

19 August 2020

## IOTC CIRCULAR 2020-35

Dear Sir/Madam

### REQUEST FOR OBSERVER STATUS FROM OCEANMIND

Please find attached a request letter from OCEANMIND to participate as an Observer to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission processes.

In accordance with Rule XIV of the IOTC Rules of Procedure, Contracting Parties of the Commission may wish to allow OCEANMIND to participate as an Observer given their interest in the IOTC as stipulated in the attached letter. Thus, unless any objections are received within 30 days of the date of this Circular, the IOTC Secretariat will consider that approval has been granted for the Executive Secretary to issue an invitation to the potential Observer to attend IOTC meetings accordingly.

Yours sincerely



Christopher O'Brien  
Executive Secretary

**Attachments:**

- Letter from OceanMind

Distribution

**IOTC Contracting Parties:** Australia, Bangladesh, China, Comoros, Eritrea, European Union, France (Territories), 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 ("BIOT"), Yemen. **Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties:** 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



19<sup>th</sup> August 2020  
In Harwell, Oxford

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Dear Ms. Ms Susan Imende Ugandi,

My name is Pablo Trueba, Senior Fisheries Analyst, at a non-profit organisation called OceanMind and I am writing to you requesting observer status to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) meetings under Article VII of the IOTC Agreement (OBSERVERS) and Rule XIV of the IOTC Rules of Procedure.

OceanMind is based in the United Kingdom and we work globally to increase the sustainability of fisheries by assisting governments and seafood industry. OceanMind specialises in empowering partners with their coastal, flag, port state and supply chain responsibilities through capacity building, analysis and technologies proven to detect and mitigate risks associated with commercial fishing and supply chain traceability.

OceanMind currently works to support and empower those with responsibility for the management of Indian Ocean Tuna stocks and increase supply chain compliance through the delivery of actionable intelligence. As such we would welcome the opportunity to support the IOTC achieve continuity of these fishing populations by ensuring commercial activities are carried out in a sustainable manner. It would be highly valuable for us to attend these meetings and help our partners to understand the strategy and actions of the commission, as well as support them to better align their future activities with the commission's direction.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this request for observer status at your earliest convenience. Many thanks for taking the time to consider our submission and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Pablo Trueba