
13 April 2018

**IOTC CIRCULAR
2018–19**

Madam/Sir

COMMUNICATION FROM CHINA IN RESPONSE TO IOTC CIRCULAR 2018-017: REGARDING ALLEGED IUU FISHING ACTIVITIES IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE

Please find attached a communication from China related to the Circular 2018-17 on information on vessels allegedly involved in illegal at-sea transshipments.

Yours sincerely

Christopher O'Brien
Executive Secretary

Attachments:

- Letter from China

Distribution

IOTC Contracting Parties: Australia, China, Comoros, Eritrea, European Union, France (Territories), Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Rep of), Japan, Kenya, Rep. of Korea, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, United Rep. of Tanzania, Thailand, United Kingdom (OT), Yemen. **Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties:** Bangladesh, Liberia, Senegal. **Intergovernmental Organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations. Chairperson IOTC. Copy to:** FAO Headquarters, FAO Representatives to CPCs

This message has been transmitted by email only

中华人民共和国农业部渔业局

BUREAU OF FISHERIES, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

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April 10, 2018

Christopher O'Brien
Executive Secretary

Dear Mr. Christopher O'Brien:

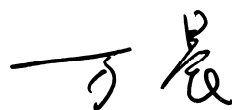
I am writing to convey you information in relation to two notices sent by Sea Shepherd Global which contained in IOTC CIRCULAR 2018-17 dated on 04 April 2018. It is advised that those vessels named *FU YUAN YU 831*, *FU YUAN YU 836*, and *FU YUAN YU 839* owned by the Fuzhou HongDong Pelagic Fishery Co., Ltd and *FU YUAN YU 9607 – 9621* owned by Fuzhou HongLong Fisheries Co., Ltd all operated in East Timorese waters with fishing licenses issued by East Timorese fisheries authority, the fishing gears used which were gillnets were also permitted pursuant to its fishing license.

As flag state, we haven't received any information in relation to those vessels' infringements from East Timorese side. But according to the recent news from other channels, the investigations mentioned in the notices sent by Sea Shepherd Global with regard to those detained vessels have almost finished and no violations in contradicting with local laws and regulations of East Timorese have been detected and confirmed in the conclusion, also, the East Timorese side welcome those vessels keep on fishing in their waters.

In this regard, we suggest IOTC Secretariat could contact relevant authority of East Timorese to clarify this issue; in the meantime, we oppose this case to be discussed in the forum of IOTC before the East Timorese give the full picture of this case and pursue to run this discussion in IOTC.

Please circulate this mail to all the CPCs of IOTC.

Kind regards



Wan Chen
Deputy Director, Division of Distant Water Fisheries
Bureau of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, P. R. China