
IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS RELEVANT TO THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

PREPARED BY: IOTC SECRETARIAT, 10 MAY 2019

PURPOSE

To provide the Compliance Committee with an opportunity to consider the progress made during the intersessional period, in relation to the recommendations for actions by the Chair of the Compliance Committee and/or the IOTC Secretariat.

BACKGROUND

In 2018, the Commission endorsed thirteen (13) **RECOMMENDATIONS**, from the Compliance Committee, for action. These actions and the status of their implementation during the intersessional period are detailed below.

RECOMMENDATIONS REQUIRING ACTION

1) **Review of the standard applicable for sampling for size frequency.**

CoC15.01 (Para 12) The CoC **RECOMMENDS** to seek advice from the Scientific Committee on its applicability to all species and gears as well as possible alternatives to ensure representative sampling data.

Progress of Implementation: This issue was not taken up at the SC21, in 2018. The issue has been flagged for inclusion in the agenda for SC22, in 2019.

2) **Reporting requirement for nominal catch.**

CoC15.03 (Para 26) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Secretariat provide a list of CPCs not meeting the reporting requirements for nominal catch per species and gears for future meetings.

Progress of Implementation: The list of CPCs not meeting the reporting requirements for nominal catch per species and gears, as per IOTC Resolution 18/07, Annex II, is provided in document *IOTC-2019-CoC16-06*.

3) **Feedback Letters.**

CoC15.05 (Para 48) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission continues to distribute letters of feedback by the IOTC Chair, highlighting areas of non-compliance to relevant CPCs, together with the difficulties and challenges being faced, and the importance of attending of CoC meetings, when applicable.

Progress of Implementation: Feedback Letters were handed over to CPCs present at the S22 and copies were also sent to individual CPCs by e-mail on 19th and 20th June 2018. Thirty Feedback Letters were issued at S22 and responses have been received from seventeen CPCs. All responses received by the IOTC Secretariat to the Feedback Letters issued at S22, are available in the meeting page of the CoC16.

4) Concerns over Sierra Leone’s engagement in the work of the Commission.

CoC15.06 (Para 49) The CoC NOTED the continued absence of Sierra Leone, in the work of the Commission, including in the IOTC Area, and RECALLED that the Commission had initiated consultation with Sierra Leone, under Article IV of the Agreement, regarding its status as a Member via letter in 2015, to which Sierra Leone did not respond and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission send a second letter of consultation stating that if Sierra Leone does not respond within 30 days of the date of the letter, the Commission will have deemed Sierra Leone to have withdrawn from the Agreement.

Progress of Implementation: A letter was sent by the Executive Secretary to Sierra Leone in August 2018, and Sierra Leone responded by indicating its “*commitment to work with the Commission to develop lasting partnerships*”. This was communicated to CPCs via IOTC Circular 2018-42.

5) Concerns over late submission of information to be used in the Compliance Assessment.

CoC15.08 (Para 51) The CoC NOTED the number of CPCs continuing to submit information after the deadline and **RECOMMENDED** that the IOTC Secretariat shall not integrate information received after the deadline into the Compliance Assessment.

Progress of Implementation: No information received after the deadline has been considered into the 2019 Compliance Assessments.

6) Compliance Report for Taiwan, Province of China.

CoC15.10 (Para 53) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Compliance Report for Taiwan, Province of China, be made available to CPCs but should not be placed on the public domain website of IOTC.

Progress of Implementation: the Compliance Report for Taiwan, Province of China is available to CPCs through the CoC16 meeting file sharing platform.

7) Possible infractions detected under the IOTC Regional Observer Programme to monitor at-sea transshipments relating to VMS.

CoC15.13 (Para 70) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** the WPICMM provide technical advice related to the possible infraction on VMS unit with switch and whether or not observers should continue to highlight those possible infractions for the VMS.

Progress of Implementation: This issue was not included on the agenda of WPICMM02. The issue has been flagged for inclusion in the agenda for WPICMM03, in 2020.

8) Inconsistencies contained in Resolution 17/08 (superseded by Resolution 18/08)

CoC15.19 (Para 93) The CoC **NOTED** the inconsistencies contained in Resolution 17/08, inter alia paragraphs 1, 11, 13, Annex I and reporting obligations and **RECOMMENDED** that these inconsistencies be reviewed by the FAD WG, or if it does not meet, by WPICMM and report its finding back to CoC16.

Progress of Implementation: The *ad hoc* FAD Working Group did not meet during the 2018/2019 intersessional period. In giving consideration to the CoC15 recommendation, the WPICMM02 was of the opinion that it did not have a complete understanding of the implications of what the Commission will lose out in terms of data pertaining to fishing activities on AFADs, and it made the following recommendation:

The WPICMM02 CONSIDERED the recommendation of the Compliance Committee and RECOMMENDED that the anomalies relating to paragraphs 1, 11, 13 and Annex II of IOTC Resolutions 18/08 (previously 17/08) be reviewed by the ad hoc FAD Working Group. (Paragraph 8, IOTC–2019–WPICMM02–R)

9) Strengthening the IOTC VMS measure

CoC15.21 (Para 99) Noting the progress made by the VMS Steering Group, the CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the Steering Group review the report of the VMS study and provide recommendations to CoC16, including a work plan and budget and if necessary a revision of Resolution 15/03.

Progress of Implementation: The report of the VMS Steering Group is presented as document *IOTC-2019-CoC16-05* to CoC16.

10) Activities by the IOTC Secretariat in support of capacity building for developing CPCs – Resolution 12/10

CoC15.22 (Para 104) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that the IOTC Secretariat continue with those capacity building activities and strengthen activities that would allow CPCs to address the issue of mandatory statistics and the implementation of the Regional Observer Scheme.

Progress of Implementation: The activities of the IOTC Secretariat to address the issue of mandatory statistics and the implementation of the Regional Observer Scheme are provided in document *IOTC-2019-SCAF16-03*.

11) Development of the e-MARIS application

CoC15.23 (Para 105) The CoC **ACKNOWLEDGED** the funds secured by the IOTC Secretariat for e-MARIS and **RECOMMENDED** the Commission endorsed the IOTC Secretariat pursuit of the development of the e-MARIS application.

Progress of Implementation: Two IT Consultants have been recently recruited for two years and development work is expected to start in the early part of the second semester of 2019.

12) Inclusion of assessments on yellowfin tuna catch (Resolution 18/01) and transposition in national law the requirement of keeping shark fins naturally attached (Resolution 17/05)

CoC15.24 (Para 111) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** to include the following assessments in the Compliance Reports from 2019: yellowfin tuna catch amount (Resolution 17/01, superseded by Resolution 18/01) and the transposition of fins naturally attached requirement for fresh product (Resolution 17/05).

Progress of Implementation: Both requirements have been included in the Compliance Reports of 2019, which has been endorsed by the WPICMM02.

13) **Meetings of the Working Party on the Implementation of Conservation and Management Measures (WPICMM)**

CoC15.25 (Para 112) The CoC **RECOMMENDED** that to the greatest extent possible, the meeting of the WPICMM would be conducted in conjunction with another IOTC meeting.

Progress of Implementation: The WPICMM02, held in February 2019 was preceded by the Workshops relating to the studies on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) measures of the IOTC and a Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) for the IOTC.

RECOMMENDATION

That the CoC16 **NOTE** the progress made in implementing the recommendations of CoC15.