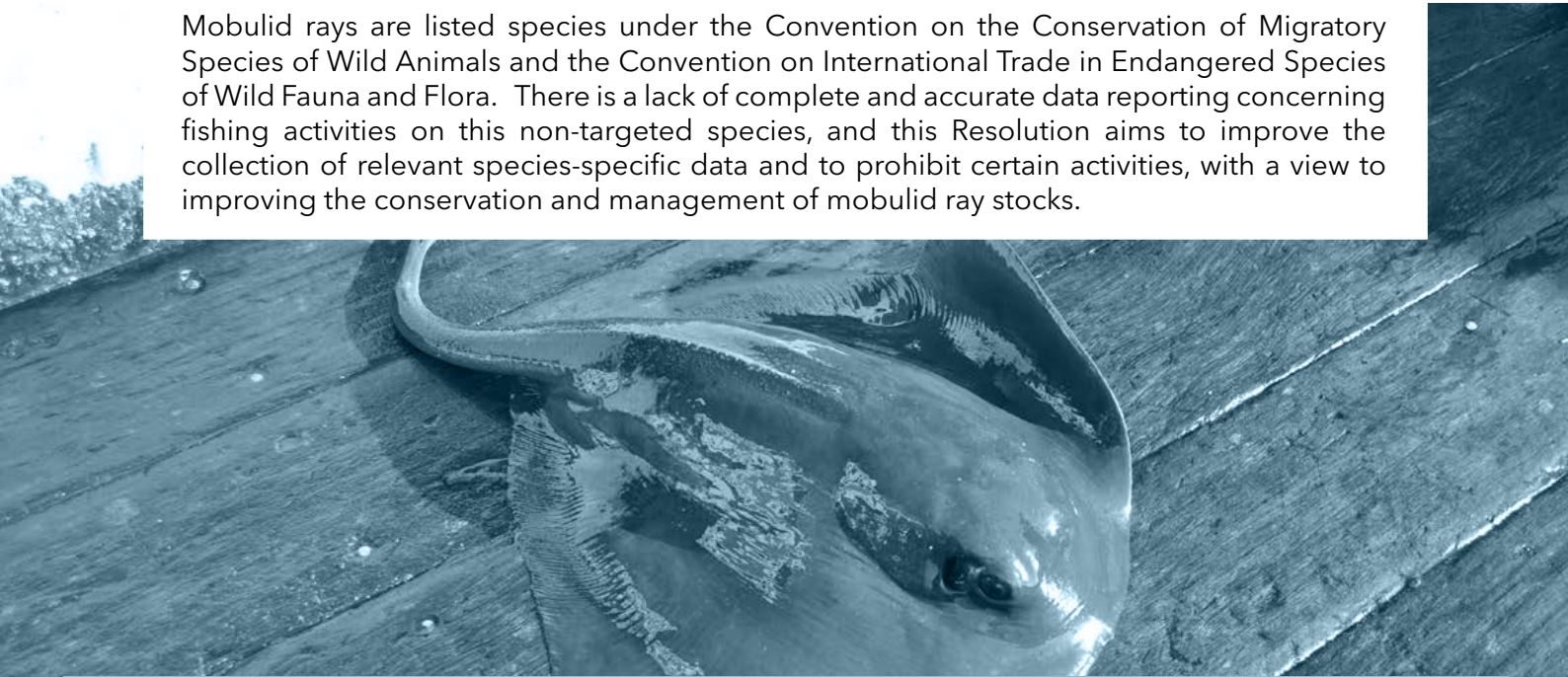


**RESOLUTION 19/03****CONSERVATION OF MOBULID RAYS CAUGHT IN ASSOCIATION WITH FISHERIES IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE**

APPLICABLE TO



Mobulid rays are listed species under the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. There is a lack of complete and accurate data reporting concerning fishing activities on this non-targeted species, and this Resolution aims to improve the collection of relevant species-specific data and to prohibit certain activities, with a view to improving the conservation and management of mobulid ray stocks.

**REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

There are three reporting requirements for CPC flag vessels that are on the IOTC Record of Authorised Fishing Vessels or authorised to fish for IOTC species: species interactions (i.e. number of discards and releases) with mobulid rays by vessels through logbooks and/or observer programs; sampling plans, results of a research project approved by the Scientific Committee.

WHO

CPC FLAG STATE

WHAT

Submit information and data collected on interactions with mobulid rays by vessels through logbooks and/or observer programs

Submit sampling plans for monitoring mobulid ray catches by subsistence/artisanal fisheries (unless mobulids do not occur in fisheries)

Submit report of research project on collection of samples of mobulid rays dead at haul-back (as applicable)

WHEN

DEADLINE
By 30 June of following year, and applying timelines in Res. 15/02

DEADLINE
In national reports to Scientific Committee

DEADLINE
Annual progress of the work and a final report upon completion of the project

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: FORMAT AND CONTENT

One reporting template is used to report information and data collected on interactions (i.e. number of discards and releases) with mobulid rays by vessel through logbooks and/or through observer programs.

REPORTING REQUIREMENT 1:

INFORMATION AND DATA COLLECTED ON INTERACTIONS (I.E. NUMBER OF DISCARDS AND RELEASES) BY VESSELS THROUGH LOGBOOKS AND/OR OBSERVER PROGRAMS. (PARA 8)

IMPLEMENTATION

- How to report: Flag CPCs are required to fill in the reporting template.
- Reporting format: CPCs are required to complete a reporting template available at <https://www.iotc.org/compliance/reporting-templates> (Form 1D1)
- Where to send the information: The report should be sent to iotc-secretariat@fao.org

REPORTING REQUIREMENT 2:

SUBMIT SAMPLING PLANS FOR MONITORING MOBULID RAYS CATCHES BY SUBSISTENCE/ ARTISANAL FISHERIES (UNLESS MOBULIDS DO NOT OCCUR IN FISHERIES) (PARA 11)

IMPLEMENTATION

- How to report: In the national report to the Scientific Committee, but only if mobulid rays occur in the CPC's fisheries.
- Reporting format: In the format used for Scientific Committee reports available at <https://www.iotc.org/science>
- Where to send the information: The report should be sent to iotc-secretariat@fao.org

REPORTING REQUIREMENT 3:

SUBMIT REPORT OF RESEARCH PROJECT ON COLLECTION OF SAMPLES OF MOBULID RAYS DEAD AT HAUL-BACK (AS APPLICABLE) (PARA 14)

IMPLEMENTATION

- How to report: To the Scientific Committee.
- Reporting format: As may be required in the project approved by the Scientific Committee annual progress and a final report to the Scientific Committee available at: <https://www.iotc.org/science>
- Where to send the information: The report should be sent to iotc-secretariat@fao.org



TRANSPOSITION INTO NATIONAL LAW

PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

TO PROHIBIT ALL VESSELS FROM INTENTIONALLY SETTING GEAR FOR TARGETED FISHING OF MOBULID RAYS, RETAIN CARCASSES ONBOARD ETC. (PARAS 2 AND 3)

- 1) The operator of a [country] fishing vessel that is operating in the IOTC area of competence [and the operator of any foreign fishing vessel in areas under [country] jurisdiction]¹, except those that are engaged in subsistence fisheries and do not sell or offer for sale any part or whole carcass of mobulid rays, shall not:
- cause, enable or allow any gear type to be intentionally set for targeted fishing of mobulid rays if the mobulid ray is sighted prior to the commencement of the set;
 - retain onboard, tranship, land, store any part or whole carcass of any mobulid ray caught in the IOTC area of competence;

TO ENSURE RELEASE OF AND IMPLEMENT HANDLING PROCEDURES FOR MOBULID RAYS (PARA 5)

- 2) The operator of a [country] fishing vessel that is operating in the IOTC area of competence [and the operator of any foreign fishing vessel in areas under [country] jurisdiction] shall direct and ensure that:
- all mobulid rays are promptly released alive and unharmed, to the extent practicable, as soon as they are seen in the net, on the hook or on the deck in a manner that will result in the least possible harm to the individuals captured; and
 - handling procedures adopted by IOTC from time to time are followed.

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



COOPERATION REQUIREMENTS

None in this Resolution.

OBLIGATIONS OF THE INDUSTRY

None in this Resolution.

OBLIGATIONS OF THE SECRETARIAT

None in this Resolution.

OBLIGATIONS OF THE COMMISSION & BODIES

The Scientific Committee must:

- review the status of *Mobula spp.* in the IOTC area and provide management advice to the Commission in 2023, including also identification of possible hot-spots for conservation and management of mobulids within and beyond EEZs;
- provide, whenever considered adequate on the basis of evolving knowledge and scientific advice, further improvements to the handling procedures in Annex I.



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