

**RESOLUTION 16/08****ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE OF AIRCRAFTS
AND UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES AS FISHING AIDS**

APPLICABLE TO



The aim of this Resolution is to manage gear used for targeting IOTC species to ensure the sustainability of fishing operations, based on a precautionary approach. It limits increases in fishing power through technological creep by prohibiting the use of piloted and remotely piloted aircraft in support of fishing operations (or as “fishing aids”) - regardless of the gear deployed.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

There is one current reporting requirement in relation to detected violations.

WHO

CPC COASTAL STATE, PORT STATE

WHAT

Report to the IOTC Executive Secretary and the flag State any fishing operation undertaken with the aid of an aircraft or unmanned aerial vehicle in the IOTC area

WHEN**DEADLINES**

Any time (event-based reporting)

**REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:
FORMAT AND CONTENT**

No reporting template is provided.

REPORTING REQUIREMENT 1:

REPORT ANY FISHING OPERATION UNDERTAKEN WITH THE AID OF AN AIRCRAFT OR UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE IN THE IOTC AREA TO THE FLAG STATE AND THE IOTC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY. (PARA 3)

IMPLEMENTATION

- **How to report:** No particular form is required, but it is suggested that the report includes: a) vessel name; b) IRCS; c) date and location of detected occurrence; d) platform/unit/operator having detected the occurrence; e) brief description of events.
- **Reporting format:** An official letter with evidence attached.
- **Where to send the information:** The letter should be sent to iotc-secretariat@fao.org

TRANSPOSITION INTO NATIONAL LAW

PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF AIRCRAFT OR UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES AS FISHING AIDS (PARA 1)

1) In this section:

- a. "Aircraft" means a contrivance used for navigation of, or flight in the air and specifically includes, but is not limited to, planes, helicopters, and any other device that allows a person to fly or hover above the ground.
- b. "Unmanned aerial vehicle" means any device capable of flying in the air which is remotely, automatically or otherwise piloted without an occupant, including but not limited to drones.

2) An operator of a [country] fishing vessel, support vessel or supply vessel that is operating in the IOTC area of competence [and the operator of any such vessel in areas under [country] jurisdiction]¹ who uses or directs or allows to be used aircraft or unmanned aerial vehicles as fishing aids for species under the mandate of the IOTC commits an offence.

COOPERATION REQUIREMENTS

None in this Resolution.

OBLIGATIONS OF THE INDUSTRY

None in this Resolution.

OBLIGATIONS OF THE SECRETARIAT

The IOTC Secretariat must receive and forward reports of violations of this Resolution to the Compliance Committee.

OBLIGATIONS OF THE COMMISSION & BODIES

The Compliance Committee must consider reports of violations and report to the Commission. No sanction is provided.

¹ Optional. To be included where national jurisdiction is within the IOTC area of competence.

