
**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE SCHEME FOR THE CALCULATION OF
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET OF THE
COMMISSION CONTAINED IN THE ANNEX TO THE FINANCIAL
REGULATIONS**

SUBMITTED BY BELIZE

BACKGROUND



**INTERNATIONAL MERCHANT MARINE REGISTRY OF BELIZE
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To: Alejandro Anganuzzi

Executive Secretary – IOTC

Dear Mr. Anganuzzi,

Re: Calculation of Contributions to the Administrative Budget

You will recall that at the Twelfth Session of IOTC, our then Head Delegate had raised the abovementioned issue which is reflected in the Report of the aforementioned Session under Section 6 Any other Matters para 17 “Belize raised the issue that the current formula used to estimate member contributions appears to be inequitable in that countries with large catches appear to pay less per ton compared to countries with small catches”.

By way of an illustration of the inequitable nature of the current formula, kindly refer to the Table in Attachment 1 from which you will observe, inter alia, that Belize, with an average catch of only 1236 tons, contributed USD31,912 whereas China, with 144,610 tons contributed USD66,824, both countries being in the Middle income range of the World Bank Classification !!!

Consequently, in Attachment 2, please find our “Proposed Amendments to the Scheme for the Calculation of Contribution to the Administrative Budget of the Commission contained in the Annex to the Financial Regulations” **for consideration by the Commission at its Thirteenth Session.**

We kindly request you to circulate this email together with its Attachments to all CCNs of the Commission as soon as possible.

With kind regards,

Valerie Lanza

Fishing Vessels Manager

IMMARBE- Belize

Attachment 1

From IOTC-2008-S12-SCAF03-add1

Country	WB Classification	OECD	Average Catch	Contribution
Australia	High	Yes	7106	\$95,250.00
Belize	Middle	No	1236	\$31,912.00
China	Middle	No	144610	\$66,824.00
Comoros	Low	No	10565	\$15,855.00
Eritrea	Low	No	Below 400 t	\$6,110.00
European Community	High	Yes	298458	\$449,980.00
France(Terr)	High	Yes	1051	\$87,878.00
Guinea	Low	No	687	\$13,449.00
India	Low	No	93642	\$36,084.00
Indonesia	Middle	No	207571	\$82,156.00
Iran, Islamic Republic of	Middle	No	158934	\$70,312.00
Japan	High	Yes	42625	\$138,495.00
Kenya	Low	No	1851	\$13,733.00
Korea, Republic of	High	Yes	6177	\$94,118.00
Madagascar	Low	No	12091	\$16,226.00
Malaysia	Middle	No	17574	\$35,890.00
Mauritius	Middle	No	1889	\$32,071.00
Oman	Middle	No	31080	\$39,179.00
Pakistan	Low	No	26173	\$19,655.00
Philippines	Middle	No	3602	\$32,488.00
Seychelles	Middle	No	93337	\$54,339.00
Sri Lanka	Middle	No	102702	\$56,620.00
Sudan	Low	No	Below 400 t	\$6,110.00
Tanzania	Low	No	2027	\$13,775.00
Thailand	Middle	No	23108	\$37,238.00
United Kingdom(Terr)	High	Yes	Below 400 t	\$79,426.00
Vanuatu	Middle	No		\$24,439.00

Attachment 2

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE SCHEME FOR THE CALCULATION OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET OF THE COMMISSION CONTAINED IN THE ANNEX TO THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Submitted by Belize

Recalling that Article XIII of the Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission Paragraph 3(a) of which provides that:

“The amount of the contribution of each Member of the Commission shall be determined in accordance with a Scheme which the Commission shall adopt and amend by consensus”

and paragraph 3(b) of which provides that:

“In adopting the scheme, due consideration shall be given to **each Member being assessed an equal basic fee and a variable fee based, inter alia, on the total catch and landings of species covered by this Agreement in the Area, and the per capita income of each Member**”

and paragraph 3(c) of which provides that:

“The scheme adopted or amended by the Commission shall be set out in the Financial Regulations of the Commission”

Recognizing that the Annex to the Financial Regulations outlines the Scheme for Calculation of Contributions to the Administrative Budget of the Commission, the details of which are appended hereto, establishes as the basis of calculation **four criteria** for the Calculation of Contributions.

Conscious of the fact that the Scheme outlined in the Annex to the Financial Regulations benefits disproportionately fishing nations with large catches and inequitably burdens fishing nations with low catches, including developing nations.

Desiring the implementation of a just and equitable scheme which conforms with the **two criteria** established by Paragraph 3(b) of Article XIII of the Agreement.

Belize hereby proposes that:

1. At the Thirteenth Session of the IOTC, the Annex to the Financial Regulations be amended so as to conform with the **two criteria** established by Paragraph 3(b) of Article XIII of the Agreement.
2. The basis of calculation be as follows:
 - Twenty percent of the total budget shall be divided equally among the Members having fishing operations in the Area targeting species covered by the Commission.
 - Eighty percent of the total budget shall be allocated among the Members in proportion to their average catch in the three calendar years beginning with the five years before the year to which the contributions relate, weighted according to the economic status of the Members in accordance with the World Bank classification and subject to change in the classification thresholds: high income Members, middle income Members and low income Members. The coefficient to be used for each classification reflecting their development status shall be as follows: high income Members shall be weighted by a coefficient of 1, middle income Members by a coefficient of one-third, low income Members by a coefficient of one-fifth.