

June 20 2008

**IOTC CIRCULAR: 07-08**

**SUBJECT: CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES ADOPTED BY IOTC AT ITS TWELFTH REGULAR SESSION**

Dear Sir/ Madam

I have the honour to transmit to you the texts of five Resolutions adopted by the Commission at its 12<sup>th</sup> regular Session in Muscat, Oman.

Pursuant to Article IX.4 of the IOTC Agreement, the following Resolutions shall become binding on Members 120 days from the date of this notification, i.e. 18 October 2008.

- Resolution 08/01 Mandatory Statistical Requirements For IOTC Members and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CPC's)
- Resolution 08/02 On Establishing a Programme for Transshipment by Large-Scale Fishing Vessels
- Resolution 08/03 On Reducing the Incidental Bycatch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries
- Resolution 08/04 Concerning the Recording of Catch by Longline Fishing Vessels in the IOTC Area

The texts of the Resolutions follow herewith.

Yours sincerely



Alejandro Anganuzzi  
*Executive Secretary*

**Attachments:**

- Guide to IOTC data reporting requirements

**Distribution**

**IOTC Members:** Australia, Belize, China, Comores, Eritrea, European Community, France, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tanzania, Thailand, United Kingdom, Vanuatu.

**IOTC Chairperson.**

**Cooperating non contracting parties:** Senegal, South Africa, Uruguay.

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**RESOLUTION 08/01**  
**MANDATORY STATISTICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR IOTC MEMBERS AND**  
**COOPERATING NON-CONTRACTING PARTIES (CPC'S)**

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)**

GIVEN 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.

NOTING that the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation (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 organizations and provide them in a timely manner to the organization.

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.

COGNISANT that the above commitment can only be achieved when members meet the requirements of Article XI of the IOTC Agreement i.e. to provide statistical and other data and information to minimum specifications and in a timely manner.

ACKNOWLEDGING that the IOTC Scientific Committee has repeatedly stressed the importance of the timeliness of data submissions.

GIVEN that the activities of supply vessels and the use of Fish Aggregating Devices (FAD) are an integral part of the fishing effort exerted by the purse seine fleet.

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

1. CPC's shall provide the following information to the IOTC Secretariat according to the timelines specified in paragraph 6:

**2. Nominal catch data:**

Estimates of the total annual catch by species and gear for all species under the IOTC mandate.

**3. Catch and effort data:**

(a) **For surface fisheries:** catch weight by species and fishing effort shall be provided by 1° grid area and month strata. Purse seine fishery data shall be stratified by fishing mode (e.g. free swimming schools or schools in association with floating objects). The data shall be extrapolated to the total national monthly catches for each gear. Documents describing the extrapolation procedures (including raising factors corresponding to the logbook coverage) shall also be submitted routinely.

(b) **Longline fisheries:** catch by species, in numbers or weight, and effort as the number of hooks deployed shall be provided by 5° grid area and month strata. Documents describing the extrapolation procedures (including raising factors corresponding to the logbook coverage) shall also be submitted routinely. For the work of relevant working parties under the IOTC Scientific Committee, longline data should be of a resolution of 1° grid area and month or finer. These data would be for the exclusive use of IOTC scientists, subject to the approval of the data owners and IOTC Resolution 98/02 Data confidentiality policy and procedures (Resolution 98/02), and should be provided for scientific use in a timely fashion.

(c) **For coastal fisheries:** available catch by species, fishing gear and fishing effort shall be submitted frequently and may be provided using an alternative geographical area if it better represents the fishery concerned.

These 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. CPC's are also encouraged to record and provide data on species other than sharks and tunas taken as bycatch.

#### **4. Size data:**

Size data shall be provided for all gears and for all species covered by the IOTC mandate according to the guidelines set out by the IOTC Scientific Committee. Size sampling shall be run under strict and well described random sampling schemes which are necessary to provide unbiased figures of the sizes taken. Length data by species, including the total number of fish measured, shall be submitted by a 5° grid area by month, by gear and fishing mode (e.g. free swimming schools or schools in association with floating objects for the purse seiners).

**5.** Given that the activities of supply vessels and the use of **Fish Aggregating Devices (FAD)** are an integral part of the fishing effort exerted by the purse seine fleet, the following data shall be provided:

- (a) The number and characteristics of supply vessels: (i) operating under their flag, (ii) assisting purse seine vessels operating under their flag, or (iii) licensed to operate in their exclusive economic zones, and that have been present in the IOTC Area.
- (b) Number of days at sea by supply vessels by 1° grid area and month to be reported by the flag state of the supply vessel.
- (c) The total number and type of FADs set by the supply vessel and purse seine fleet per quarter. Types of FADs are defined as 1) drifting log or debris, 2) drifting raft or fad with a net, 3) drifting raft or fad without a net, 4) other (e.g. Payao, dead animal etc). All types monitored by a tracking system.

These data would be for the exclusive use of IOTC scientists, subject to the approval of the data owners and Resolution 98/02 *Data confidentiality policy and procedures*, and should be provided in a timely fashion.

#### **6. Timeliness of data submission to the IOTC Secretariat:**

- (a) Longline fleets operating in the high seas shall provide provisional data for the previous year no later than 30 June. Final data shall be submitted no later than 30 December.
- (b) All other fleets (including supply vessels) shall submit their final data for the previous year no later than 30 June.
- (c) In case where the final statistics cannot be submitted by that date, at least preliminary statistics should be provided. Beyond a delay of two years, all revisions of historical data should be formally reported and duly justified. These reports should be made on forms provided by the Secretariat and reviewed by the Scientific Committee. The Scientific Committee will advise the Secretariat if revisions are then accepted for scientific use.

7. This Resolution supersedes *Resolution 01/05 Mandatory statistical requirements for IOTC Members*

## **RESOLUTION 08/02**

### **ON ESTABLISHING A PROGRAMME FOR TRANSHIPMENT BY LARGE-SCALE FISHING VESSELS**

#### **The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission,**

TAKING ACCOUNT of the need to combat illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing activities because they undermine the effectiveness of the conservation and management measures already adopted by IOTC;

EXPRESSING GRAVE CONCERN that organized tuna laundering operations have been conducted and a significant amount of catches by IUU fishing vessels have been transhipped under the names of duly licensed fishing vessels;

IN VIEW THEREFORE OF THE NEED to ensure the monitoring of the transhipment activities by large-scale longline vessels in the Convention area, including the control of their landings;

TAKING ACCOUNT of the need to collect catch data of such large scale long-line tuna to improve the scientific assessments of those stocks;

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

#### **SECTION 1. GENERAL RULE**

1. Except under the special conditions outlined below in Section 2 for transhipment operations at sea, all transhipment operations of tuna and tuna like species in the IOTC Area must take place in port.
2. The Flag Contracting Party, Cooperating non Contracting Party (CPCs) shall take the necessary measures to ensure that large scale tuna vessels (hereafter referred as the "LSTVs") flying their flag comply with the obligations set out in Annex 1 when transhipping in port.

#### **SECTION 2. PROGRAMME TO MONITOR TRANSHIPMENTS AT SEA**

3. The Commission hereby establishes a programme to monitor transhipment at sea which applies initially to large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels (hereafter referred to as the "LSTLVs") and to carrier vessels authorised to receive transhipments from these vessels at sea. The Commission shall at its 2010 Annual Meeting, review and, as appropriate, revise this Resolution.
4. The CPCs that flag LSTLVs shall determine whether or not to authorize their LSTLVs to tranship at sea. However, if the flag CPC authorizes the at-sea transhipment by its flag LSTLVs, such transhipment should be conducted in accordance with the procedures defined in Sections 3, 4 and 5, and annexes 2 and 3 below.

#### **SECTION 3. RECORD OF VESSELS AUTHORISED TO RECEIVE TRANSHIPMENTS-AT-SEA IN THE IOTC AREA**

5. The Commission shall establish and maintain an IOTC Record of Carrier Vessels authorized to receive tuna and tuna-like species at sea in the IOTC Area from LSTLVs. For the purposes of this Resolution, carrier vessels not entered on the record are deemed not to be authorized to receive tuna and tuna-like species in at-sea transhipment operations.
6. Each CPC shall submit, electronically where possible, to the IOTC Secretary by 1 July 2008 the list of the carrier vessels that are authorized to receive at-sea transhipments from its LSTLVs in the IOTC Area. This list shall include the following information:
  - a) The flag of the vessel
  - b) Name of vessel, register number
  - c) Previous name (if any)
  - d) Previous flag (if any)
  - e) Previous details of deletion from other registries (if any)
  - f) International radio call sign

- g) Type of vessels, length, gross tonnage (GT) and carrying capacity
  - h) Name and address of owner(s) and operator(s)
  - i) Time period authorised for transshipping
7. Each CPC shall promptly notify the IOTC Secretary, after the establishment of the initial IOTC Record, of any addition to, any deletion from and/or any modification of the IOTC Record, at any time such changes occur.
  8. The IOTC Secretary shall maintain the IOTC Record and take measures to ensure publicity of the record and through electronic means, including placing it on the IOTC website, in a manner consistent with confidentiality requirements notified by CPCs for their vessels.
  9. Carrier vessels authorized for at-sea transshipment shall be required to install and operate a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS).

#### **SECTION 4. AT-SEA TRANSHIPMENT**

10. Transshipments by LSTLVs in waters under the jurisdiction of the CPCs are subject to prior authorization from the Coastal State concerned. CPCs shall take the necessary measures to ensure that LSTLVs flying their flag comply with the following conditions:

##### **Flag State Authorization**

11. LSTLVs are not authorized to tranship at sea, unless they have obtained prior authorization from their Flag State.

##### **Notification obligations**

##### ***Fishing vessel:***

12. To receive the prior authorization mentioned in paragraph 11 above, the master and/or owner of the LSTLV must notify the following information to its Flag State authorities at least 24 hours in advance of an intended transshipment:
  - a) The name of the LSTLV and its number in the IOTC Record of Vessels,
  - b) The name of the carrier vessel and its number in the IOTC Record of Carrier Vessels authorized to receive transshipments in the IOTC area, and the product to be transhipped,
  - c) The tonnage by product to be transhipped,
  - d) The date and location of transshipment,
  - e) The geographic location of the tuna catches

13. The LSTLV concerned shall complete and transmit to its flag State, not later than 15 days after the transshipment, the IOTC transshipment declaration, along with its number in the IOTC record of fishing vessels, in accordance with the format set out in Annex 2.

##### ***Receiving carrier vessel:***

14. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall complete and transmit the IOTC transshipment declaration to the IOTC Secretariat and the flag CPC of the LSTLV, along with its number in the IOTC Record of Carrier Vessels authorized to receive transshipment in the IOTC area, within 24 hours of the completion of the transshipment.
15. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall, 48 hours before landing, transmit an IOTC transshipment declaration, along with its number in the IOTC Record of Carrier Vessels authorized to receive transshipment in the IOTC area, to the competent authorities of the State where the landing takes place.

##### ***Regional Observer Programme***

16. Each CPC shall ensure that all carrier vessels transshipping at sea have on board an IOTC observer, not later than 1 January 2009, in accordance with the IOTC Regional Observer Programme in Annex 3. The IOTC observer shall observe the compliance with this

Resolution, and notably that the transhipped quantities are consistent with the reported catch in the IOTC transhipment declaration.

17. Vessels shall be prohibited from commencing or continuing at-sea transshipping in the IOTC area without an IOTC regional observer on board, except in cases of 'force majeure' duly notified to the IOTC Secretariat.

## **SECTION 5 GENERAL PROVISIONS**

18. To ensure the effectiveness of the IOTC conservation and management measures pertaining to species covered by Statistical Document Programs:
  - a) In validating the Statistical Document, Flag CPCs of LSTLVs shall ensure that transshipments are consistent with the reported catch amount by each LSTLV.
  - b) The Flag CPC of LSTLVs shall validate the Statistical Documents for the transhipped fish, after confirming that the transshipment was conducted in accordance with this Resolution. This confirmation shall be based on the information obtained through the IOTC Observer Programme.
  - c) CPCs shall require that the species covered by the Statistical Document Programs caught by LSTLVs in the Convention area, when imported into the territory of a Contracting Party, be accompanied by statistical documents validated for the vessels on the IOTC record and a copy of the IOTC transhipment declaration.
19. The CPCs shall report annually before 15 September to the Secretary:
  - a) The quantities by species transhipped during the previous year.
  - b) The list of the LSTLVs registered in the IOTC Record of Fishing Vessels which have transhipped during the previous year.
  - c) A comprehensive report assessing the content and conclusions of the reports of the observers assigned to carrier vessels which have received transshipment from their LSTLVs.
20. All tuna and tuna-like species landed or imported into the CPCs either unprocessed or after having been processed on board and which are transhipped, shall be accompanied by the IOTC transhipment declaration until the first sale has taken place.
21. Each year, the Secretary shall present a report on the implementation of this Resolution to the annual meeting of the Commission which shall review compliance with this Resolution.
22. These provisions will be applicable from July 1st, 2008.
23. *Resolution 06/02 On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels* is superseded by this Resolution.

## **RESOLUTION 08/02 - ANNEX 1**

### **CONDITIONS RELATING TO IN-PORT TRANSHIPMENT BY LSTVs**

#### **General**

- 1 Transshipment operations in port may only be undertaken in accordance with the procedures detailed below:

#### **Notification obligations**

##### **2 Fishing vessel:**

- 2.1 Prior to transshipping, the Captain of the LSTV must notify the following information to the Port State authorities, at least 48 hours in advance:
  - a) the name of the LSTV and its number in the IOTC record of fishing vessels,
  - b) the name of the carrier vessel, and the product to be transhipped,
  - c) the tonnage by product to be transhipped,
  - d) the date and location of transshipment,
  - e) the major fishing grounds of the tuna and tuna like species catches
- 2.2 The Captain of a LSTV shall, at the time of the transshipment, inform its Flag State of the following:
  - a) The products and quantities involved
  - b) the date and place of the transshipment
  - c) the name, registration number and flag of the receiving carrier vessel
  - d) the geographic location of the tuna and tuna like species catches.
- 2.3 The captain of the LSTV concerned shall complete and transmit to its Flag State the IOTC transshipment declaration, along with its number in the IOTC Record of Fishing Vessels, in accordance with the format set out in Annex 2 not later than 15 days after the transshipment.

#### ***Receiving vessel:***

- 3 Not later than 24 hours before the beginning and at the end of the transshipment, the master of the receiving carrier vessel shall inform the Port State authorities of the quantities of tuna and tuna-like species transhipped to his vessel, and complete and transmit the IOTC transshipment declaration, to the competent authorities within 24 hours.

#### ***Landing State:***

- 4 The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall, 48 hours before landing, complete and transmit an IOTC transshipment declaration, to the competent authorities of the Landing State where the landing takes place.
- 5 The Port State and the Landing State referred to in the above paragraphs shall take the appropriate measures to verify the accuracy of the information received and shall cooperate with the flag CPC of the LSTV to ensure that landings are consistent with the reported catches amount of each vessel. This verification shall be carried out so that the vessel suffers the minimum interference and inconvenience and that degradation of the fish is avoided.
- 6 Each flag CPC of the LSTV shall include in its annual report each year to IOTC the details on the transshipments by its vessels.

**RESOLUTION 08/02 - ANNEX 2**  
**IOTC TRANSHIPMENT DECLARATION**

<b>Carrier Vessel</b>	<b>Fishing Vessel</b>
Name of the Vessel and Radio Call Sign:	Name of the Vessel and Radio Call Sign:
Flag:	Flag:
Flag state license number:	Flag state license number:
National Register Number, if available:	National Register Number, if available:
IOTC Register Number, if available:	IOTC Register Number, if available:

	Day	Month	Hour	Year	2_ 0_ _ _	Agent's name:	Master's name of LSTV:	Master's name of Carrier:
Departure	_ _	_ _	_ _	from	_ _ _ _			
Return	_ _	_ _	_ _	to	_ _ _ _	Signature:	Signature:	Signature :
Transhipment	_ _	_ _	_ _		_ _ _ _			

Indicate the weight in kilograms or the unit used (e.g. box, basket) and the landed weight in kilograms of this unit: |\_\_\_\_\_| kilograms

**LOCATION OF TRANSHIPMENT**

Species	Port	Sea	Type of product										
			Whole	Gutted	Headed	Filletted							

If transhipment effected at sea, IOTC Observer Name and Signature:



## **RESOLUTION 08/02 - ANNEX 3**

### **IOTC REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAMME**

- 1 Each CPC shall require carrier vessels included in the IOTC Record of Carrier Vessels authorised to receive transshipments in the IOTC Area and which tranship at sea, to carry an IOTC observer during each transshipment operation in the Convention area.
- 2 The Secretary shall appoint the observers and shall place them on board the carrier vessels authorized to receive transshipments in the IOTC Area from LSTLVs flying the flag of Contracting Parties and of Cooperating non-Contracting Parties that implement the IOTC observer program.

#### **Designation of the observers**

- 3 The designated observers shall have the following qualifications to accomplish their tasks:
  - a) sufficient experience to identify species and fishing gear;
  - b) satisfactory knowledge of the IOTC conservation and management measures;
  - c) the ability to observe and record information accurately;
  - d) a satisfactory knowledge of the language of the flag of the vessel observed.

#### **Obligations of the observer**

- 4 Observers shall:
  - a) have completed the technical training required by the guidelines established by IOTC;
  - b) not be, to the extent possible, nationals of the flag State of the receiving carrier vessel;
  - c) be capable of performing the duties set forth in point 5 below;
  - d) be included in the list of observers maintained by the Secretariat of the Commission;
  - e) not be a crew member of an LSTLV or an employee of an LSTLV company.
- 5 The observer tasks shall be in particular to:
  - a) On the Fishing Vessel intending to tranship to the carrier vessel and before the transshipment takes place, the observer shall:
    - i. check the validity of the fishing vessel's authorisation or licence to fish tuna and tuna like species in the IOTC area;
    - ii. check and note the total quantity of catch on board, and the quantity to be transferred to the carrier vessel;
    - iii. check that the VMS is functioning and examine the logbook;
    - iv. verify whether any of the catch on board resulted from transfers from other vessels, and check documentation on such transfers;
    - v. in the case of an indication that there are any violations involving the fishing vessel, immediately report the violations to the carrier vessel master.
    - vi. report the results of these duties on the fishing vessel in the observer's report.
  - b) On the Carrier Vessel:

Monitor the carrier vessel's compliance with the relevant conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission. In particular the observers shall:

    - i. record and report upon the transshipment activities carried out;
    - ii. verify the position of the vessel when engaged in transshipping;

- iii. observe and estimate products transhipped;
  - iv. verify and record the name of the LSTLV concerned and its IOTC number;
  - v. verify the data contained in the transshipment declaration;
  - vi. certify the data contained in the transshipment declaration;
  - vii. countersign the transshipment declaration;
  - viii. issue a daily report of the carrier vessel's transshipping activities;
  - ix. establish general reports compiling the information collected in accordance with this paragraph and provide the captain the opportunity to include therein any relevant information.
  - x. submit to the Secretariat the aforementioned general report within 20 days from the end of the period of observation.
  - xi. exercise any other functions as defined by the Commission.
- 6 Observers shall treat as confidential all information with respect to the fishing operations of the LSTLVs and of the LSTLVs owners and accept this requirement in writing as a condition of appointment as an observer;
- 7 Observers shall comply with requirements established in the laws and regulations of the flag State which exercises jurisdiction over the vessel to which the observer is assigned.
- 8 Observers shall respect the hierarchy and general rules of behavior which apply to all vessel personnel, provided such rules do not interfere with the duties of the observer under this program, and with the obligations of vessel personnel set forth in paragraph 9 of this program.

### **Obligations of the Flag States of carrier vessels**

- 9 The responsibilities regarding observers of the flag States of the carrier vessels and their captains shall include the following, notably:
- a) Observers shall be allowed access to the vessel personnel and to the gear and equipment;
  - b) Upon request, observers shall also be allowed access to the following equipment, if present on the vessels to which they are assigned, in order to facilitate the carrying out of their duties set forth in paragraph 5:
    - i. Satellite navigation equipment;
    - ii. Radar display viewing screens when in use;
    - iii. Electronic means of communication;
  - c) Observers shall be provided accommodation, including lodging, food and adequate sanitary facilities, equal to those of officers;
  - d) Observers shall be provided with adequate space on the bridge or pilot house for clerical work, as well as space on deck adequate for carrying out observer duties; and
  - e) The flag States shall ensure that captains, crew and vessel owners do not obstruct, intimidate, interfere with, influence, bribe or attempt to bribe an observer in the performance of his/her duties.
- 10 The Secretary, in a manner consistent with any applicable confidentiality requirements, is requested to provide to the flag State of the carrier vessel under whose jurisdiction the vessel transhipped and to the Flag CPC of the LSTLV, copies of all raw data, summaries, and reports pertaining to the trip.

### **Obligations of LSTLV during transshipment**

- 11 Observers shall be allowed to visit the fishing vessel, if weather conditions permit it, and access shall be granted to personnel and areas of the vessel necessary to carry out their duties set forth in paragraph 5.
- 12 The Secretary shall submit the observer reports to the Compliance Committee and to the Scientific Committee.

**Observer fees**

- 13 The costs of implementing this program shall be financed by the flag CPCs of LSTLVs wishing to engage in transshipment operations. The fee shall be calculated on the basis of the total costs of the program. This fee shall be paid into a special account of the IOTC Secretariat and the IOTC Secretary shall manage the account for implementing the program;
- 14 No observer shall be assigned to a vessel for which the fees, as required under paragraph 13, have not been paid.

## RESOLUTION 08/03

### ON REDUCING THE INCIDENTAL BYCATCH OF SEABIRDS IN LONGLINE FISHERIES

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

RECALLING *Resolution 06/04 On reducing Incidental Bycatch of Seabirds in longline fisheries*, and in particular, its paragraph 7:

RECOGNISING the need to strengthen mechanisms to protect seabirds in the Indian Ocean;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) International Plan of Action for Reducing the Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries (IPOA-Seabirds);

NOTING the recommendations of the IOTC Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB) on measures to mitigate seabird interactions as outlined in their 2007 Report;

ACKNOWLEDGING that to date some Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (hereinafter referred to as “CPCs”) have identified the need for, and have either completed or are near finalizing, their National Plan of Action on Seabirds;

RECOGNISING the concern that some species of seabirds, notably albatross and petrels, are threatened with global extinction;

NOTING that the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, which opened for signatures at Canberra on 19 June 2001, has entered into force;

NOTING that the ultimate aim of the IOTC and the CPCs is to achieve a zero bycatch of seabirds for fisheries under the purview of the IOTC, especially threatened albatrosses and petrel species in longline fisheries;

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

1. CPCs shall seek to achieve reductions in levels of seabird bycatch across all fishing areas, seasons, and fisheries through the use of effective mitigation measures.
2. Fishing operations shall be conducted in such a way that hooklines<sup>1</sup> sink beyond the reach of seabirds as soon as possible after they are put in the water.
3. CPCs shall ensure that all longline vessels fishing south of 30°S use at least two of the mitigation measures in Table 1 below, including at least one from Column A. Vessels shall not use the same measure from Column A and Column B.
4. In all other areas, CPCs may require that longline vessels use at least one of the measures in Table 1.
5. Mitigation measures used shall conform to the minimum technical standards for the measures as shown in Annex 1.
6. The design and deployment for bird scaring lines shall meet the specifications provided in Annex 2.
7. CPCs shall provide to the Commission, as part of their annual reports, information on how they are implementing this measure and all available information on interactions with seabirds, including bycatch by fishing vessels carrying their flag or authorised to fish by them. This is to including details of species where available to enable the Scientific Committee to annually estimate seabird mortality in all fisheries within the IOTC area of competence.

***Table 1: Seabird mitigation measures***

Column A	Column B
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<sup>1</sup> Hookline is defined as the groundline or mainline to which the baited hooks are attached by snoods.

Night setting with minimum deck lighting	Night setting with minimum deck lighting
Bird-scaring lines (Tori Lines)	Bird-scaring lines (Tori Lines)
Weighted branch lines	Weighted branch lines
	Blue-dyed squid bait
	Offal discharge control
	Line shooting device

8. The Scientific Committee, based notably on the work of the WPEB and information from CPCs, will analyse the impact of this Resolution on seabird bycatch no later than for the 2011 meeting of the Commission. It shall advise the Commission on any modifications that are required, based on experience to date of the operation of the Resolution and/or further international studies or research on the issue, in order to make the Resolution more effective.
9. *Resolution 06/04. On Reducing Incidental Bycatch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries* is superseded by this Resolution.

## ANNEX I

Mitigation Measure	Description	Specification
Night setting with minimum deck lighting	No setting between nautical dawn and before nautical dusk. Deck lighting to be kept to a minimum	Nautical dusk and nautical dawn are defined as set out in the Nautical Almanac tables for relevant latitude, local time and date. Minimum deck lighting should not breach minimum standards for safety and navigation.
Bird-scaring lines (tori lines)	A bird-scaring line shall be deployed during longline setting to deter birds from approaching the branch line.	Design and deployment for bird-scaring lines are provided in Annex 2 of this Resolution.
Weighted branch lines	Weights must be attached to all branch lines in accordance with specifications provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– minimum of 45 grams weight attached to all branch lines;</li> <li>– less than 60 grams weight must be within 1 metre of the hook;</li> <li>– 60 grams or greater and less than 98 grams must be within 3.5 metres of the hook; and</li> <li>– 98 grams or greater must be within 4 metres of the hook</li> </ul>
Blue-dyed squid bait	All bait must be dyed to the colour and shade shown in the placard provided by the IOTC Secretariat.	The standardized colour shall be equivalent to bait dyed using “Brilliant Blue” food dye (Colour Index 42090, also known as Food Additive Number E133) mixed at 0.5% for a minimum of 20 minutes.
Management of offal discharge	No offal discharge during setting. Strategic offal discharge may occur during hauling.	No offal discharge during setting. Offal discharge during hauling should be avoided if possible. If offal discharge is essential during hauling, it must be from the opposite side of the boat to hauling activity.
Line-setter or line-shooter	Permits a mainline to be set slack (no tension astern)	<p>Position line-setter as close to the water line as feasible.</p> <p>Ensure mainline is pulled at a constant speed and slightly faster than the speed of vessel during line-setting, to ensure lines are set slack to aid sinking rate. Avoid setting into propwash.</p>

## ANNEX II

### DESIGN AND DEPLOYMENT OF BIRD SCARING LINES (TORI LINES)

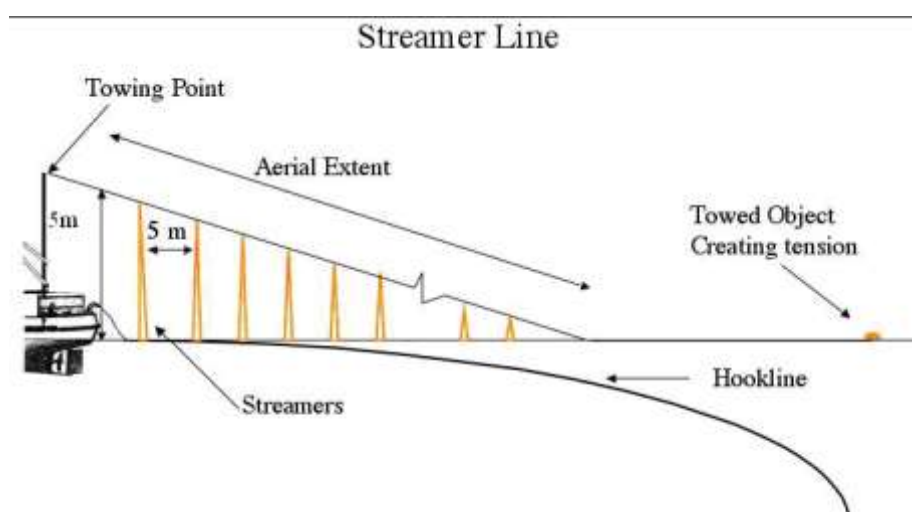
#### Bird-Scaring Line Design

1. The bird-scaring line shall be a minimum of 100 m in length and if less than 150 m in length will include an object towed at the seaward end to create tension to maximise aerial coverage. The section above water shall be a strong fine line of a conspicuous colour such as red or orange.
2. The above water section of the line shall be sufficiently light that its movement is unpredictable to avoid habituation by birds and sufficiently heavy to avoid deflection of the line by wind.
3. Streamers for the bird-scaring line shall be made of material that is conspicuous and produces an unpredictable lively action (e.g. strong fine line sheathed in red polyurethane tubing) and shall be suspended in pairs from a robust three-way swivel attached to the bird scaring line and shall hang just clear of the water.
4. There shall be a maximum of 5 m between each streamer pair.
5. The number of streamers shall be adjusted for the setting speed of the vessel, with more streamers necessary at slower setting speeds.

#### Deployment of Bird scaring Lines

1. The line shall be deployed before longlines enter into the water.
2. The line should have an aerial coverage of at least 100 metres. To achieve this coverage the line shall be suspended from a point a minimum of 5 metres above the water at the stern on the windward side of the point where the branch line enters the water.
3. The bird scaring line shall be set so that streamers pass over baited hooks in the water. The position of the object towed shall be maintained so as to ensure, even during crosswinds, that the aerial extent of the bird-scaring line is over the branch line as far astern of the vessel as possible.
4. Because there is the potential for line breakage and tangling, spare bird scaring lines shall be carried onboard to replace damaged lines and to ensure fishing operations can continue uninterrupted.

*Figure 1. Diagram of Bird-scaring Streamer Line.*



**RESOLUTION 08/04**  
**CONCERNING THE RECORDING OF CATCH BY LONGLINE FISHING VESSELS IN THE**  
**IOTC AREA**

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),**

TAKING NOTE of the results of the Inter-sessional Meeting on an Integrated Control and Inspection Scheme held in Yaizu, Japan from 27 to 29 March 2001;

CONSIDERING the provisions set forth in Resolution 01/05 Mandatory Statistical Requirements for IOTC Members, and in particular the requirements set out for surface fisheries/purse-seine fleets adopted by the Commission in 2001;

CONSIDERING the deliberations of the 9th Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee held in Victoria, Seychelles from 6 to 10 November 2006 where it agreed that a standardised logbook would be advantageous and agreed on the minimum data requirements for all purse-seine and bait boat fleets operating in the IOTC Area of Competence, in order to harmonize data gathering and provide a common basis for scientific analysis for all IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CPCs);

CONSIDERING the IOTC Resolution 07/03 *Concerning the Recording of Catch by Fishing Vessels in the IOTC Area*, and in particular its paragraph 3, whereby the CPCs committed themselves to adopt at 2008 annual session a minimum standard for logbooks for all longline vessels over 24 metres and those under 24 metres if they fish outside the EEZ of their flag State;

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, in order to harmonise the various forms currently used by the fleets and the IOTC Scientific Committee agreement on the minimum standard requirements for all longline fleets as well as the produced logbook template;

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

1. Each flag CPC shall ensure that all long line fishing vessels flying its flag and authorized to fish species managed by IOTC be subject to a data recording system. Within the IOTC Area of Competence, all long line vessels over 24 metres length and those under 24 metres if they fish outside the EEZs of their flag States shall keep a bound or electronic logbook to provide data for use by Working Parties and the Scientific Committee that includes, as a minimum requirement, the information and data in the logbook set forth in Annex I and II. Annex III provides a logbook template for illustrative purposes only.
2. This logbook format consists of two parts, Annex I and Annex II.  
  
Annex I includes information on vessel, trip and gear configuration, and should be written once for each trip.  
  
Annex II, which contains information of longline operation and catch, should be filled for each set.
3. The logbook data shall be provided by the fishing masters to the flag State administration, as well as to the coastal State administration where the vessel has fished in that coastal State's EEZ. The flag State and the States which receive this information shall provide all the data for any given year to the IOTC Secretariat and the Scientific Committee by June 30th of the following year on an aggregated basis. The confidentiality rules set out in Resolution 98/02 *Data Confidentiality Policy and Procedures* for fine-scale data shall apply.



## **ANNEX I**

### **Record once in one cruise**

#### **1-1 INFORMATION OF REPORT**

- 1) Date of the submission of logbook.
- 2) Name of reporting person

#### **1-2 VESSEL INFORMATION**

- 1) Vessel name
- 2) Call sign: If call sign is not available, other identical code as registration number should be used.
- 3) Vessel size: Gross tonnage (in MT) and/or overall length (in m)

#### **1-3 CRUISE INFORMATION**

- 1) Departure date and port
- 2) Arrival date and port

#### **1-4 GEAR CONFIGURATION**

- 1) Average Branch line length (m): Straight length in meter between snap and hook. See Figure 1.
- 2) Average Float line length (m): Straight length in meter from the float to the snap
- 3) Average Length between branch (m): Straight length of main line in meter between successive branch lines.
- 4) Main line material classified into four categories, Thick rope (Cremona rope), Thin rope (PE or other materials), Nylon braided and Nylon monofilament.

## ANNEX II

**Record one record for each set**

### 2-1 OPERATION

- 1) Date of set (YYYY/MM/DD).
- 2) Position in latitude and longitude: either at noon (local time) position or position of start of gear setting, area code of operation (e.g.. Seychelles EEZ, High Seas, etc.) may be used optionally;
- 3) Local Time (24hr) of starting setting gear;
- 4) Sea surface temperature at noon with one decimal point, if available (XX.X °C);
- 5) The number of hooks between floats: If different hooks between floats were used in a single set, record the most representative one;
- 6) The number of hooks used in the set;
- 7) Number of lighsticks used in the set;
- 8) Type of bait used in the set

### 2-2 CATCH / CAPTURES

- 1) Catch in number and weight by species per set for each of the species and form of processing in section 2-3

### 2-3 SPECIES / ESPÈCES

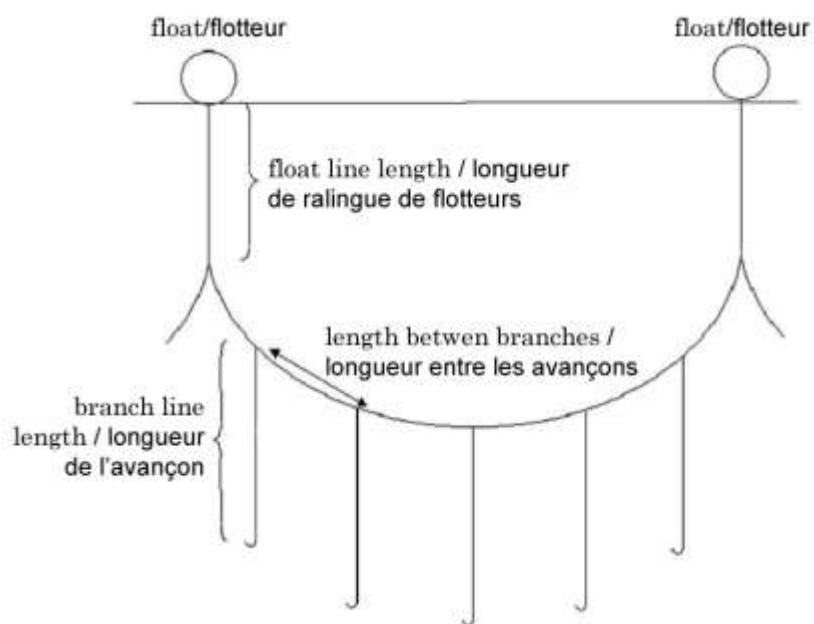
- 1) Southern bluefin,
- 2) Albacore,
- 3) Bigeye,
- 4) Yellowfin,
- 5) Skipjack
- 6) Swordfish
- 7) Marlins
- 8) Shortbill spearfish
- 9) Sailfish
- 10) Blue shark
- 11) Porbeagle
- 12) Mako shark
- 13) Other sharks
- 14) Other fishes

### 2-4 REMARKS / REMARQUES

- 1) Discard of tuna, tuna-like fish and sharks should be recorded in the remarks.
- 2) Other information is also written in the remarks.

**Note a:** These species included in the logbook is regarded as minimum requirement. Optionally other shark and/or fish species should be added. Maybe, other shark and fish species caught frequently would be different by area and fishery.

*Figure 1. Schematic diagram of longline gear / Diagramme schématique d'une palangre.*



# ANNEX III - ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY

## LOGBOOK TEMPLATE: Tuna Longliners / MODÈLE DE FICHE DE PÊCHE: palangriers thoniers

Flag country / Pavillon			
Date reported / Date de déclaration †		Name of captain / Nom du capitaine	
Reporting person / Personne déclarante	Name / Nom		Phone / Téléphone
Departure date / Date de départ †		Departure port / Port de départ	
Arrival date / Date d'arrivée †		Arrival port / Port d'arrivée	

Name of boat / nom du navire		
Vessel size / Taille du navire	GT (tons)/TB (tonnes)	LOA (m) / LHT (m)
License number / Numéro de licence		
Call sign / Indicatif radio		
Number of crew / Effectif équipage		

† use YYYY/MMDD for dates / utilisez AAAAMM/JJ pour les dates

Gear configuration / configuration de l'engin	
Branch line length / Longueur des avançons (m)	
Float line length / longueur des ralingues de flotteurs (m)	
Length between branch lines / longueur entre les avançons (m)	
Target / cibles	1. Tuna/thons ( ) 2. Swordfish/espadon ( ) 3. Other/ autres ( )

Type of weight / type de poids
<input type="checkbox"/> whole / entier
<input type="checkbox"/> processed / transformé

In each set, catch should be given both in number and weight (in kg) in upper and lower row, respectively

Pour chaque calée, les captures doivent être indiquées en nombre et poids (kg) respectivement dans les lignes supérieure et inférieure.

Date	Position								Tunas / thons					Billfishes / Portes-épée					Sharks / requins					Remarks (discard or other information) / remarques (rejets ou autres informations)	
	Latitude		Longitude						southern bluefin thon rouge	albacore germon	bigeye / patudo	yellowfin albacore	skipjack listao	Swordfish / espadon	Stripped marlin marlin ray	blue marlin marlin bleu	black marlin marlin noir	Sailfish / volier	Shortbill spearfish / marlin :roste court	Blue shark / Peau bleue	Porbeagle requin taupe	Mako / petite taupe			Other / autres
	Degree / Degr's a	NS	Degree / Degr's a	EW																					
		N S		E W																					
		N S		E W																					
		N S		E W																					
		N S		E W																					

for dates, use the YYYY/MM/DD format / pour les dates, utiliser le format AAAA/MM/JJ

a for positions, use the format: / pour les positions, utiliser le formatZ: XX° XX'

\*\* for SST, use a value with one decimal point / pour la SST, utiliser une valeur 0,1 d'cinale