



Mr. Christopher O'Brien
Executive Secretary
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission

April 5, 2019

Dear Executive Secretary,

I refer to the feedback letter regarding compliance issues, IOTC Reference 6947 dated 25 May 2018.

In this letter, the issues of insufficient reporting of size frequency data for surface fishery, longline fishery and sharks were raised.

In relation to the size frequency data, the Republic of Korea is very much dependent on scientific observers on board fishing vessels as we believe it is almost impracticable for the fishermen to measure one fish per metric ton of catch per species without causing delays in the handling of catches or negative impacts to the quality of the fish. In our view, the fishermen may just make up the figures and submit the reports, without actually measuring the sizes of fish, if the flag state forces them to produce such reports. As a consequence, it would be impossible for the scientists to draw a reliable, intended outcome from the analysis of size frequency data.

Also, Korea has the understanding that a number of CPCs have expressed their concerns about this particular reporting requirement as most of the CPCs, if not all, have not been so successful in complying with it.

Therefore, Korea wishes to discuss this issue further with all interested CPCs in the upcoming Compliance Committee meeting with a view to rectifying the current situation fundamentally.

Thank you.

JO, Anna

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