a licensing requirement for any foreign vessels fishing in the Mozambique EEZ to take on board scientific observers and to report the data collected as per IOTC requirements. Foreign vessels fishing in the Mozambique EEZ should ensure that scientific observers are brought onboard as per IOTC requirements.

Review of fleet dynamics

SC15.72 (para.83) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that both Japan and Taiwan, China undertake a complete historical review of their longline data and to document the changes in fleet dynamics for presentation at the next WPB meeting. The historical review should include as much explanatory

information as possible regarding changes in fishing areas, species targeting, gear changes and other fleet characteristics to assist the WPB understand the current fluctuations observed in the data.

Swordfish: European Union longline fisheries CPUE indices

SC15.73 (para.86) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that scientists from the EU undertake a revised CPUE analysis for their longline fleets, and consider combining the analysis prior to the next WPB meeting where swordfish will be dealt with as a priority.

Report of the Eighth Session of the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB08)

Sharks – Status of catch statistics and data reporting

SC15.74 (para.95) The SC **NOTED** the main shark data issues that are considered to negatively affect the quality of the statistics available at the IOTC Secretariat, by type of dataset and fishery, which are provided in Appendix VIII of the WPEB08 report (IOTC–2012–WPEB08–R), and **RECOMMENDED** that the CPCs listed in the Appendix, make efforts to remedy the data issues identified and to report back to the WPEB at its next meeting, noting the status and type of datasets that need to be provided for sharks, and other bycatch species provided at Appendix IX of the WPEB08 report (IOTC–2012–WPEB08–R).

SC15.75 (para.98) The SC **NOTED** the absence of information on shark catches from artisanal fisheries in Mozambique and **RECOMMENDED** that information on shark catches from those fisheries is collected and reported in due course.

Report of the Fourteenth Session of the Working Party on Tropical Tunas (WPTT14)

Data availability

SC15.76 (para.139) **NOTING** that the main tropical tuna data issues that are considered to negatively affect the quality of the statistics available at the IOTC Secretariat, by type of dataset and fishery, which are provided in Appendix VI of the WPTT report (IOTC–2012–WPTT14–R), the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the CPCs listed in the appendix, make efforts to remedy the data issues identified and to report back to the WPTT at its next meeting.

SC15.77 (para.140) **NOTING** that the Maldivian skipjack tuna catch is not separated by association type, i.e. aFAD or free schools, and therefore the proportion of skipjack tuna caught under aFADs around the Maldives is unknown, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Maldivian data collection system is further improved in order to account for the association of the reported catch, as this could improve the standardisation of the pole-and-line CPUE.

SC15.78 (para.141) **NOTING** that there were discrepancies in catch, effort and notably size data (low sampling rate, uneven distribution of sampling in regard to the spatial extent of the fishery) in the Japanese and Taiwan,China tropical tuna data sets, the SC **RECOMMENDED** they review the data to assess reasons for discrepancies identified by the IOTC Secretariat and to report results at the next meeting of the WPTT, including a comparison of length frequency data samples collected from commercial, research and training vessels.

Skipjack tuna

SC15.79 (para.146) **NOTING** that concerns were expressed on the ability of both the Maldives pole and line CPUE and the EU purse seine CPUE to reflect the dynamics of the stock, and given their major role in driving the current stock assessment results, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that further investigation is carried out for both CPUE series prior to the next WPTT meeting, and during the planned WPM workshop on CPUE standardisation.

SC15.80 (para.147) The SC **RECOMMENDED** further investigation of the existing data to produce an improved standardised CPUE series for the FAD-associated school skipjack tuna fishery in the Indian Ocean, and for information on these matters to be presented to the next meeting of the WPTT.

SC15.81 (para.148) **NOTING** that the areas used in the various CPUE standardisations undertaken in 2012 varied, the SC **AGREED** that there is a need to define core area(s) for each gear (pole-and-line and purse seine) for the CPUE standardisation of skipjack tuna and **RECOMMENDED** that scientists from CPCs with pole-and-line, and purse seine fisheries for skipjack tuna, work together to explore their data in a manner to advance CPUE standardisation work for the next meeting of the WPTT in 2013, and defined such core areas for each gear, well in advance of the next WPTT meeting in 2013.

SC15.82 (para.149) **NOTING** that the tagging data is now more complete and available, including the tagging experiment results from Maldives in the 1990s the SC **RECOMMENDED** effective use of tagging data in the new assessment including any revision on the estimates of mortality and growth rates from the tagging data.

SC15.83 (para.150) **NOTING** the use and application of interim target and limit reference points, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Kobe II strategy matrix should include the risk levels associated with those reference points. Furthermore, the SC **AGREED** that the probability of breaching the interim limit reference points for skipjack tuna of $1.5 * F_{MSY}$ and $0.4 * SB_{MSY}$ is very low and this information should be added to the Executive Summary.

Taiwan, China – Catch-per-unit-of-effort (CPUE)

SC15.84 (para.160) The SC **NOTED** that data from Taiwanese vessels flagged to India was not used in the analysis, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that scientists from Taiwan,China work with the IOTC Secretariat to gain a better estimate of catch in the Bay of Bengal.

Parameters for future analyses: Yellowfin tuna CPUE standardisation and stock assessments

SC15.85 (para.162) **NOTING** that the areas used in the various CPUE standardisations undertaken in 2012 were very different from one analysis to another, the SC **AGREED** that there is a need to define core area(s) for the CPUE standardisation of yellowfin tuna and **RECOMMENDED** that scientists from CPCs with longline and purse seine fisheries for yellowfin tuna, work together to explore their data and define such core areas, well in advance of the next WPTT meeting in 2013.

Development of priorities for an Invited Expert at the next WPTT meeting

SC15.86 (para.163) The SC **RECOMMENDED** the following core areas of expertise and priority areas for contribution that need to be enhanced for the next meeting of the WPTT in 2013, by an Invited Expert:

- CPUE analysis and standardisation
- Tuna tagging data analysis
- Tuna stock assessment models

Where possible the Invited Expert should attend both the proposed CPUE workshop and the Working Party in 2013, noting that Invited Experts are unpaid.

Report of the Second Session of the Working Party on Neritic Tunas (WPNT02)

SC15.87 (para.166) **NOTING** that monofilament gillnets are recognised to have highly detrimental impacts on fishery ecosystems, as they are non-selective, and that the use of monofilament gillnets have already been banned in a large number of IOTC CPCs, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the IOTC Secretariat facilitate a review of the use of monofilament gillnets by IOTC CPCs to i) determine the number of CPCs using them, ii) estimate total catch and bycatch, etc., taken by monofilament gillnets in comparison to other net material, and iii) to report the findings at the next WPNT meeting.

IOTC database for neritic tunas

SC15.88 (para.167) The SC **NOTED** the main data issues that are considered to negatively affect the quality of the statistics for neritic tunas available at the IOTC Secretariat, by type of dataset and fishery, which are provided in Appendix VI of the WPNT02 report, and **RECOMMENDED** that the CPCs listed in the appendix, make efforts to remedy the data issues identified and to report back to the WPNT at its next meeting.

SC15.89 (para.169) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the IOTC Secretariat request that any datasets for neritic tuna species held by SWIOFP, or any other parties, be provided to the IOTC Secretariat before the next meeting of the WPNT.

SC15.90 (para.170) **NOTING** that the nominal catch data (NC) for India, Indonesia and Thailand provided at the WPNT02 meeting were found to conflict with the NC data history provided by these countries in recent years, and for catch-and-effort data for most of the history of the gillnet fleet, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that India, Indonesia and Thailand liaise with the IOTC Secretariat to provide a fully justified revised catch history which will replace the data currently held by the IOTC Secretariat before the next WPNT meeting.

Data set availability

SC15.91 (para.171) **NOTING** that some CPCs, in particular from India, Indonesia and Thailand, have collected large data sets on neritic tuna species over long time periods, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that this data, as well as data for other CPCs, be submitted to the IOTC Secretariat as per the requirements adopted by IOTC Members in Resolution 10/02. This would allow the WPNT to develop stock status indicators or comprehensive stock assessments of neritic tuna species in the future.

Priorities for an Invited Expert at the next WPNT meeting

SC15.92 (para.174) The SC **RECOMMENDED** the following core areas of expertise and priority areas for contribution that need to be enhanced for the next meeting of the WPNT in 2013, by an Invited Expert:

- Expertise: stock structure/connectivity; including from regions other than the Indian Ocean; data poor assessment approaches.
- Priority areas for contribution: kawakawa, longtail tuna and narrow-barred Spanish mackerel biology, ecology and fisheries.

Summary discussion of matters common to Working Parties

CPUE discussion summary

SC15.93 (para.187) The SC **EXPRESSED** concern that the majority of the important recommendations issued by the SC to the various working parties in previous years in regards to CPUE standardisation have often not been addressed, and that there was no major progress on these issues during the past two years. Therefore, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the scientists in charge of this work make every possible effort to consider those guidelines in future CPUE standardisation work in order to improve the quality of CPUE series which are essential to stock assessments.

SC15.94 (para.188) **NOTING** that a set of ‘core areas’ which are likely to be robust to frequent fluctuations of external factors, may be more informative than using all of the data available, especially when other species were being targeted, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that ‘core areas’ be identified and agreed to by each working party so as to facilitate and monitor population abundance trends across all fleets. This should be carried out intersessionally and presented at the proposed longline CPUE workshop, to be held in the second quarter of 2013.

Risk-based approaches to determining stock status

SC15.95 (para.190) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the IOTC Secretariat facilitate a process to provide the necessary information to the SC so that it may consider the Weight-of-Evidence approach to determine species stock status, as an addition to the current approach of relying solely on fully quantitative stock assessment techniques.

Revised ‘Guidelines for the Presentation of Stock assessment Models’

SC15.96 (para.247) **NOTING** the conclusions and recommendation from the KOBE 3 meeting held in 2011, “*Kobe III participants agreed that the K2SM is a useful tool for evaluating management strategies or options, provided that the uncertainties in assessments can be adequately quantified. Participants acknowledged that considerable work remains to be done both to reduce uncertainty in stock assessments, and to develop common standards or guidelines for how uncertainty is reflected. Kobe III participants recommended that the scientific committees and bodies of the tRFMOs jointly develop methods to better quantify the uncertainty and understand how this uncertainty is reflected in the risk assessment inherent in the K2SM.*”

the SC **RECOMMENDED** that in 2013, collaborative efforts be developed among tRFMO on this matter, by targeting the development of how to build K2SM with well estimated levels of uncertainty.

APPENDIX VIII

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 2015	2 st term
	Vice-Chair	Dr Ahmed Mohammed Al-Mazroui	Oman	10 May 2013	End of Com. in 2015	1 st term
CoC	Chair	Mr Jeongseok Park	Rep. of Korea	10 May 2013	End of Com. in 2015	1 st term
	Vice-Chair	Mr. Herminio Tembe	Mozambique	4 May 2013	End of CoC in 2015	1 st term
SCAF	Chair	Mr. Hosea Gonza Mbilinyi	Tanzania	4 May 2013	End of CoC in 2015	1 st term
	Vice-Chair	Mr. Godfrey Monor	Kenya	24 April 2012	End of SCAF in 2014	1 st term
TCAC	Chair	Dr. Benjamin Tabios	Philippines	10 May 2013	End of SCAF in 2015	1 st term
	Vice-Chair	Mr. Daroomalingum Mauree	Mauritius	21 April 2011	End of Com. in 2013	1 st term
SC	Chair	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant
	Vice-Chair	Dr. Tsutomu Nishida	Japan	17-Dec-11	End of SC in 2013	1 st term
WPB	Chair	Mr. Jan Robinson	Seychelles	17-Dec-11	End of SC in 2013	1 st term
	Vice-Chair	Mr. Jerome Bourjea	EU,France	08-Jul-11	End of WPB in 2013	1 st term
WPTmT	Chair	Mr. Miguel Santos	EU,Portugal	08-Jul-11	End of WPB in 2013	1 st term
	Vice-Chair	Dr. Zang Geun Kim	Korea, Rep. of	22-Sep-11	End of WPTmT in 2013	1 st term
WPTT	Chair	Mr. Takayuki Matsumoto	Japan	06-Sep-12	End of WPTmT in 2014	1 st term
	Vice-Chair	Dr. Hilario Murua	EU,Spain	25-Oct-10	End of WPTT in 2014	2 nd term
WPEB	Chair	Dr. Shiham Adam	Maldives, Rep. of	23-Oct-11	End of WPTT in 2013	1 st term
	Vice-Chair	Dr. Charles Anderson	UK/Independent	14-Oct-10	End of WPEB in 2013	2 nd term
WPNT	Chair	Dr. Evgeny Romanov	EU,France	27-Oct-11	End of WPEB in 2013	1 st term
	Vice-Chair	Dr. Prathibha Rohit	India	27-Nov-11	End of WPNT in 2013	1 st term
WPDCS	Chair	Mr. Farhad Kaymaram	I.R. Iran	27-Nov-11	End of WPNT in 2013	1 st term
	Vice-Chair	Mr. Miguel Herrera	Secretariat	04-Dec-10	End of WPDCS 2013	2 nd term
WPM	Chair	Dr. Pierre Chavance	European Union	10-Dec-11	End of WPDCS 2013	1 st term
	Vice-Chair	Dr. Iago Mosqueira	European Union	18-Dec-11	End of WPM 2013	1 st term
WPFC	Chair	Dr. Toshihide Kitakado	Japan	18-Dec-11	End of WPM 2013	1 st term
	Vice-Chair	Not active	Not active	Not active	Not active	Not active
		Not active	Not active	Not active	Not active	Not active

APPENDIX IX
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON
ALLOCATION CRITERIA

Note: Appendix reference refer to the Report of the Second Session of the Technical Committee on allocation Criteria (IOTC–2013–TCAC02–R)

Legal advice

TCAC02.01 (para. 35.) The TCAC **AGREED** that there was a need for a legal expert to be present at the next TCAC meeting to offer advice to the TCAC. As such, the TCAC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission allocated the necessary funds for this purpose, either for an external legal expert or for the FAO legal office to commit a suitable expert.

Meeting Participation Fund

TCAC02.02 (para. 42.) The TCAC **NOTED** that the attendance by delegates from developing CPCs to the TCAC in 2013 (24 delegates from 15 Members, and 1 delegate from a CNCP) was largely due to the IOTC 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.

Review of the draft and adoption of the report of the second technical committee on allocation criteria

TCAC02.03 (para. 43.) The TCAC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider the consolidated set of recommendations arising from TCAC02, provided at Appendix XIV.

APPENDIX X

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TENTH SESSION OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

Note: Appendix reference refer to the Report of the Tenth Session of the Compliance Committee (IOTC–2013–CoC10–R)

Overview of the Implementation of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures

CoC10.01 (para. 8) Noting the specific issues identified during the CoC10, 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 utilise 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.

National Reports on the Progress of Implementation of Conservation and Management Measures

CoC10.02 (para. 20) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that those CPCs who have not submitted their national 'Reports of Implementation' for 2013 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 and to inform CPCs via an IOTC Circular once each is received.

Review of the Country Based Compliance Reports – Res. 10/09

CoC10.03 (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.

CoC10.04 (para. 33) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider adopting a deadline (e.g. 60 or 90 days before the next annual Session of the Commission) for all CPCs to respond to the 'feedback letters on compliance issues' from the Commission and based on the deliberations of the CoC each year.

CoC10.05 (para. 34) 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.

Review of Additional Information Related to IUU Fishing Activities in the IOTC Area of Competence

CoC10.06 (para. 40) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that, in the future, information regarding IUU cases should be reported through official channels, i.e. through the IOTC Secretariat following the appropriate IOTC procedure.

CoC10.07 (para. 46) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that Sri Lanka continue to provide monthly reports including: i) evidences of the actions it had taken against IUU vessels; ii) name of the past and present owner and skipper; and iii) IOTC numbers from the record of authorised 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.

CoC10.08 (para. 47) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that Sri Lanka provide regular updates in the implementation of their road map for 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.

Follow up of the decisions taken during the 9th Session of the Compliance Committee, endorsed by the Commission

CoC10.09 (para. 52) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that those CPCs identified in paper IOTC–2013–CoC10–08c Rev_1, a summary of possible infractions of IOTC regulations by large-scale fishing vessels (LSTLVs/carrier vessels), which have not submitted any response to the Committee investigate and report back to the IOTC via the Secretariat, the findings of their investigations, within three months of the end of the 17th 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.

CoC10.10 (para. 53) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Secretariat follow, from one year to the next, the potential infringement cases identified so as to allow the CoC to identify repeated cases of infringement.

Review of the Provisional IUU Vessels List and of the Information Submitted by CPCs Relating to Illegal Fishing Activities in the IOTC Area of Competence – Res. 11/03

Ocean Lion (flag unknown)

CoC10.11 (para. 56) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the *Ocean Lion* remain on the IOTC IUU Vessels List as no further information was provided to the CoC10 during its deliberations.

Yu Maan Won (flag unknown)

CoC10.12 (para. 58) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the *Yu Maan Won* remain on the IOTC IUU Vessels List as no further information was provided to the CoC10 during its deliberations.

Gunuar Melyan 21 (flag unknown)

CoC10.13 (para. 60) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the *Gunuar Melyan 21* remain on the IOTC IUU Vessels List as no further information was provided to the CoC10 during its deliberations.

Hoom Xiang II (flag unknown)

CoC10.14 (para. 62) 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.

Provisional IOTC IUU Vessels list - Consideration of other vessels

CoC10.15 (para. 64) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that appropriate legal support be present during future CoC Sessions to aid Members deliberations of alleged IUU cases.

Txori Argi (EU(Spain))

CoC10.16 (para. 67) The CoC **DEFERRED** the decision on this case to the 17th Session of the Commission.

FU HSIANG FA No. 21 (flag Unknown)

CoC10.17 (para. 70) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider adding the *FU HSIANG FA No. 21* on the IOTC IUU Vessels List, as permitted under Resolution 11/03 para. 12.

HSIANG FA 26 (Seychelles)

CoC10.18 (para. 73) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider retaining the *HSIANG FA 26* on the Provisional IOTC IUU Vessels List, as provided under Resolution 11/03 para. 14.

Hwa Kun No. 168 (Taiwan, Province of China)

CoC10.19 (para. 76) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider retaining the *Hwa Kun No. 168* on the Provisional IOTC IUU Vessels List, as provided under Resolution 11/03 para. 14.

Review of the Effects of Piracy on at Sea Inspections

CoC10.20 (para. 79) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider whether a potential best practice protocol for vessels in transit with armed guards on board and whether a formal and binding management measure on a regional high-seas boarding and inspection scheme should be developed in the future.

Update on Progress Regarding the Performance Review

CoC10.21 (para. 83) 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](#).

CoC10.22 (para. 84) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider whether another IOTC Performance Review should be undertaken in 2014, given that the previous review was completed in 2009.

Activities by the Secretariat in Support of Capacity Building for Developing CPCs

CoC10.23 (para. 87) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider its continued support of the work of the Secretariat in 2013, to allow it to undertake additional capacity building missions to improve the implementation of CMMs by IOTC Members, and to consider developing a plan of work for 2013/14.

Review of Requests for Access to the Status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party**Democratic People’s Republic of Korea**

CoC10.24 (para. 89) 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 17th Session of the Commission.

Senegal

CoC10.25 (para. 91) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission considers renewing the status of Senegal as a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party.

South Africa, Republic of

CoC10.26 (para. 93) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission considers renewing the status of South Africa as a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party.

Djibouti

CoC10.27 (para. 95) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission considers the application of Djibouti to the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party during the 17th Session of the Commission.

Other Business**Date and place of the 11th Session of the Compliance Committee**

CoC10.28 (para. 97) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the next Eleventh Session of the CoC be held immediately prior to the 18th Session of the Commission. The exact dates and location would be decided by the Commission at its 17th Session.

Review of the Draft and Adoption of the Report of the Tenth Session of the Compliance Committee

CoC10.29 (para. 100) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider the consolidated set of recommendations arising from CoC10, provided at Appendix VII.

APPENDIX XI A
IOTC IUU VESSELS LIST (MAY 2013)

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			Unknown	Unknown	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 02/04, 02/05, 03/05.
Yu Maan Won	Unknown (Georgia)	May 2007				Unknown	Unknown	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 07/02
Gunuar Melyan 21	Unknown	June 2008				Unknown	Unknown	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 07/02
Hoom Xiang 11	Unknown (Malaysia)	March 2010		Yes. Refer to report IOTC-S14-CoC13-add1[E]		Hoom Xiang Industries Sdn. Bhd.	Unknown	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 09/03
Fu Hsiang Fa No. 21	Unknown	May 2013		Yes. Refer to report IOTC-2013-CoC10-07 Rev1[E]	OTS 024 or OTS 089	Unknown	Unknown	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 07/02
Full Rich	Unknown (Belize)	May 2013		Yes. Refer to report IOTC-2013-CoC10-08a[E]	HMEK3	Noel International LTD (Noel International LTD)	Unknown	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 07/02

APPENDIX XI B
PROVISIONAL IOTC IUU VESSELS LIST (MAY 2013)

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
Hsiang Fa 26	Seychelles	Not Applicable	8947345	Yes. Refer to attached report	S7SB	Marina Marine Limited		Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03
Hwa Kun No. 168	Taiwan, Province of China	Not Applicable	8431334		BI2419	Chang WC	Chang WC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03

APPENDIX XII
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TENTH SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Note: Appendix reference refer to the Report of the Tenth Session of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (IOTC-2013-SCAF10-R)

Financial Statement

SCAF10.01 (para. 27) 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, with the assistance of the Executive Secretary, 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 consideration at the 18th Session of the Commission.

Programme of Work and Budget Estimates for 2013 and 2014

Capacity building

SCAF10.02 (para. 53) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that in addition to the funds included in the budget for 2013, the Commission may wish to consider further increasing the Capacity Building budget line to cover the additional recommendations from the Scientific Committee.

SCAF10.03 (para. 54) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that capacity building activities, including workshops on science (stock assessment), compliance with IOTC CMMs, data collection and reporting, and bridging the gap between IOTC science and management advice, be continued in 2013 and financially supported through the IOTC budget and through voluntary contributions from Members and other interested parties.

SCAF10.04 (para. 55) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Secretariat seek external funds to coordinate the development and delivery of training workshops focused on providing assistance to developing CPCs to better understand the Management Strategy Evaluation process, including how reference points and harvest control rules are likely to function in an IOTC context.

SCAF10.05 (para. 56) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Secretariat seek external funds to deliver two additional capacity building projects: 1) on the training of CPCs having gillnet fleets on species identification, bycatch mitigation and data collection methods and also to identify other potential sources of assistance to carry out such activities; and 2) a dedicated workshop on CPUE standardisation.

IOTC website

SCAF10.06 (para. 57) The SCAF reiterated its **RECOMMENDATION** from previous years that the IOTC 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.

Meeting participation fund (MPF)

SCAF10.07 (para. 58) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the MPF be replenished to its initial level of USD\$200,000 for the financial (calendar) year 2013, through the allocation of funds from the IOTC accumulated funds provided that there is a solution to cover the operational cost of the Secretariat for the first six months of the year.

SCAF10.08 (para. 59) The SCAF reiterated its previous **RECOMMENDATION** that the MPF 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.

SCAF10.09 (para. 60) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the rules of procedure for the administration of the IOTC MPF be modified to include funding for Chairs and Vice-Chairs from IOTC developing coastal states, noting that without access to this fund, the ability of developing coastal state scientists to offer their services as Chairs and Vice-Chairs will be very limited. The following text shall be inserted into the rules of procedure for the administration of the MPF, under the '**Eligibility criteria**' section:

“Meeting Participation Fund for Chairs and Vice-Chairs from IOTC developing coastal states

- Any Chair or Vice-Chair from a developing CPC, submitting a complete application before the set deadline, including a working paper relevant to the subject of the meeting, is eligible to benefit from the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund.
- Either the Chair or Vice-Chair from a developing CPC, submitting a complete application before the set deadline, and presenting a meeting report to a Committee, is eligible to benefit from the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund.
- The same rules for document provision to the relevant subsidiary body of the Commission shall apply to Chairs and Vice-Chairs funded by the MPF.”

SCAF10.10 (para. 61) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note Resolution 10/05 *on the establishment of a meeting participation fund for developing IOTC Member and Non-Contracting Cooperating Parties (CPC's)* 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, and address this matter at its 17th Session.

Options to reduce budget costs

SCAF10.11 (para. 63) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission considers making all IOTC meetings paperless, noting that this is already the practice in the Scientific Committee and its Working Parties. Only revisions to documents made during a meeting shall be printed upon request.

Fisheries Officer (Science)

SCAF10.12 (para. 64) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that a Fishery Officer (Science), working on science support, be employed at the Secretariat and for this to be incorporated in the Commission’s budget on an ongoing basis. The Secretariat shall contact FAO to determine if they are able to make a financial contribution towards this position in 2014.

Program of work and budget

SCAF10.13 (para. 65) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Secretariat seek additional sources of funding to complete the workplan of the Secretariat in 2013 and future years, including but not limited to IOC-Smartfish.

SCAF10.14 (para. 66) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission endorse the IOTC Secretariat’s programme of work for the financial period 01 January, 2013 to 31 December 2013, as outlined in paper IOTC–2013–SCAF10–05.

SCAF10.15 (para. 67) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission adopt the budget for, and the scheme of contributions for 2013 as outlined in [Appendix III](#) and [Appendix IV](#) respectively.

Performance Review Update (Resolution 09/01 on the performance review follow-up)

SCAF10.16 (para. 71) 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](#).

Election of a Vice-Chairperson for the next biennium

SCAF10.17 (para. 73) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission note the new Vice-Chair, Dr. Benjamin Tabios (Philippines) of the SCAF for the next biennium.

Date and Place of the Eleventh Session of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance

SCAF10.18 (para. 75) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the 11th Session of the SCAF be held on the day immediately prior to the Commission meeting, rather than during the Commission meeting. The exact dates and location would be decided by the Commission.

Review of the Draft and Adoption of the Report of the Tenth Session of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance

SCAF10.19 (para. 76) The SCAF **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider the consolidated set of recommendations arising from SCAF10, provided at [Appendix VI](#).

APPENDIX XIII
BUDGET FOR 2013 AND INDICATIVE BUDGET FOR 2014 (IN USD)

Budget item description	2013	2014
<u>Administrative Expenditures</u>		
Gross salary costs (before deductions)		
Professional		
Executive Secretary	133,000	139,650
Deputy Secretary	128,994	135,444
Data Coordinator	127,801	134,191
Fisheries Statistician	82,698	86,833
Compliance Coordinator	92,684	97,318
Compliance Officer	111,056	116,609
Stock Assessment Expert	112,950	118,598
Administrative Officer	48,488	90,000
Fisheries Officer (Science)	39,000	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	937,479	1,060,490
Employer contributions to Pension Fund and health insurance	289,676	302,200
Employer contribution to FAO entitlement fund	393,350	410,700
Total staff costs	1,620,505	1,773,390
<u>Expenditure for Activities</u>		
Operating Expenditures		
Support Capacity Building	80,000	80,000
Consultants	57,000	60,000
Duty travel	237,000	249,000
Meetings	120,000	126,000
Interpretation	142,000	149,000
Translation	105,000	110,000
Equipment	15,000	16,000
General Operating Expenses	47,000	49,000
Printing	15,000	16,000
Contingencies	6,000	6,000
Total Operating Expenditures	824,000	861,000
SUB-TOTAL	2,444,505	2,634,390
Additional Contributions Seychelles	-10,500	-10,500
FAO Servicing Costs	110,003	118,548
GRAND TOTAL	2,544,007	2,742,437

APPENDIX XIV
SCHEME OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2013

Country	World Bank Classification in 2010	OECD Membership	Average catch for 2008-2010 (in metric tons)	Base Contribution	Operations Contribution	GNP Contribution	Catch Contribution	Total Contribution (in USD)
Australia	High	Yes	5,704	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$92,509	\$12,178	\$123,070
Belize	Middle	No	Below 400t	\$8,206	\$0	\$23,127	\$148	\$31,481
China	Middle	No	71,057	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$23,127	\$30,341	\$71,851
Comoros	Low	No	15,010	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$0	\$6,409	\$24,792
Eritrea	Low	No	1,045	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$0	\$446	\$18,829
European Community	High	Yes	194,984	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$92,509	\$416,290	\$527,182
France(Terr)	High	Yes	14,480	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$92,509	\$30,915	\$141,807
Guinea	Low	No	542	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$0	\$231	\$18,614
India	Middle	No	139,755	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$23,127	\$59,675	\$101,185
Indonesia	Middle	No	340,302	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$23,127	\$145,309	\$186,819
Iran, Islamic Republic of	Middle	No	155,281	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$23,127	\$66,305	\$107,815
Japan	High	Yes	27,331	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$92,509	\$58,351	\$169,243
Kenya	Low	No	858	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$0	\$366	\$18,749
Korea, Republic of	High	Yes	2,606	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$92,509	\$5,565	\$116,456
Madagascar	Low	No	8,655	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$0	\$3,696	\$22,078
Malaysia	Middle	No	25,221	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$23,127	\$10,769	\$52,279
Maldives	Middle	No	96,436	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$23,127	\$41,178	\$82,688
Mauritius	Middle	No	960	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$23,127	\$410	\$41,920
Mozambique	Low	No	Below 400t	\$8,206	\$0	\$0	\$1	\$8,207
Oman	High	No	27,652	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$92,509	\$11,808	\$122,699
Pakistan	Middle	No	50,341	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$23,127	\$21,496	\$63,006
Philippines	Middle	No	1,634	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$23,127	\$698	\$42,207
Seychelles	Middle	No	73,530	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$23,127	\$31,397	\$72,907
Sierra Leone	Low	No	Below 400t	\$8,206	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,206
Sri Lanka	Middle	No	91,635	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$23,127	\$39,128	\$80,638
Sudan	Middle	No	Below 400t	\$8,206	\$0	\$23,127	\$14	\$31,348
Tanzania	Low	No	4,163	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$0	\$1,778	\$20,160
Thailand	Middle	No	27,212	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$23,127	\$11,620	\$53,129
United Kingdom(Terr)	High	Yes	Below 400t	\$8,206	\$0	\$92,509	\$23	\$100,739
Vanuatu	Middle	No	Below 400t	\$8,206	\$0	\$23,127	\$76	\$31,410
Yemen	Middle	No	25,719	\$8,206	\$10,176	\$23,127	\$10,982	\$52,492
			Total	254,401	254,401	1,017,603	1,017,603	2,544,007

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

APPENDIX XV

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 – REFORM	RESPONSIBILITY	UPDATE/STATUS	WORKPLAN/ TIMELINE	PRIORITY
0. The IOTC Agreement needs to be revised or replaced to: 1) allow the full participation of all fishing players, 2) take into account modern principles for fisheries management.	<i>Commission</i>	Pending: No new developments have taken place in this area.		High
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				

<p>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:</p>				
<p>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.</p>	<p><i>Scientific Committee</i></p>	<p>Completed: Currently CPCs are required to submit information on their flag vessels by 30th June every year. The timeline for coastal CPCs who license foreign vessels has been brought forward to 15th 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.</p>	<p>Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.</p>	<p>Medium</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p><i>Compliance Committee</i></p>	<p>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 15th as the new deadline for submission of the list of active vessels for the previous year.</p>	<p>Periodic review of Resolutions.</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p><i>Scientific Committee</i></p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p>6. The Commission task the Scientific Committee with exploring alternative means of communicating data to improve timeliness of data provision.</p>	<p><i>Scientific Committee</i></p>	<p>Partially Completed & Ongoing: The Secretariat encourages members to utilise electronic means to expedite reporting.</p> <p>A study was commissioned for 2011 to determine the feasibility of reporting near real-time for various fleets.</p> <p>Outcome: Real time reporting not currently possible for most CPCs.</p>	<p>Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.</p>	<p>Medium</p>

7. Non-compliance be adequately monitored and identified at individual Member level, including data reporting.	<i>Compliance Committee</i>	<p>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.</p> <p>A first implementation of this approach took place in the Compliance Committee meeting 2011 (Colombo, Sri Lanka)</p> <p>There remains a need to setup a scheme of penalties and incentives.</p>	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> <p>Starting in 2013 the Compliance Section has begun conducting Compliance Support Missions. Sri Lanka and Indonesia have already benefitted from this initiative.</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

<p>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.</p>	<p><i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance and Finance</i></p>	<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 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>	<p>Review annually at IOTC meetings.</p>	<p>High</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p><i>Scientific Committee</i></p>	<p>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 1st 2010, and is based on national implementation. The Secretariat coordinated the preparation of standards for data requirements, training and forms.</p>	<p>Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.</p>	<p>High</p>
<p>13. Actions be taken so that fishing fleets, especially Maldives, Taiwan, Province of China and Yemen participate in data collection and reporting.</p>	<p><i>Commission</i></p>	<p>Partially Completed & Ongoing: Maldives became a Member in July 2011 and is complying with its mandatory data requirements. Taiwan, Province of China, submits data from its fishing fleet on a regular basis and complies with most of the IOTC mandatory data requirements. The Yemen became a Member in July 2012.</p>		
<p>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.</p>	<p><i>Commission and Members</i></p>	<p>Partially Completed & Ongoing: Taiwan, Province of 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.</p>		<p>High</p>
<p>15. The Secretariat's capacity for data dissemination and quality assurance be enhanced, including through the employment of a fisheries statistician.</p>	<p><i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance via Scientific Committee Commission</i></p>	<p>Partially Completed & Ongoing: The existing post of Data Analyst was converted to a Fisheries Statistician to join the Data Section of the Secretariat. The position was filled in September 2012.</p>	<p>Staffing needs to be assessed annually at IOTC meetings.</p>	<p>Medium</p>

<p>16. A statistical working party be established to provide a more efficient way to identify and solve the technical statistical questions.</p>	<p><i>Scientific Committee</i></p>	<p>Completed: The Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics resumed its annual meeting in 2009, 2010 and 2011. However, no meeting is being scheduled for 2012 as the SC felt that this WP meeting should only be held when there are specific tasks to be considered.</p>	<p>Annual meeting.</p>	<p>High</p>
<p>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).</p>	<p><i>Compliance Committee</i></p>	<p>Completed: Resolutions 12/07 (formerly 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.</p>	<p>Review annually at the Compliance Committee meetings</p>	<p>Medium</p>
<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 & Ongoing: The Commission meeting in 2012 considered several proposals in this regard, and Resolution 12/03 was subsequently adopted. The Scientific Committee has identified several remaining gaps which will be considered at the S17 meeting.</p>	<p>The Commission to revisit in 2013, 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 2012, 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, inter alia, 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 was received from the ACP Fish II Project for other workshops in 2012.</p>	<p>Seek opportunities through other regional projects, and funding directly from CPCs.</p>	<p>High</p>

21. Innovative or alternative means of data collection (e.g. port sampling) should be explored and, as appropriate, implemented.	<i>Scientific Committee</i>	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. In 2011, the SC recommended the continuation of the IOTC-OFCF project.	Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.	Medium
22. Avenues to collect data from non-Members should be explored.	<i>Secretariat</i>	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 (now a Members). Participation at IOTC working Party meetings by scientists from non-IOTC CPCs is encouraged and in 2011 and 2012, a scientist from the U.A.E. attended the Working Party on Neritic Tunas.	Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.	Medium
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 Compliance Committee 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, which was Adopted by the Commission in 2012 as Resolution 12/02.	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 2013 and 2014 that includes an additional professional staff member (Fisheries Officer), as recommended by the Scientific Committee in 2012.	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>	Partially Completed & Ongoing: Guidelines for the presentation of stock assessment papers were revised and agreed to by the Scientific Committee in 2010 and have been proposed for revision at the 2012 SC meeting.	Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.	Medium
28. An online IOTC Data Summary should be established	<i>Secretariat</i>	Pending: Budgetary provisions to be renewed for 2012, once the new IOTC website has been launched.	Review at SCAF meeting.	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>	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. The Scientific Committee reviewed the processes for Invited Experts, Consultants and Peer review at its 14 th Session in 2011.	Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.	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>	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 2010,2011and 2012 Scientific Committee reports included, and will include 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.	Review annually at IOTC WP and SC meetings.	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>	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 S16 from accumulated funds. An ongoing process of replenishment of this fund needs to be developed.	Review annually at IOTC SCAF and Commission meetings. A procedure for supplying funds to the MPF should be developed and presented at S17.	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, superseded by Resolution 12/13 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 and the Second meeting was held in Muscat, Oman from 18–20 February, 2013. The Commission will consider next steps at its 17 th Session.	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 focused on this process. At the WPM meeting, it was agreed that a smaller group of experts shall meet twice in 2013 to advance this work, once in April and again in October.	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>	Partially Completed & Ongoing. The Commission adopted Resolution 12/01 <i>on the implementation of the precautionary approach.</i>	–	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 12/09 is aimed at the conservation of sharks of the family Alopiidae. A number of proposals will be revisited at the S17.	For consideration at S17.	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 10/06, 12/06, 12/04 and 12/12, 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 further consideration at S17.	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</i> <i>Scientific Committee</i> <i>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</i> <i>Commission</i>	Partially Completed & Ongoing: Resolution 09/02, superseded by Resolution 12/11, 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 and all years since, 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>	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.	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>	In progress: Resolution 10/01, superseded by Resolution 12/13 has begun the process of moving towards the implementation of a total allowable catch limit for IOTC species. The Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria has discussed proposed guidelines and methods to allocate future quota in 2011 and again in 2013.	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>	<p>Completed: see Recommendation 49.</p>		
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 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> <p>The IOTC Regional Observer Programme (ROP) has over the last two years been expanded in scope to include the verification of documents on board fishing vessels (flag State Authorisation To Fish and fishing logbook), marking of vessels (consistent with information in the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels) as well as their VMS.</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>	<p>Completed: Resolution 09/03, which supersedes Resolution 06/03, and now superseded by Resolution 11/03, was adopted for this purpose.</p>	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>	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 2013. Infringements detected under the ROP are communicated to the concerned fleets for their investigation and provision of explanations and/or actions taken.	Review annually at IOTC meetings	Medium
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>	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.	Commenced in 2012. Small working group of CPCs to lead.	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 10/09.	Review annually at the Compliance Committee 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. The IOTC Secretariat has proposed a project under the WB/IOC grant for <i>Global Partnership for Oceans</i> , to develop a model legal framework to facilitate CPCs to efficiently transpose conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission into their national legislation.	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, which is revised annually, is provided by the Secretariat to facilitate CPCs 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. Through the Compliance Support Mission, CPCs are becoming more conscious of their role in ensuring the effectiveness of the Commission.	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 12/05 provides for an observer programme to monitor at sea transhipments, 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 , 15 th or 16 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 (superseded by Resolution 12/09) 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, Singapore, Myanmar 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 & Ongoing: 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>	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. MoUs have been signed with ICCAT and CCSBT for the implementation of the regional Observer Programme. IOTC and WCPFC has a MoU to exchange information at the Secretariat level on matters of common interest.	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 SCAF10 and S17.	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>	Partially Completed & Ongoing. 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 2012, and proposed in the budgets for 2013 and 2014. See also para. 11 above.	S17 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 & Ongoing: 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 S17 by a CPC.	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 2013?. 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 & Ongoing: The 2013 meeting of the Commission was moved further away from the beginning of the financial year (calendar), thus increasing the difficulties of operating without a budget. A proposal is being considered by the SCAF to address this problem.	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

APPENDIX XVI
STATEMENTS OF MAURITIUS AND THE UNITED KINGDOM (OT)

“The Government of the Republic of Mauritius reaffirms that it does not recognize the so-called “British Indian Ocean Territory” (“BIOT”) which the United Kingdom purported to create by illegally excising the Chagos Archipelago from the territory of Mauritius prior to its accession to independence. This excision was carried out in violation of international law and United Nations General Assembly Resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 2066 (XX) of 16 December 1965, 2232 (XXI) of 20 December 1966 and 2357 (XXII) of 19 December 1967.

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius reiterates that the Chagos Archipelago, including Diego Garcia, forms an integral part of the territory of the Republic of Mauritius under both Mauritian law and international law. The Republic of Mauritius is, however, being prevented from exercising its rights over the Chagos Archipelago because of the de facto and unlawful control of the United Kingdom over the Archipelago.

Moreover, the Government of the Republic of Mauritius does not recognize the existence of the ‘marine protected area’ which the United Kingdom has purported to establish around the Chagos Archipelago in breach of international law, including the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). On 20 December 2010, Mauritius initiated proceedings against the United Kingdom under Article 287 of, and Annex VII to, UNCLOS to challenge the legality of the ‘marine protected area’. The dispute is currently before the Arbitral Tribunal constituted under Annex VII to UNCLOS.

In the light of the above, consideration of any documents which the United Kingdom has purported to submit to this Committee in respect of the Chagos Archipelago or which purport to refer to the Chagos Archipelago as the so-called “BIOT”, as well as any action or decision that may be taken on the basis of such documents, cannot and should not be construed as implying that the United Kingdom has sovereignty or analogous rights over the Chagos Archipelago.”

“The UK has no doubt about its sovereignty over the British Indian Ocean Territory which was ceded to Britain in 1814 and has been a British dependency ever since. As the UK Government has reiterated on many occasions, we have undertaken to cede the Territory to Mauritius when it is no longer needed for defence purposes.”

APPENDIX XVII
RESOLUTION 13/01
ON THE REMOVAL OF OBSOLETE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECOGNIZING the desirability of improving the coherence, interpretation and accessibility of its Conservation and Management Measures;

NOTING the concerns raised by some CPCs during the Fifteenth Session of the Commission that many coastal States are not yet able to fully implement many of the Conservation and Management Measures adopted by the Commission;

ALSO NOTING the intent of Resolution 11/01 *Regarding consolidation of IOTC Resolutions and recommendations*;

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

1. The following Recommendations previously adopted by the Commission shall be revoked since they are considered to have been fulfilled or are obsolete, as they have been replaced without being superseded or are no longer relevant to the conservation and management of tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean:
 - 1) Recommendation 01/01 *Concerning the national observer programmes for tuna fishing in the Indian Ocean*
 - 2) Recommendation 02/06 *On the implementation of the Resolution concerning the IOTC Record of Vessels*
 - 3) Recommendation 03/04 *Concerning enhancement of effectiveness of IOTC measures to eliminate IUU activities in the IOTC area*
 - 4) Recommendation 03/05 *Concerning trade measures*
 - 5) Recommendation 03/06 *Recommendation to commission a report on management options for tuna and tuna-like species*
 - 6) Recommendation 05/06 *Concerning the terms of references for an IOTC Working Party on Management Options*
2. This Resolution supersedes the Recommendations detailed in paragraph 1.

APPENDIX XVIII
RESOLUTION 13/02
CONCERNING THE IOTC RECORD OF VESSELS AUTHORISED TO OPERATE IN THE IOTC
AREA OF COMPETENCE

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECALLING that IOTC has been taking various measures to prevent, deter and eliminate the IUU fisheries conducted by large-scale tuna fishing vessels;

FURTHER RECALLING that IOTC adopted the Resolution 01/06 *Concerning the IOTC Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document Programme* at its 2001 meeting;

FURTHER RECALLING that IOTC adopted the Resolution 01/02 *Relating to Control of Fishing Activities* at its 2001 meeting;

NOTING that large-scale fishing vessels are highly mobile and easily change fishing grounds from one ocean to another, and have high potential to operate in the IOTC area of competence without timely registration with the Commission;

RECALLING that the FAO Council adopted on 23 June 2001 an International Plan of Action aiming to prevent, to deter and to eliminate illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing (IPOA), that this plan stipulates that the regional fisheries management organisation should take action to strengthen and develop innovative ways, in conformity with international law, to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing and in particular to establish records of vessels authorised and records of vessels engaged in IUU fishing;

RECALLING that the IOTC Record of Active Vessels was established by the Commission on 1 July 2003, via Resolution 02/05 *Concerning the establishment of an IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC area of competence*;

RECOGNISING the need to take further measures to effectively eliminate the IUU large scale tuna fishing vessels;

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

1. The Commission shall maintain an IOTC Record of fishing vessels that are:
 - a) larger than 24 metres in length overall; or
 - b) in case of vessels less than 24 meters, those operating in waters outside the Economic Exclusive Zone of the Flag State;

and that are authorised to fish for tuna and tuna-like species in the IOTC area of competence (hereinafter referred to as 'authorised fishing vessels', or AFVs). For the purpose of this Resolution, AFVs that are not entered in the Record are deemed not to be authorised to fish for, retain on board, tranship or land tuna and tuna-like species.

2. Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (hereinafter referred to as "CPC") shall submit electronically, where possible, to the IOTC Executive Secretary for those vessels referred to 1.a) and for those vessels referred to 1.b), the list of its AFVs that are authorised to operate in the IOTC area of competence. This list shall include the following information:
 - a) Name of vessel(s), register number(s);

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- b) IMO number (if any)¹;
 - c) Previous name(s) (if any);
 - d) Previous flag(s) (if any);
 - e) Previous details of deletion from other registries (if any);
 - f) International radio call sign(s) (if any);
 - g) Port of Registration;
 - h) Type of vessel(s), length and gross tonnage (GT);
 - i) Name and address of owner(s) and operator(s);
 - j) Gear(s) used;
 - k) Time period(s) authorised for fishing and/or transshipping.
3. All CPCs which issue authorisations to fish to their flag vessels to fish for species managed by the IOTC shall submit to the IOTC Executive Secretary, by 15 February of 2014, an updated template of the official authorisation to fish outside National Jurisdictions, and update this information whenever this information changes. This information includes:
- a) name of the Competent Authority;
 - b) name and contact of personnel of the Competent Authority;
 - c) signature of the personnel of the Competent Authority;
 - d) official stamp of the Competent Authority.
- The IOTC Executive Secretary shall publish the above information in a secure part on the IOTC website for MCS purpose.
4. The template in paragraph 3 shall be used exclusively for monitoring, control and surveillance purposes and a difference between the template and the authorisation carried onboard the vessel does not constitute an infraction, but will prompt the controlling State to clarify the issue with the identified Competent Authority of the flag State of the vessel in question.
5. Each CPC shall promptly notify, after the establishment of their initial IOTC Record, the IOTC Executive Secretary of any addition to, any deletion from and/or any modification of the IOTC Record at any time such changes occur.
6. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall maintain the IOTC Record, and take any measure to ensure publicity of the Record and through electronic means, including placing it on the IOTC website, in a manner consistent with confidentiality requirements noted by CPCs.
7. The flag CPCs of the vessels on the record shall:
- a) authorise their vessels to operate in the IOTC area of competence only if they are able to fulfill in respect of these vessels the requirements and responsibilities under the IOTC Agreement and its Conservation and Management Measures;
 - b) take necessary measures to ensure that their AFVs comply with all the relevant IOTC Conservation and Management Measures;

¹ If a vessel currently holds an IMO number, it must be reported in its information. Further, it is expected that all vessels greater than 24 m would be able to provide IMO numbers by 2015.

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- c) take necessary measures to ensure that their AFVs on the IOTC Record keep on board valid certificates of vessel registration and valid authorisation to fish and/or transship;
 - d) ensure that their AFVs on the IOTC Record have no history of IUU fishing activities or that, if those vessels have such a history, the new owners have provided sufficient evidence demonstrating that the previous owners and operators have no legal, beneficial or financial interest in, or control over those vessels; the parties of the IUU incident have officially resolved the matter and sanctions have been completed; or that having taken into account all relevant facts, their AFVs are not engaged in or associated with IUU fishing;
 - e) ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners and operators of their AFVs on the IOTC Record are not engaged in or associated with tuna fishing activities conducted by vessels not entered into the IOTC Record in the IOTC area of competence;
 - f) take necessary measures to ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners of the AFVs on the IOTC Record are citizens or legal entities within the flag CPCs so that any control or punitive actions can be effectively taken against them.
8. CPCs shall review their own internal actions and measures taken pursuant to paragraph 7, including punitive actions and sanctions and, in a manner consistent with domestic law as regards disclosure, report the results of the review to the Commission annually. In consideration of the results of such review, the Commission shall, if appropriate, request the flag CPCs of AFVs on the IOTC Record to take further action to enhance compliance by those vessels with IOTC Conservation and Management Measures.
9. a) CPCs shall take measures, under their applicable legislation, to prohibit the fishing for, the retaining on board, the transshipment and landing of tuna and tuna-like species by the vessels which are not entered into the IOTC Record.
- b) To ensure the effectiveness of the IOTC Conservation and Management Measures pertaining to species covered by Statistical Document Programs:
- i. Flag CPCs shall validate statistical documents only for the vessels on the IOTC Record;
 - ii. CPCs shall require that the species covered by Statistical Document Programs caught by AFVs 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
 - iii. CPCs importing species covered by Statistical Document Programs and the flag States of vessels shall cooperate to ensure that statistical documents are not forged or do not contain misinformation.
10. Each CPC shall notify the IOTC Executive Secretary of any factual information showing that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting vessels not on the IOTC Record to be engaged in fishing for and/or transshipment of tuna and tuna-like species in the IOTC area of competence.
11. a) If a vessel mentioned in paragraph 10 is flying the flag of a CPC, the IOTC Executive Secretary shall request that Party to take measures necessary to prevent the vessel from fishing for tuna and tuna-like species in the IOTC area of competence;
- b) If the flag of a vessel mentioned in paragraph 10 cannot be determined or is of a non-Contracting Party without cooperating status, the IOTC Executive Secretary shall compile and circulate such information to all CPCs, without delay.
12. The Commission and the CPCs concerned shall communicate with each other, and make the best effort with FAO and other relevant regional fishery management bodies to develop and implement appropriate measures, where feasible, including the establishment of records of a similar nature in a timely manner so as to avoid adverse effects upon tuna resources in other oceans. Such adverse effects might consist of excessive fishing pressure resulting from a shift of the IUU fishing vessels from the Indian Ocean to other oceans.
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13. Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with the IOTC shall:
- a) Ensure that each of its fishing vessels carry on board documents issued and certified by the competent authority of that Contracting Party or of that Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with IOTC, including, at a minimum, the following:
 - i. License, permit or authorisation to fish and terms and conditions attached to the licence, permit of authorisation;
 - ii. Vessel name;
 - iii. Port in which registered and the number(s) under which registered;
 - iv. International call sign;
 - v. Names and addresses of owner(s) and where relevant, the charterer;
 - vi. Overall length;
 - vii. Engine power, in KW/horsepower, where appropriate.
 - b) Verify above documents on a regular basis and at least every year;
 - c) Ensure that any modification to the documents and to the information referred to in 13.a) is certified by the competent authority of that Contracting Party or of that Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with the IOTC.
14. Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with the IOTC shall ensure that its fishing vessels authorised to fish in the IOTC area of competence are marked in such a way that they can be really identified with generally accepted standards such as the FAO Standard Specification for the Marking and Identification of Fishing vessels.
15. a) Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with the IOTC shall ensure that each gear used by its fishing vessels authorised to fish in the IOTC area of competence is marked appropriately, e.g., the ends of nets, lines and gear in the sea, shall be fitted with flag or radar reflector buoys by day and light buoys by night sufficient to indicate their position and extent;
- b) Marker buoys and similar objects floating and on the surface, and intended to indicate the location of fixed fishing gear, shall be clearly marked at all time with the letter(s) and/or number(s) of the vessel to which they belong;
- c) Fish aggregating devices shall be clearly marked at all time with the letter(s) and / or number(s) of the vessel to which they belong.
16. Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with the IOTC shall ensure that all their respective fishing vessels greater than 24 m LOA and authorised to fish in the IOTC area of competence, keep a bound fishing national logbook with consecutively numbered pages. The original recordings contained in the fishing logbooks shall be kept on board the fishing vessel for a period of at least 12 months.
17. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 07/02 *Concerning the establishment of an IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC area* and Resolution 01/02 *Relating to Control of Fishing Activities*.

APPENDIX XIX
RESOLUTION 13/03

ON THE RECORDING OF CATCH AND EFFORT DATA 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 Cooperating 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 harmonise 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;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the recommendations of the 15th Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee held in Mahé, Seychelles from 13–15 December 2012;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the call upon States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements included in the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 67/79 on sustainable fisheries to collect the necessary data in order to evaluate and closely monitor the use of large-scale fish aggregating devices and others, as appropriate, and their effects on tuna resources and tuna behaviour and associated and dependent species, to improve management procedures to monitor the number, type and use of such devices and to mitigate possible negative effects on the ecosystem, including on juveniles and the incidental bycatch of non-target species, particularly sharks and turtles;

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 authorised 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 12. 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. Each flag CPC shall submit to the IOTC Executive Secretary by 15 February 2014 a template of its official logbooks to record data in accordance with Annex I, II and III, for publishing on the IOTC website to facilitate MCS activities. For CPCs that use electronic logbook systems, a copy of the applicable regulations implementing the electronic logbook system in that CPC, a set of screen captures and the name of the certified software may be provided. If changes are made to the template after 15 February 2014, an updated template shall be submitted.
5. Where the logbook is not in one of the two languages of the IOTC, CPCs shall provide a complete field description of the logbook in one of the two languages of the IOTC together with the submission of the sample of the logbook. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall publish the sample of the logbook and the field description on the IOTC website.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. Annex III contains specifications for handline and trolling gears.
9. The logbook shall be completed by the Master of the fishing vessel and submitted 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.
10. 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.
11. 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 from 1 July 2014.
12. The Commission shall consider development of a special program to facilitate the 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.
13. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 12/03 *On The Recording Of Catch And Effort By Fishing Vessels In The IOTC Area Of Competence*.

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 13/08 *Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan, including more detailed specification of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species*

(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 of 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.). Refer to the Resolution 13/08 *Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan, including more detailed specification of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species*
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) ²	
Black marlin (<i>Makaira indica</i>)	BLM	Marine Mammals (in number)	
Indo–Pacific sailfish (<i>Istiophorus platypterus</i>)	SFA	Marine turtles (in number)	
		Thresher sharks (<i>Alopias</i> spp.)	THR
		Oceanic whitetip shark (<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>)	OCS
		Optional species to be recorded	

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

		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>)		Thresher sharks (<i>Alopias</i> spp.)	THR
Other IOTC species		Oceanic whitetip shark (<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>)	OCS
	SKJ	Optional species to be recorded	FAO code
		Silky sharks (<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>)	FAL
		Mantas and devil rays (<i>Mobulidae</i>)	MAN
		Other sharks	SKH
		Other rays	
		Other bony fish	

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	SKH
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) ³	
Indo–Pacific sailfish (<i>Istiophorus platypterus</i>)	SFA	Thresher sharks (<i>Alopias</i> spp.)	THR
Marlins (<i>Tetrapturus</i> spp, <i>Makaira</i> spp.)	BIL	Oceanic whitetip shark (<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>)	OCS
Southern bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus maccoyii</i>)	SBF	Optional species to be recorded	
		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			

2.4 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 remarks⁴
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.

³ When a CPC is fully implementing the observer program the provision of seabird data is optional

⁴ 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*

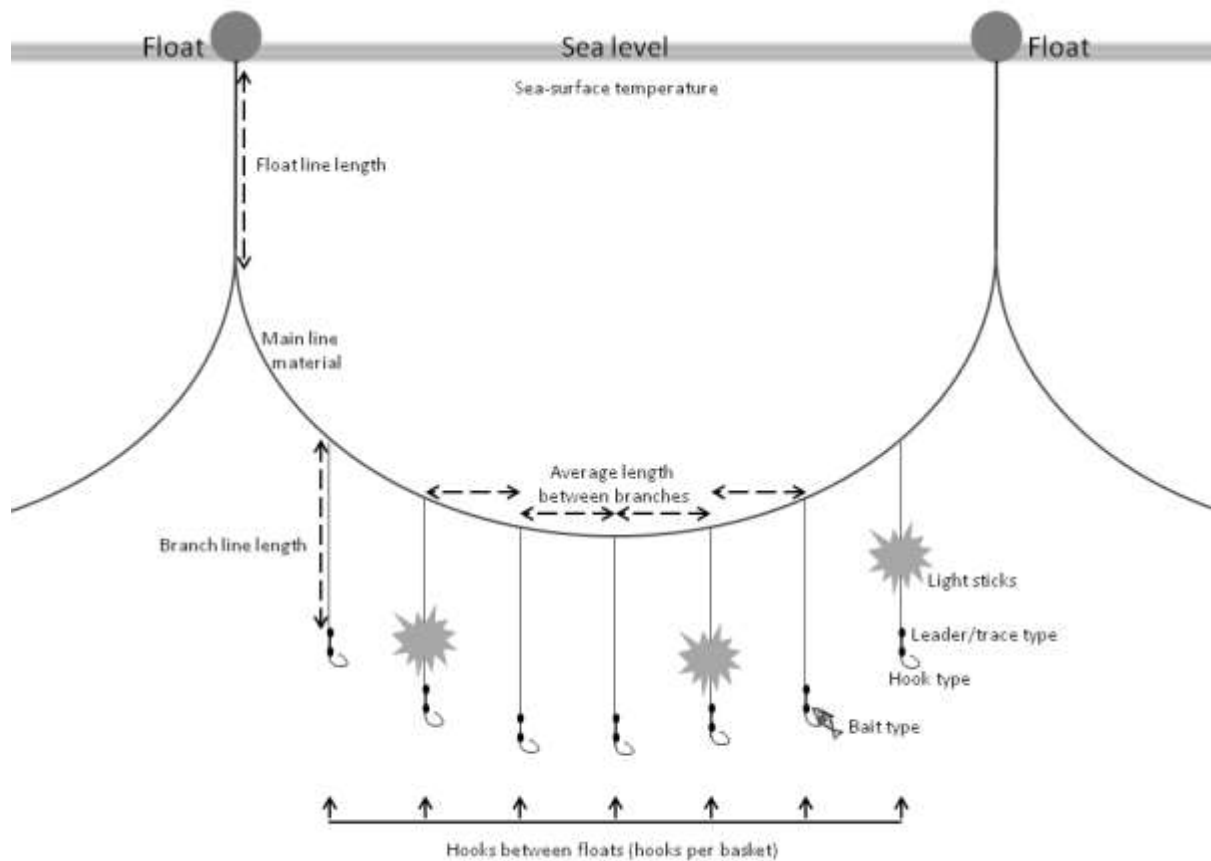


Figure 1. Longline (Gear Configuration): Average branch line length (meters): straight length in meters between snap and hook.

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 XX
RESOLUTION 13/04
ON THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECOGNISING Resolution 12/01 *On the Implementation of the Precautionary Approach* calls on IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties to apply the precautionary approach when managing tuna and tuna-like species in accordance with Article V of the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement;

RECOGNISING the ecological and cultural significance of cetaceans in the Indian Ocean;

MINDFUL that cetaceans are particularly vulnerable to exploitation including from fishing;

CONCERNED about the potential impacts of purse seine fishing operations on the sustainability of cetaceans;

NOTING that under Resolution 10/02 *Mandatory Statistical Requirements for IOTC Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPC's)*, paragraph 3: 'CPCs are also encouraged to record and provide data on species other than sharks and tunas taken as bycatch';

CONCERNED by the lack of accurate and complete data collection and reporting to the IOTC Secretariat concerning interactions and mortalities of non-target species with fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence;

FURTHER NOTING that the IOTC Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB) noted paper IOTC–2011–WPEB07–08 which reviewed the status of the information available on non-target species associated with IOTC fisheries; recommended that data on marine mammal interactions with IOTC fisheries are collected and reported by CPCs to the IOTC Secretariat;

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

1. This measure shall apply to all fishing vessels flying the flag of a CPC and on the IOTC Record of Fishing Vessels or authorised to fish tuna and tuna-like species managed by the IOTC on the high seas. The provisions of this measure do not apply to artisanal fisheries operating exclusively in their respective EEZ.
2. Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (collectively, CPCs) shall prohibit their flagged vessels from intentionally setting a purse seine net around a cetacean in the IOTC area of competence, if the animal is sighted prior to the commencement of the set.
3. CPCs shall require that, in the event that a cetacean is unintentionally encircled in a purse seine net, the master of the vessels shall:
 - a) take all reasonable steps to ensure the safe release of the cetacean, while taking into consideration the safety of the crew. These steps shall include following the best practice guidelines for the safe release and handling of cetaceans developed by the IOTC Scientific Committee;
 - b) report the incident to the relevant authority of the flag State, with the following information:
 - i. the species (if known);
 - ii. the number of individuals;
 - iii. a short description of the interaction, including details of how and why the interaction occurred, if possible;
 - iv. the location of the encirclement;
 - v. the steps taken to ensure safe release;
 - vi. an assessment of the life status of the animal on release, including whether the cetacean was released alive but subsequently died.

-
4. CPCs using other gear types fishing for tuna and tuna-like species associated with cetaceans shall report all interactions with cetaceans to the relevant authority of the flag State and include all the information outlined in paragraph 3b(i–vi).
 5. CPCs shall adopt Fish Aggregating Device designs that reduce the incidence of entanglement, according to Annex III of Resolution 13/08 (or any subsequent revision).
 6. The Commission requests that the IOTC Scientific Committee develop best practice guidelines for the safe release and handling of encircled cetaceans, taking into account those developed in other Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, including the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, and that these guidelines be submitted to the 2014 Commission meeting for endorsement.
 7. CPCs shall report the information and data collected under paragraph 3(b) and paragraph 4, through logbooks, or when an observer is onboard through observer programs, and provide to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 June of the following year and according to the timelines specified in Resolution 10/02 (or any subsequent revision).
 8. CPCs shall report, in accordance with Article X of the IOTC Agreement, any instances in which cetaceans have been encircled by the purse seine nets of their flagged vessels.
 9. For CPCs having national and state legislation for protecting these species shall be exempt from reporting to IOTC, but are encouraged to provide data for the IOTC Scientific Committee consideration. The IOTC Scientific Committee will analyse the situation concerning the availability of data and will advise the Commission to undertake support measures to developing CPCs to overcome this situation.

APPENDIX XXI
RESOLUTION 13/05
ON THE CONSERVATION OF WHALE SHARKS (*RHINCODON TYPUS*)

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECOGNISING Resolution 12/01 *On the Implementation of the Precautionary Approach* calls on IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties to apply the precautionary approach when managing tuna and tuna-like species in accordance with Article V of the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement;

RECOGNISING the ecological and cultural significance of whale sharks in the Indian Ocean;

MINDFUL that whale sharks are particularly vulnerable to exploitation including from fishing;

CONCERNED about the possible impacts of purse seine fishing operations on the sustainability of whale sharks;

ACKNOWLEDGING that under Resolution 10/02 *Mandatory Statistical Requirements for IOTC Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPC's)*, paragraph 3: 'the provisions, applicable to tuna and tuna-like species, shall also be applicable to the most commonly caught shark species and, where possible, to the less common shark species';

CONCERNED by the lack of complete and accurate data reporting concerning fishing activities on non-target species;

NOTING that the IOTC Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB) noted paper IOTC–2011–WPEB07–08 that reviewed the status of the information available on non-target species associated with IOTC fisheries; recommended that Resolution 10/02 be revised to include whale sharks in a list of the most commonly caught elasmobranch species for which nominal catch data shall be reported as part of the statistical requirements for IOTC CPCs;

FURTHER NOTING that the WPEB noted paper IOTC–2011–WPEB07–08, paragraph 163: 'recommended that the recommendations from the KOBE bycatch technical working group are considered to encourage research and development of best practice with regard to setting nets on whale sharks to determine the impacts of the practice' and that the WPEB also recommended developing best practice methods for extraction of whale sharks from purse seine nets through direct collaboration with the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission;

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

1. This measure shall apply to all fishing vessels flying the flag of a CPC and on the IOTC Record of Fishing Vessels or authorised to fish for tuna and tuna-like species managed by the IOTC on the high seas. The provisions of this measure do not apply to artisanal fisheries operating exclusively in their respective EEZ.
2. Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (collectively, CPCs) shall prohibit their flagged vessels from intentionally setting a purse seine net around a whale shark in the IOTC area of competence, if it is sighted prior to the commencement of the set.
3. CPCs shall require that, in the event that a whale shark is unintentionally encircled in the purse seine net, the master of the vessel shall:
 - a) take all reasonable steps to ensure its safe release, while taking into consideration the safety of the crew. These steps shall follow the best practice guidelines for the safe release and handling of whale sharks developed by the IOTC Scientific Committee;
 - b) report the incident to the relevant authority of the flag State, with the following information:
 - i. the number of individuals;
 - ii. a short description of the interaction, including details of how and why the interaction occurred, if possible;

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- iii. the location of the encirclement;
 - iv. the steps taken to ensure safe release;
 - v. an assessment of the life status of the animal on release, including whether the whale shark was released alive but subsequently died.
4. CPCs using other gear types fishing for tuna and tuna-like species associated with a whale shark shall report all interactions with whale sharks to the relevant authority of the flag State and include all the information outlined in paragraph 3b(i–v).
 5. CPCs shall adopt Fish Aggregating Device designs that reduce the incidence of entanglement, according to Annex III of Resolution 13/08 (or any subsequent revision).
 6. The Commission requests that the IOTC Scientific Committee develop best practice guidelines for the safe release and handling of encircled whale sharks, taking into account those developed in other regional fisheries management organisations including the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, and that these guidelines be submitted to the 2014 Commission meeting for endorsement.
 7. CPCs shall report the information and data collected under paragraph 3(b) and paragraph 4 through logbooks, or when an observer is onboard through observer programs, and provide to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 June of the following year and according to the timelines specified in Resolution 10/02 (or any subsequent revision).
 8. CPCs shall report, in accordance with Article X of the IOTC Agreement, any instances in which whale sharks have been encircled by the purse seine nets of their flagged vessels.
 9. For CPCs having national and state legislation for protecting the species shall be exempt from reporting to IOTC, but are encouraged to provide data for the IOTC Scientific Committee consideration. The IOTC Scientific Committee will analyse the situation concerning the availability of data and will advise the Commission to undertake support measures to developing CPCs to overcome this situation.

APPENDIX XXII
RESOLUTION 13/06

ON A SCIENTIFIC AND MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK ON THE CONSERVATION OF SHARK SPECIES CAUGHT IN ASSOCIATION WITH IOTC MANAGED FISHERIES

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

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

NOTING that the IOTC Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB) 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 IOTC Scientific Committee advises that maintaining or increasing fishing efforts for certain shark species will probably result in further declines in biomass, productivity and CPUE;

NOTING that the ecological risk assessment (ERA) by fishing gears made by the IOTC Scientific Committee recognises the oceanic whitetip sharks (*Carcharhinus longimanus*) as vulnerable species in IOTC fisheries;

CONSIDERING that, sharks are caught as either main target or bycatch in the IOTC area of competence and valuable fishery resources for local communities in IOTC area;

CONSIDERING that the number of fishing vessels such as longliners and purse seiners and their fishing effort are gradually getting to reduce in the IOTC area of competence recently;

RECOGNISING the need for further improvement of the level of sharks data/information submitted by Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (hereafter referred to as CPCs) to IOTC;

RECOGNISING the significant impact of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures regarding sharks on fishing operations and sharks data/information collected and reported by CPCs;

FURTHER RECOGNISING the need to establish a scientific framework for the conservation and management of shark species in IOTC;

BEARING IN MIND that oceanic whitetip sharks can be easily distinguished from other shark species and can therefore be released before they are taken on board of the vessel;

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

1. The Commission shall determine the shark species that are subjected to IOTC Conservation and Management Measures, including prohibition to retain on board, tranship, land or store any part or whole carcass according to the IOTC Scientific Committee's (SC) recommendation or advice.
2. The SC recommendation or advice shall be conducted taking account of:
 - a) full stock assessments on sharks, stock assessment and Ecological Risk Assessments (ERAs) by fishing gears, using available best scientific data/information;
 - b) trend of fishing effort by fishing gear on each shark species;
 - c) effective IOTC Conservation and Management Measures for certain fishing gears with high risk by shark species;
 - d) priority in shark species with high risk;
 - e) review of practical implementation of prohibition to retain on board of shark species;
 - f) feasibility of implementation of prohibition to retain on board including identification of shark species;

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- g) impact and bias of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures of sharks on fishing operations and sharks data/information collected and reported by CPCs;
 - h) further improvement of level for sharks data/information submitted by CPCs, particularly developing CPCs.
3. Notwithstanding paragraphs 1 and 2, CPCs shall prohibit, as an interim pilot measure, all fishing vessels flying their flag and on the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels, or authorised to fish for tuna or tuna-like species managed by the IOTC on the high seas to retain onboard, tranship, land or store any part or whole carcass of oceanic whitetip sharks with the exception of paragraph 7. The provisions of this measure do not apply to artisanal fisheries operating exclusively in their respective Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) for the purpose of local consumption.
 4. CPCs shall require fishing vessels flying their flag and on the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels or authorised to fish for tuna and tuna-like species managed by the IOTC on the high seas to promptly release unharmed, to the extent practicable, of oceanic whitetip sharks when brought alongside for taking onboard the vessel. However, CPCs should encourage their fishers to release this species if recognized on the line before bringing them onboard the vessels.
 5. CPCs shall encourage their fishers to record incidental catches as well as live releases of oceanic whitetip sharks. These data shall be kept at the IOTC Secretariat.
 6. CPCs shall, where possible, implement research on oceanic whitetip sharks taken in the IOTC area of competence, in order to identify potential nursery areas. Based on this research, CPCs shall consider other 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 oceanic whitetip sharks taken in the IOTC area of competence that are dead at haulback, provided that the samples are a part of a research project approved by the IOTC Scientific Committee (SC)/the IOTC Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB). In order to obtain the approval, a detailed document outlining the purpose of the work, number of samples intended to be collected and the spatio-temporal distribution of the sampling effect must be included in the proposal. Annual progress of the work and a final report on completion shall be presented to the SC/WPEB.
 8. The CPCs, especially those targeting sharks, shall submit data for sharks, as required by IOTC data reporting procedures.
 9. The provisional measures stipulated in this Resolution shall be evaluated in 2016 by the IOTC Scientific Committee to deliver more appropriate advice on the conservation and management of the stocks for the consideration of the Commission.

APPENDIX XXIII
RESOLUTION 13/07

**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 EEZ of IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (collectively, 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 IOTC Executive 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:
 - a) IOTC Number;
 - b) Name and registration number;
 - c) IMO number, if any⁵;
 - d) The flag at the time of issuing the licence;
 - e) International radio call sign (if any);
 - f) Vessel type, length, and gross tonnage (GT);

⁵ If a vessel currently holds an IMO number, it must be reported in its information. Further, it is expected that all vessels greater than 24 m would be able to provide IMO numbers by 2015.

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- g) Name and address of owner, and/or charterer and/or operator;
 - h) Main target species; and
 - i) 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 Government to Government access agreement, CPCs involved in the referred agreement shall submit jointly to the IOTC Executive Secretary the 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;
 - 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 least, 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 IOTC Executive Secretary.

COMMON PROVISIONS FOR ACCESS AGREEMENTS:

6. The CPCs shall notify the ship owner and flag State concerning foreign flagged fishing vessels that requested a license under a private access agreement or under a government to government access agreement and for which the request of license was denied. If the reason for denial is related to an infringement of IOTC legislation, the IOTC Compliance Committee shall address the issue at the next session accordingly.
7. All CPCs which issue licenses to foreign flag vessels to fish in their EEZs for species managed by the IOTC in the IOTC Area, under a private access agreement or under a government to government access agreement, shall submit to the IOTC Executive Secretary within two (2) months of the entry into force of this Resolution a template of the official coastal State fishing License and translated version in one of the official Languages of the IOTC, with:
 - a) The terms and conditions of the coastal State fishing license;
 - b) The name of the Competent Authority;
 - c) The name and contact of the personnel of the Competent Authority;
 - d) The signature of the personnel of the Competent Authority;
 - e) The official stamp(s) of the Competent Authority.

The IOTC Executive Secretary shall publish the template of the coastal State fishing license and the above information in a secure part of the IOTC website for MCS purposes. The information mentioned in subparagraph b) to e) must be provided in the form of the Annex A.

8. When a coastal State fishing license is modified in a manner that changes the template, any of the information provided in it or the information provided in a) to e) of paragraph 7, these changes shall be promptly notified to the IOTC Executive Secretary.
9. The IOTC Secretariat shall report the information specified in this Resolution annually to the Commission at its annual meeting.
10. This Resolution shall be consistent with domestic confidentiality requirements of the coastal CPC and the flag CPC concerned.
11. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 12/07 *Concerning A Record Of Licensed Foreign Vessels Fishing For IOTC Species In The IOTC Area Of Competence And Access Agreement Information*.

ANNEX A

COMPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Coastal State Fishing licence

Country:	
Name of the Competent Authority as stated in the Authorisation To Fish (ATF):	
Address of the Competent Authority:	
Name and contact of personnel of the Competent Authority (email, telephone, fax):	
Signature of the personnel of the Competent Authority:	
Government seal used on the fishing licence:	

APPENDIX XXIV
RESOLUTION 13/08

**PROCEDURES ON A FISH AGGREGATING DEVICES (FADS) MANAGEMENT PLAN, INCLUDING
MORE DETAILED SPECIFICATIONS OF CATCH REPORTING FROM FAD SETS, AND THE
DEVELOPMENT OF IMPROVED FAD DESIGNS TO REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF
ENTANGLEMENT OF NON-TARGET SPECIES**

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;

MINDFUL of the call upon States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 67/79 on Sustainable fisheries to collect the necessary data in order to evaluate and closely monitor the use of large-scale fish aggregating devices and others, as appropriate, and their effects on tuna resources and tuna behaviour and associated and dependent species, to improve management procedures to monitor the number, type and use of such devices and to mitigate possible negative effects on the ecosystem, including on juveniles and the incidental bycatch of non-target species, particularly sharks and marine turtles;

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;

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

AWARE that the Commission is committed to adopt conservation measures to reduce juvenile bigeye tuna 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 IOTC 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 Resolution 12/04 established that the Commission at its annual session in 2013 should consider the recommendations of the IOTC Scientific Committee as regards the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of marine turtles, including the use of biodegradable materials, 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;

NOTING that the IOTC Scientific Committee advised the Commission that only non-entangling FADs, both drifting and anchored, should be designed and deployed to prevent the entanglement of sharks, marine turtles and other species;

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. This Resolution shall apply to CPCs having purse seine vessels and bait boats fishing on Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs), for the purpose of aggregating tuna target species, in the IOTC area of competence.

2. CPCs having vessels fishing on 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. Due to their specificity in terms of users, number deployed, type of boat/vessel involved, fishing method and gear used and materials used in their construction, the Management Plans and Reporting Requirements for Drifting FADs (DFAD) and Anchored FADs (AFAD) shall be addressed separately for the purposes of this Resolution. The Plans shall at a minimum meet the Suggested Guidelines for Preparation for FAD Management Plans by each CPC as provided for DFADs in Annex I and AFADs in Annex II. For the purpose of this Resolution, the term Fish Aggregating Device means drifting (DFAD) or anchored floating or submerged objects (AFAD) deployed for the purpose of aggregating target tuna species.
3. The Management Plans shall be analysed by the IOTC Compliance Committee at its 2014 session.
4. Starting in 2015, CPCs shall submit the data elements prescribed in Annex I and II to the Commission, consistent with the IOTC standards for the provision of catch and effort data, and these data shall be made available for analysis to the IOTC Scientific Committee on the aggregation level set by Resolution 10/02 (or any subsequent superseding Resolution), and under the confidentiality rules set by Resolution 12/02 (or any subsequent superseding Resolution).
5. All CPCs shall ensure that all fishing vessels as referred to in paragraph 1 shall record fishing activities in association with FADs using the specific data elements found in Annex I (DFAD) and II (AFAD) in the section of the “FAD-logbook”.
6. The Management Plans shall include initiatives or surveys to investigate, and to the extent possible minimize the capture of small bigeye tuna and yellowfin tuna and non-target species associated with fishing on FADs. Management Plans shall also include guidelines to prevent, to the extent possible, the loss or abandonment of FADs. To reduce the entanglement of sharks, marine turtles or any other species, the design and deployment of FADs shall be based on the principles set out in Annex III, which will be applied gradually from 2014. From 2015 on, CPCs shall submit to the Commission, 60 days before the Annual Meeting, a report on the progress of the management plans of FADs, including reviews of the initially submitted Management Plans, and including reviews of the application of the principles set out in Annex III.
7. The IOTC Scientific Committee will analyse the information, when available, and provide scientific advice on additional FAD management options for consideration by the Commission in 2016, including recommendations on the use of biodegradable materials in new and improved FADs and the phasing out of FAD designs that do not prevent the entanglement of sharks, marine turtles and other species. When assessing the impact of FADs on the dynamic and distribution of targeted fish stocks and associated species and on the ecosystem, the IOTC Scientific Committee will, where relevant, use all available data on abandoned FADs (i.e. FADs without a beacon).
8. From January 2015, CPCs shall require all artificial FADs deployed or modified by their flagged fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence to be marked in accordance with a detailed marking scheme, e.g. including FAD marking or beacon ID. The marking scheme shall be developed and considered for adoption by the Commission at its regular annual session in 2014, based on recommendations from the IOTC Scientific Committee as requested by the Commission. The marking scheme should take into account, as a minimum, the following:
 - a) All artificial FADs shall be marked with a unique identification number, based on a specific numbering system and format to be adopted by the Commission;
 - b) The marking should be easy to read before the vessel operator engages in any artificial FAD related activity (e.g. setting on the artificial FAD, retrieving the artificial FAD, servicing the artificial FAD, fishing on the artificial FAD), but if not visible for any reason, (time of day, weather, etc.), the vessel operator shall ensure to obtain the unique artificial FAD identifier as soon as feasible;
 - c) The marking should be easy to apply to the artificial FAD, but should be applied in such a manner that it will not become unreadable or disassociated with the artificial FAD.
9. Resolution 12/08 *Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan* is superseded by this Resolution.

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

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

1. An objective
2. Scope:
Description of its application with respect to:
 - vessel-types and support and tender vessels
 - DFAD numbers and/or DFADs beacon numbers to be deployed
 - reporting procedures for DFAD deployment
 - incidental bycatch reduction and utilization policy
 - consideration of interaction with other gear types
 - plans for monitoring and retrieval of lost DFADs
 - statement or policy on “DFAD ownership”
3. Institutional arrangements for management of the DFAD Management Plans:
 - Institutional responsibilities
 - application processes for DFAD and /or DFAD beacons deployment approval
 - Obligations of vessel owners and masters in respect of DFAD and /or DFAD beacons deployment and use
 - DFAD and/or DFADs beacons replacement policy
 - reporting obligations
4. DFAD construction specifications and requirements
 - DFAD design characteristics (a description)
 - DFAD markings and identifiers, including DFADs beacons
 - Lighting requirements
 - radar reflectors
 - visible distance
 - radio buoys (requirement for serial numbers)
 - satellite transceivers (requirement for serial numbers)
5. Applicable areas
 - Details of any closed areas or periods e.g. territorial waters, shipping lanes, proximity to artisanal fisheries, etc

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6. Applicable period for the DFAD–MP
 7. Means for monitoring and reviewing implementation of the DFAD–MP
 8. DFAD logbook
 - catch reporting from DFAD sets (consistent with the Standards for the provision of Catch and Effort Data) set out in Resolution 13/03), including:
 - a) Any visit on a DFAD*.
 - b) For each visit on a DFAD, whether followed or not by a set,
 - i. position,
 - ii. date,
 - iii. DFAD identifier (i.e., DFAD Marking or beacon ID or any information allowing to identify the owner),
 - iv. DFAD type (drifting natural FAD, drifting artificial FAD),
 - v. DFAD design characteristics (dimension and material of the floating part and of the underwater hanging structure),
 - vi. type of the visit (deployment, hauling, retrieving, loss, intervention on electronic equipment).
 - c) If the visit is followed by a set, the results of the set in terms of catch and bycatch.

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

Annex II

GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION OF ANCHORED FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE (AFAD) MANAGEMENT PLANS

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

1. An objective
2. Scope:
 - Description of its application with respect to:
 - a) Vessel types
 - b) AFAD numbers and/or AFADs beacons numbers to be deployed (per AFAD type)
 - c) reporting procedures for AFAD deployment
 - d) distances between AFADs
 - e) incidental bycatch reduction and utilization policy
 - f) consideration of interaction with other gear types
 - g) the establishment of inventories of the AFADs deployed, detailing AFAD identifiers, characteristics and equipments of each AFAD as laid down in point 4 of the present Annex, coordinates of the AFAD's mooring sites, date of set, lost and reset

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- h) plans for monitoring and retrieval of lost AFADs
 - i) statement or policy on “AFAD ownership”
3. Institutional arrangements for management of the AFAD Management Plans:
- a) Institutional responsibilities
 - b) Regulations applicable to the setting and use of AFADs
 - c) AFAD repairs, maintenance rules and replacement policy
 - d) Data collection system
 - e) reporting obligations
4. AFAD construction specifications and requirements:
- a) AFAD design characteristics (a description of both the floating structure and the underwater structure, with special emphasis on any netting materials used)
 - b) Anchorage used for mooring
 - c) AFAD markings and identifiers, including AFAD beacons if any
 - d) Lighting requirements if any
 - e) radar reflectors
 - f) visible distance
 - g) radio buoys if any (requirement for serial numbers)
 - h) satellite transceivers (requirement for serial numbers)
 - i) echo sounder
5. Applicable areas
- a) Coordinates of mooring sites, if applicable
 - b) Details of any closed areas e.g., shipping lanes, Marine Protected Areas, reserves etc.
6. Means for monitoring and reviewing implementation of the AFAD–MP
- AFAD logbook
- Catch reporting from AFAD sets (consistent with the Standards for the provision of Catch and Effort Data) set out in Resolution 13/03), including:
 - a) Any visit in a AFAD.
 - b) For each visit on a AFAD, whether followed or not by a set or other fishing activities, the,
 - i. position;
 - ii. date;
 - iii. AFAD identifier (i.e., FAD Marking or beacon ID or any information allowing to identify the owner).
 - c) If the visit is followed by a set or other fishing activities, the results of the set in terms of catch and bycatch.

Annex III

PRINCIPLES FOR DESIGN AND DEPLOYMENT OF FADS

1. The surface structure of the FAD should not be covered, or only covered with non-meshed material.
2. If a sub-surface component is used, it should not be made from netting but from non-meshed materials such as ropes or canvas sheets.
3. To reduce the amount of synthetic marine debris, the use of natural or biodegradable materials (such as hessian canvas, hemp ropes, etc.) for drifting FADs should be promoted.

APPENDIX XXV
RESOLUTION 13/09

ON THE CONSERVATION OF ALBACORE CAUGHT IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

CONSIDERING that albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) is one of the most important species managed by IOTC;

NOTING that the IOTC Working Party on Temperate Tunas and the IOTC Scientific Committee recognised that the current level of catches is likely to result in further declines in albacore biomass, productivity and catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE);

FURTHER NOTING that the impacts of the piracy in western Indian Ocean have resulted in the displacement of a substantial portion of the longline fishing effort into the traditional albacore fishing grounds in the southern and eastern Indian Ocean and therefore it is likely that catch-and-effort on albacore will decline in the future unless management action is taken;

BEARING IN MIND that the albacore stock in the Indian Ocean is currently subject to overfishing (current fishing mortality > fishing mortality allowing the stock to deliver MSY) and that the fishing mortality rate needs to be reduced below the 2010 level to ensure that the fishing mortality in 2020 does not exceed the fishing mortality allowing the stock to deliver MSY;

CONSIDERING the recommendations of the 15th Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee held in Mahé, Seychelles from 13–15 December 2012;

ADOPTS in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article IX of the IOTC Agreement, that the Commission shall request the IOTC Scientific Committee:

1. To compile, review, discuss and assess, during the year 2014 and with the support of all the concerned CPCs, the coverage and the quality of all available data on catches and fishing effort related to albacore fisheries in the IOTC area of competence;
2. Through its IOTC Working Party on Temperate Tunas (WPTmT), to examine in relevant 2014 sessions the state of albacore stock, by considering even common working sessions with the ICCAT scientific community to improve the knowledge on the interrelation between the Indian Ocean and Atlantic albacore populations; and
3. To advise the Commission, by end of 2014 at the latest:
 - a) On Target Reference Points (TRPs) and Limit Reference Points (LRPs) used when assessing the albacore stock status and when establishing the Kobe plot and Kobe matrices.
 - b) On potential management measures having been examined through the Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) process. These management measures will therefore have to ensure the achievement of the conservation and optimal utilization of stocks as laid down in article V of the Agreement for the establishment of the IOTC and more particularly to ensure that, in as short a period as possible and no later than 2020, (i) the fishing mortality rate does not exceed the fishing mortality rate allowing the stock to deliver MSY and (ii) the spawning biomass is maintained at or above its MSY level.

APPENDIX XXVI
RESOLUTION 13/10

ON INTERIM TARGET AND LIMIT REFERENCE POINTS AND A DECISION FRAMEWORK

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

BEING MINDFUL of Article XVI of the IOTC Agreement regarding the rights of Coastal States and of Article 87 and 116 of the UN Convention of the Law of the Sea regarding the right to fish on the high seas;

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 IOTC Scientific Committee proposed provisional values at its 14th Session;

RECALLING ALSO that the IOTC Scientific Committee has initiated a process leading to a management strategy evaluation (MSE) process to improve upon the provision of scientific advice on Harvest Control Rules (HCRs);

ACKNOWLEDGING that continuing dialog between scientists and managers is necessary to define appropriate HCRs for the IOTC tuna and tuna-like stocks;

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

1. When assessing stock status and providing recommendations to the Commission, the IOTC 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	$B_{MSY}; F_{MSY}$	$B_{LIM} = 0.40 B_{MSY}; F_{LIM} = 1.40 F_{MSY}$
Bigeye tuna	$B_{MSY}; F_{MSY}$	$B_{LIM} = 0.50 B_{MSY}; F_{LIM} = 1.30 F_{MSY}$
Skipjack tuna	$B_{MSY}; F_{MSY}$	$B_{LIM} = 0.40 B_{MSY}; F_{LIM} = 1.50 F_{MSY}$
Yellowfin tuna	$B_{MSY}; F_{MSY}$	$B_{LIM} = 0.40 B_{MSY}; F_{LIM} = 1.40 F_{MSY}$
Swordfish	$B_{MSY}; F_{MSY}$	$B_{LIM} = 0.40 B_{MSY}; F_{LIM} = 1.40 F_{MSY}$

2. These interim target and limit reference points shall be assessed and further reviewed by the IOTC Scientific Committee and the results shall be presented to the Commission for adoption of species-specific reference points. If applicable, the IOTC Scientific Committee should endeavor to apply the interim reference points in the provision of advice on the status of stocks and on recommendations for management measures.

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3. The IOTC Scientific Committee shall assess, as soon as possible and more particularly through the management strategy evaluation process (MSE) process, the robustness and the performance of the interim reference points, specified under paragraph 1 and other reference points based on the guidelines of International agreements taking into account: i) the nature of these reference points – target or limits, ii) the best scientific knowledge on population dynamics and on life-history parameters, iii) the fisheries exploiting them, and iv) the various sources uncertainty.
 4. In addition the IOTC Scientific Committee shall develop and assess potential harvest control rules (HCRs) to be applied, considering the status of the stocks against the reference points assessed in paragraph 3 for albacore, bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna and swordfish. Based on the results of the MSE and considering the guidelines set forth in the UNFSA and in Article V of the IOTC Agreement, the IOTC Scientific Committee will recommend to the Commission HCRs for these tuna and tuna-like species, which among other factors, taking account of the following objectives:
 - a) For stocks which assessed status will match with the lower right (green) quadrant of the Kobe Plot, aim at maintaining the stocks in a high probability within this quadrant;
 - b) For stocks which assessed status will match with the upper right (orange) quadrant of the Kobe Plot, aim at ending overfishing with a high probability in as short a period as possible;
 - c) For stocks which assessed status will match with the lower left (yellow) quadrant of the Kobe plot, aim at rebuilding these stocks in as short a period as possible;
 - d) For stocks which assessed status will match with the upper left quadrant (red), aim at ending overfishing with a high probability and at rebuilding the biomass of these stocks in as short a period as possible.
 5. Bearing in mind Article 64 of UNCLOS and Article 8 of UNFSA, the entirety of this Resolution is subject to Article XVI (Coastal States' Rights) of the IOTC Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, and Articles 87 and 116 of the UN Convention of the Law of the Sea regarding the right to fish on the high seas;
 6. This Resolution supersedes Recommendation 12/14 *On interim target and limit reference points*.

**APPENDIX XXVII
RESOLUTION 13/11**

**ON A BAN ON DISCARDS OF BIGEYE TUNA, SKIPJACK TUNA, YELLOWFIN TUNA, AND A
RECOMMENDATION FOR NON-TARGETED SPECIES CAUGHT BY PURSE SEINE VESSELS IN THE
IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE**

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECOGNISING the need for action to ensure the achievement of IOTC objectives to conserve and manage bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna and yellowfin tuna in the IOTC area of competence;

RECOGNISING that the international community has recognised both ethical concerns and policy regarding discards of species in several international instruments and statements, including United Nations General Assembly resolutions (A/RES/49/118 (1994); A/RES/50/25 (1996); A/RES/51/36 (1996); A/RES/52/29 (1997); A/RES/53/33 (1998); A/RES/55/8 (2000); and A/RES/57/142 (2002)), United Nations Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement); The Rome Consensus on World Fisheries adopted by the FAO Ministerial Conference on Fisheries, Rome, 14–15 March 1995; the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, the FAO International Plan of Action (IPOA) on sharks; the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);

RECALLING that the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement has underlined the importance of ensuring the conservation and optimum utilisation of highly migratory species through the action of regional fishery bodies such as the IOTC, and provides that “*States should minimize ... discards, ..., catch of non target species, both fish and non-fish species, and impacts on associated or dependent species, in particular endangered species ...*”;

RECALLING that The Rome Consensus on World Fisheries adopted by the FAO Ministerial Conference on Fisheries, Rome, 14–15 March 1995, provides that “*States should...reduce bycatches, fish discards...*”;

RECALLING that the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries provides that “*States should take appropriate measures to minimize waste, discards...collect information on discards ...; ... take account of discards (in the precautionary approach) ...; develop technologies that minimize discards ...; use of selective gear to minimize discards*”;

RECALLING that the Commission adopted Resolution 12/01 *on the implementation of the precautionary approach*;

CONCERNED about the morally unacceptable waste and the impact of unsustainable fishing practices upon the oceanic environment, represented by the discarding of tunas and non-targeted species in the purse seine fishery for tunas in the Indian Ocean;

CONSIDERING the important volume of tuna and non-targeted species discarded in the purse seine fishery for tunas in the Indian Ocean;

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

RETENTION OF TUNA SPECIES

1. Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties shall require all purse seine vessels to retain on board and then land all bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, and yellowfin tuna caught, except fish considered unfit for human consumption.
2. Procedures for the implementation of full retention requirements include:
 - a) No bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, and/or yellowfin tuna caught by purse seine vessels may be discarded after the point in the set when the net is fully pursed and more than one half of the net has been retrieved. If equipment malfunctions affect the process of pursing and retrieving the net in such a way

that this rule cannot be complied with, the crew must make efforts to release the tuna as soon as possible.

- b) The following two exceptions to the above rule shall apply:
- i. Where it is determined by the captain of the vessel that tuna (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna or yellowfin tuna) caught are unfit for human consumption, the following definitions shall be applied:
 - "unfit for human consumption" are fish that:
 - is meshed or crushed in the purse seine; or
 - is damaged due to depredation; or
 - has died and spoiled in the net where a gear failure has prevented both the normal retrieval of the net and catch, and efforts to release the fish alive;
 - "unfit for human consumption" does not include fish that:
 - is considered undesirable in terms of size, marketability, or species composition; or
 - is spoiled or contaminated as the result of an act or omission of the crew of the fishing vessel.
 - ii. Where the captain of a vessel determines that tuna (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna or yellowfin tuna) was caught during the final set of a trip and there is insufficient well space to accommodate all tuna (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna or yellowfin tuna) caught in that set. This fish may only be discarded if:
 - the captain and crew attempt to release the tuna (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna or yellowfin tuna) alive as soon as possible; and
 - no further fishing is undertaken after the discard until the tuna (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna or yellowfin tuna) on board the vessel has been landed or transshipped.

RETENTION OF SPECIES OTHER THAN THOSE SPECIFIED UNDER PARA 2, A)

3. Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties should encourage all purse seine vessels to retain on board and then land all non-targeted species as far as the vessel can ensure appropriate fishing operation (including but not limited to other tunas, rainbow runner, dolphinfish, triggerfish, billfish, wahoo, and barracuda) except fish considered unfit for human consumption (as defined in paragraph 2 b) i). A single exception shall be the final set of a trip, when there may be insufficient well space remaining to accommodate all the non-targeted fish caught in that set.

IMPLEMENTATION

4. The IOTC Scientific Committee, the IOTC Working Party on Tropical Tunas, and the IOTC Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch shall annually:
 - a) review the information available on bycatch (retained and discarded) by purse seine vessels; and
 - b) provide advice to the Commission on options to sustainably manage discards in purse seine fisheries.
5. This Resolution shall enter into force on 1 January 2014 and will be revised, according to the advice of the IOTC Scientific Committee resulting from the review of the IOTC Working Party on Tropical Tunas (for bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna and yellowfin tuna) and of the IOTC Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (for non-target species).

6. This Resolution supersedes Recommendation 10/13 *on the implementation of a ban on discards of skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna, bigeye tuna and non targeted species caught by purse seiners.*

APPENDIX XXVIII**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 Somalia⁶ Despite a drop in pirate attacks in 2012, piracy against humanitarian, commercial and fishing vessels in the western Indian Ocean remains a real threat. The IOTC Commission continues to be deeply concerned by the 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.

The IOTC welcomes the adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolutions (UNSCR)⁷ on piracy off the coast of Somalia and urges all States to continue contributing to their rapid and effective implementation. The most recent UN Security Resolution 2077 was adopted on 21 November 2012. The Security Council renewed for another year the authorizations, first agreed in 2008, for international action to fight the crimes in cooperation with the new Somali Government, whom it requested to create a national legal framework for the effort.

The implementation of these resolutions helps to ensure the protection of all fishermen 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. The implementation of these resolutions along with the incorporation of self-protection measures on board the fishing vessels most exposed to piracy attacks, helps to ensure the protection of all fishermen from piracy and enables them to carry out their fishing activities.

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 commends the comprehensive approach by the EU and states concerned, in addressing the situation both through the deployment of their Operations including EUNAVFOR ATALANTA recently extended to December 2014, and the regional maritime capacity building efforts conducted bilaterally and unilaterally.

The IOTC also commends all new international initiatives to curb piracy in the western Indian Ocean and welcomes the inauguration of the antipiracy cell of the IOC on 4th June 2012, supported by the European Union which will also pave the way for more substantial and comprehensive intervention in 2013 to fight piracy in the Western Indian Ocean. It welcomes also the newly established EU CAP NESTOR⁸. This mission will aim to assist with development in the Horn of Africa and the western Indian Ocean States to provide self-sustainability for continued enhancement of maritime security, including counter-piracy, and maritime governance. EUCAP NESTOR's geographical focus is on Djibouti, Kenya, the Seychelles and Somalia. It shall also be deployed in Tanzania, upon receipt by the Union of an invitation from the Tanzanian authorities.

The IOTC also recalls 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 urges 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 with the support of donor countries. The IOTC commends the work of the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia in facilitating coordination among its members.

⁶ May 2008, March 2009, March 2010, March 2011 and March 2012

⁷ (UNSCR) 1814, 1816, 1838, 1846, 1851, 1897, 1918, 1950, 1976, 2015, 2020 and 2077

⁸ EU COUNCIL DECISION 2012/389/CFSP of 16 July 2012 on the European Union Mission on Regional Maritime Capacity Building in the Horn of Africa (EUCAP NESTOR)

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. We encourage full implementation by flag States of the Best Management Practices as agreed by the international maritime community - vessels are encouraged to fully adopt these to help repel piracy attacks. Best management practices should continue to be applied consistently.
- 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, this area needs strengthening further.
- for actions that should focus on targeting financiers and coordinating databases to increase the understanding of the pirate business model. Tracking and disrupting those financial flows can break down this model.

APPENDIX XXIX
SCHEDULE OF SUBSIDIARY BODY MEETINGS FOR 2013, AND TENTATIVELY FOR 2014

Next Meeting	2013			2014 (tentative)		
	Session	Date	Location	Session	Date	Location
3 rd Technical Committee Meeting on Allocation Criteria	2 nd	18–20 (3d) February	Muscat, Oman	3 rd	Pending (3d)	TBD
11 th Session of the Compliance Committee	10 th	2–4 (3d), May	Mauritius	11 th	Pending (3d)	TBD
11 th Standing Committee on Administration and Finance	10 th	7–9 (2 half d), May	Mauritius	11 th	Pending (2 half d)	TBD
18 th Session of the Commission	17 th	6–10 (5d), May	Mauritius	18 th	Pending (5d)	TBD
3 rd Working Party on Neritic Tunas	3 rd	2–5 July (4d)	Bali, Indonesia	4 th	13–16 July (4d)	Tanzania
5 th Working Party on Temperate Tunas	–	–	–	5 th	5–8 Aug (4d)	TBD
9 th Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch	9 th	12–16 Sept (5d)	La Réunion	10 th	9–13 Sept (5d)	TBD
11 th Working Party on Billfish	11 th	18–22 Sept (5d)	La Réunion	12 th	17–21 Sept (5d)	TBD
15 th Working Party on Tropical Tunas	15 th	22–27 Oct (6d)	Bilbao or San Sebastián, Spain	16 th	21–26 Oct (6d)	TBD
5 th Working Party on Methods		–	–	5 th	30 Nov (1d)	Victoria, Seychelles
9 th Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics	9 th	29–30 Nov (2d)	Rep. of Korea	–	–	–
16 th Scientific Committee	16 th	2–6 Dec (5d)	Rep. of Korea	17 th	1–5 Dec (5d)	TBD