



SIOFA | APSOI

Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
Accord relatif aux Pêches dans le Sud de l'Océan Indien

Report of the 12th Meeting of the Parties to the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA)

Hennessy Park Hotel, Ebene, Mauritius

30 June–4 July 2025

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Agenda item 1 – Opening of the meeting

1. The Chairperson of the Meeting of the Parties (MoP), Mr Ichiro Nomura (Japan), opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held at Hennessy Park Hotel, Ebene, Mauritius.

1.1 Opening statements

2. The Chairperson invited the Honourable Dr Arvin Boolell, Minister of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries of the Republic of Mauritius to make a welcome statement (**Annex A**).
3. The Chairperson made an opening statement (**Annex B**) and welcomed all delegates.
4. The Chairperson opened the floor for delegation introductions. The list of participants is available in **Annex C**.

1.2 Practical arrangements for the meeting

5. The Executive Secretary, Mr Thierry Clot, thanked the Government of the Republic of Mauritius for its financial support for hosting the meeting, the Honourable Minister Boolell and Senior Chief Executive Dr Dhanandjay Kawol of the Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries of Mauritius for their attendance, France Territories for providing funding for the interpretation arrangements, the Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of the MoP and its subsidiary bodies for their hard work over the past year, and the delegates for their participation. He also apologised for not being able to attend the CC9 meeting due to unforeseen circumstances and thanked the other Secretariat members for their excellent efforts in his absence. The progress of SIOFA depends on constructive discussions towards improvement of the long-term management and conservation of fisheries resources in the SIOFA Area. The Executive Secretary then explained the practical arrangements for the meeting.

1.3 Admission of observers

6. The MoP welcomed the Observers present at the meeting, which included Comoros and India as Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CNCs), as well as Kenya, South Africa, the United Nations (UN) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Deep-Sea Fisheries (DSF) Project, the Deep-Sea Conservation Coalition (DSCC), the Joint Commission of the Seychelles-Mauritius Joint Management Area (JMA), the Pew Charitable Trusts (Pew), and the Southern Indian Ocean Deepsea Fishers Association (SIODFA).

1.4 Status of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement

7. The FAO is the Depositary of the Agreement. The Executive Secretary provided an update on the Status of the Agreement in MoP-12-01 (**Annex D**), which confirms that there are 10 Contracting Parties (CPs), 1 Participating Fishing Entity (PFE) and 5 signatories, including 2 Cooperating non-Contracting Parties.
8. **The MoP NOTED the Status of the Agreement.**

1.5 Participation in decision-making

9. The Executive Secretary reported that all CPs and PFEs had paid their contribution for 2025. Therefore, all CPs and PFEs were entitled to participate in the taking of decisions during this meeting.

Agenda item 2 – Administrative arrangements

2.1 Adoption of the agenda

10. The Secretariat presented the revised provisional agenda (MoP-12-ADM-05).
11. The MoP moved the agenda item "IOTC" from 14.2.1. to 14.1.6 and renumbered the

associated and adjacent agenda items accordingly.

12. The MoP added the agenda item “14.3 Cooperation with SWIOP”.
13. The MoP reordered the sub-agenda items under agenda item 13 (Secretariat administration) as follows: 13.1 SIOFA Procurement Policy for High-Value Services / Goods; 13.2 Report on the Secretariat activities (since MoP11); 13.3 Financial Status; 13.4 SIOFA Budget.
14. The MoP incorporated the above revisions and adopted the agenda (**Annex E**).

2.2 Confirmation of meeting documents

15. The Chairperson informed the MoP that the list of meeting documents is presented in MoP-12-ADM-06-Rev6 (**Annex F**).
16. The MoP thanked the Secretariat for improving the management of meeting documents and respecting the categorisation of papers.
17. **The MoP TASKED the Secretariat to implement the following additional improvements:**
 - a. **More stringently distinguish between which working papers should be brought to the attention of the Scientific Committee (SC) and which to the MoP.**
 - b. **For papers that are submitted to both the Compliance Committee (CC) and the MoP, use the same title for both papers and attribute the same numbering, e.g., if a paper is CC-09-01, the identical MoP paper should be numbered MoP-12-01.**
 - c. **Add a column to the meeting page with the date on which a paper was published on the SIOFA website to enable users to more easily identify if and when a paper has been revised.**

2.3 Appointment of rapporteurs

18. The MoP agreed to appoint Mr Alexander Meyer (Urban Connections, Tokyo) as rapporteur.

Agenda item 3 – Intersessional Decision-Making

3.1 Review of intersessional decisions taken since MoP11

19. The Chairperson summarised the two intersessional decisions taken since the 11th MoP, as described in MoP-12-02. Intersessional decision 2024-I concerned the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the MoP and the Secretariat for the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP). The MoP reaffirmed its support for the MoU with the ACAP Secretariat and noted that the MoP Chairperson signed the MoU for a new period of six years. Intersessional decision 2024-II concerned the validation of the Comoros Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment (BFIA). The MoP evaluated the recommendations of the Second Extraordinary meeting of the Scientific Committee (SC-EXTRA2) on the Comoros BFIA and determined that, pursuant to Conservation and Management Measure (CMM) 01(2024) paragraph 31, the Comoros BFIA is acceptable and the vessel FV Rinascente may be authorised by Comoros to fish in the Agreement Area, subject to a number of conditions, including a total allowable catch (TAC), total allowable effort (TAE), and review of the fishery at SC10 and MoP12. A move-on rule for encounters with vulnerable marine ecosystem (VME) indicator taxa was added as a voluntary measure.
20. **The MoP NOTED the summary of intersessional decisions taken since MoP11.**
21. The European Union (EU) pointed out that intersessional decision 2024-II constituted a decision on a matter of substance and that according to Rule 13.2 of the Rules of Procedure (RoP), “Normally, the Meeting of the Parties shall only take intersessional decisions on matters of procedure. However, in exceptional circumstances, where an

urgent decision is necessary, the Meeting of the Parties may take intersessional decisions on matters of substance". The EU explained that at the time of the intersessional decision, it had requested that an additional condition be applied to the fishing activities by FV Rinascente for the protection of VMEs, but was informed that the setting of an additional mandatory condition would require an additional intersessional decision, which would delay the proposed fishing activities. The EU explained that despite its reservations, the EU demonstrated flexibility and agreed to have the condition only be applied on a voluntary basis. The EU stated that, nevertheless, it considered it inappropriate to take an intersessional decision on a matter of substance without allowing all CCPs' views to be expressed and reflected, and that it would therefore not accommodate such requests for intersessional decisions on matters of substance in the future.

22. The Cook Islands shared the EU's discomfort with the extensive efforts taken to accommodate an unusual and exceptional circumstance and agreed that this practice should not be repeated.
23. The Cook Islands expressed the view that Comoros' lobster fishery would constitute a new fishery and noted that the MoP should determine whether this is the case. If so, Comoros would need to submit a Fishery Operation Plan (FOP) to the SC and the CC for their review.
24. Japan explained that it had submitted a proposal (MoP-12-40) aimed at designating Comoros' lobster fishery as a new and exploratory fishery and avoiding a similar occurrence in the future.
25. The MoP discussed the status of Comoros' lobster fishery further under agenda item 6.
26. The MoP recalled another matter that had occurred in the intersessional period, albeit one that did not involve an intersessional decision. This matter concerned the notification sent by the Russian research vessel *Atlantida* to the Secretariat regarding its plans to conduct research activities in the SIOFA Area. The MoP discussed this matter further under agenda item 4.4.

Agenda item 4 – Compliance Committee (CC) and report of the CC9

4.1 Presentation of the report of the 9th Compliance Committee

27. The CC Chairperson, Mrs Meera Koonjul (Mauritius), presented a summary of the report of the 9th meeting of the CC (CC9), which was held at Hennessy Park Hotel, Ebene, Mauritius, on 25–27 June 2025. The CC9 report is available as MoP-12-17.
28. The MoP reviewed the advice and recommendations of the CC9 report.

4.2 SIOFA Compliance Report (SCR)

29. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 28 of the CC9 report regarding the CC's adoption of the provisional Compliance Report (pSCR) and the pending status of the provisional compliance status of Seychelles for implementation of paragraphs 1 & 7 of CMM 07 (2024) on Vessel Authorisation.**
30. The Compliance Officer, Mr Johnny Louys, presented the pSCR adopted by the CC, as described in MoP-12-18, and outlined the decisions of the CC9 on the provisional compliance status for each CCP, for review by the MoP.
31. Seychelles expressed concern about the interpretation, assessment and implementation of CMM 07(2024) (Vessel Authorisation) regarding incidental catches of oilfish by Seychelles' longline vessels authorised by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), as it involves a technically complex issue regarding handling longline vessels under another regional fisheries management organisation's (RFMO's) jurisdiction. Therefore,

Seychelles' longline fishing vessels targeting tuna and tuna-like species under the IOTC mandate should not be deemed non-compliant solely based on incidental oilfish bycatch within their overlapping area of competence since oilfish is an associated pelagic species in tuna fisheries, occurring in areas where the IOTC and SIOFA overlap. This ambiguity places an undue compliance burden on vessels and flag States operating under IOTC rules and would be disproportionate.

32. Seychelles recommended the MoP to consider a risk-based and science-informed approach to defining when a vessel is deemed to be fishing under SIOFA competence and urged the MoP to define clear criteria for compliance in overlapping RFMO areas, especially where incidental bycatch is concerned.
33. **The MoP considered the status of Seychelles' compliance with paragraphs 1 & 7 of CMM 07 (2024) on Vessel Authorisation and AGREED to assign a final compliance status of "not assessed".**
34. The MoP noted that India had not been present at CC9 and had been unable to answer the CC's questions on a number of outstanding compliance issues. The MoP invited India to provide a response.
35. India explained that due to technical issues, it had had trouble engaging in email communication with the SIOFA Secretariat and had therefore had difficulty in attending the CC meetings, had submitted its compliance report one day late, and had been unable to respond to the follow-up questions from the Secretariat. India informed the MoP that it intended to provide the requested information later during the meeting.
36. Several CCPs noted that India had not provided any additional information that warranted assigning final compliance statuses that differed from the provisional compliance statuses assigned by the CC for India's compliance with the SIOFA CMMs.
37. The EU noted that India had been requested to provide the missing information since MoP11 and that India had previously committed to implementing the obligations of SIOFA, which apply to India, as a CNCP, regardless of whether it is actively engaged in fishing. The EU also noted that India was once again absent from the CC meeting, pointing out that it was a hybrid meeting with remote attendance being an option. The EU expressed concern that India's commitment to the SIOFA compliance process is not at the level that is expected of a CNCP, which should be noted when the MoP considers the renewal of its CNCP status.
38. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 39 of the CC9 report regarding CCPs' different views on the interpretation of the definition of established fisheries and new and exploratory fisheries and the CC's recommendation that the MoP discuss this matter further.**
39. **The MoP AGREED to hold further discussions on the definition of established fisheries and new and exploratory fisheries and AGREED that, in the absence of a clear definition at this time against which to assess CCPs' compliance, Mauritius' final compliance status against paragraph 15 of CMM 17(2024) should be "not assessed".**
40. **The MoP ADOPTED the final SIOFA Compliance Report outlined in Annex G.**

4.3 Report of Intersessional Vessel Monitoring System working group

41. The Compliance Officer presented MoP-12-31-Rev1, which provided an update on the progress made by the Working Group to Support the Establishment of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement Vessel Monitoring System (VMS WG) since MoP11. The VMS WG held three intersessional meetings, during which it produced an options paper for hosting the SIOFA VMS, drafted terms of reference for procurement, and suggested potential amendments to CMMs and SIOFA SSPs to support the entry into operation of the SIOFA VMS. The VMS WG also prepared an updated work plan with the

implementation status of planned activities and necessary new activities.

42. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 148 of the CC9 report, ADOPTED the updated VMS WG Work Plan (Annex H) and TASKED the VMS WG to continue its work.**
43. The Compliance Officer presented MoP-12-30, which provided the outcomes of the VMS WG's assessment of potential hosting options for the SIOFA VMS and an Options Paper for the Hosting of the SIOFA Vessel Monitoring System prepared based on the VMS WG's discussions. The VMS WG considered two possible hosting options: Software as a Product (SaaS) and Software as a Service (SaaS), along with their operational and technical considerations, indicative costs and resource implications, and practices by other RFMOs. The key difference between the options is that SaaS requires the Secretariat to host the necessary infrastructure to operate the VMS, while SaaS involves the VMS being hosted online by the service provider. The VMS WG noted that a SaaS system may have substantially higher operational costs and resource requirements compared to a SaaS system while offering minimum additional benefit. The VMS WG expressed general support for a SaaS option over a SaaS option.
44. **The MoP NOTED the CC's recommendation in paragraph 150 of the CC9 report and AGREED to opt for a SaaS-deployed SIOFA VMS.**
45. The EU explained that its voluntary funding would cover not only acquisition of the VMS but also the first few years of operation. Therefore, the EU suggested that the discussion of how future costs would be covered could be held after the operationalization of the VMS, at which point factors such as the actual number of vessels and the actual costs would become clearer.
46. The MoP thanked the EU for providing voluntary funding to support the acquisition and operationalization of the SIOFA VMS.
47. France Territories reiterated the point it made at meetings of the VMS WG that France would not be able to cover any additional SIOFA Headquarters-related costs that may arise from the installation of the SIOFA VMS.

4.4 Listing of IUU fishing vessels

48. The Compliance Officer presented the Provisional IUU Vessel List (MoP-12-19), which provided information relevant to the listing of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing vessels, including the draft IUU vessel list, a request for the removal of a vessel from the SIOFA IUU Vessel List and relevant supporting documents, proposed modifications to the current SIOFA IUU vessels list, and vessels proposed for cross-listing from the IOTC IUU Vessel List.
49. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 114 of the CC9 report that no vessels had been proposed for inclusion on the draft SIOFA IUU vessel list.**
50. **The MoP NOTED the CC's recommendation in paragraph 123 of the CC9 report and ENDORSED the proposed modifications to the current SIOFA IUU vessels list to reflect the most recent changes from other RFMOs and to correct typographical errors, as shown in CC-09-04 (MoP-12-19).**
51. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 129 of the CC9 report and agreed to add the three new vessels on the IOTC IUU Vessel List to the SIOFA IUU Vessel List as cross-listed vessels.**
52. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 130 of the CC9 report that the CC had not made any recommendations to remove any vessel from the current IUU vessel list. At the same time, the MoP also NOTED paragraph 122 of the CC9 report, whereby CCPs could not reach a consensus decision at CC9 on the request for the removal of the vessel *EI Shaddai* from the current SIOFA IUU vessels list and the CC recommended that the MoP discuss this matter further.**

53. South Africa explained that, in response to the actions of the *El Shaddai*, it has extensively amended conditions of the Patagonian toothfish permits and added conditions to the relevant high seas vessel licenses to ensure that the conditions are clear and unambiguous, thereby enabling a successful prosecution to any future contravention; has embarked on an amendment process to further enhance the Marine Living Resources Act to add clarity on the relevant issues; continued to effectively monitor and control vessels' movements in the SIOFA Area; and effectively suspended the vessel owner's Patagonian toothfish right for some four years by refusing to issue a permit to the vessel owner, thereby causing a substantial loss of income to the company in an amount that is far more significant than any fine that could have been imposed during a criminal prosecution.
54. South Africa also expressed understanding for the concerns raised by the EU at CC9 that South Africa had not satisfied all the conditions of paragraph 28 of CMM 06(2024) (IUU Vessel List), specifically the requirements to take effective action in response to the IUU fishing, including prosecution and imposition of sanctions of adequate severity, or alternatively a change in vessel ownership, but reiterated its position as follows. South Africa initiated and pursued all possible legislative options available to it. Unfortunately, this did not result in the desired sanction, as the Director for Public Prosecutions was unwilling to prosecute the matter. South Africa has therefore exhausted all its options. In the absence of criminal action, the owner could not be charged again, but South Africa refused to issue the owner with a permit to fish for a period of four years, thereby deterring future violations and effecting a more significant financial loss than the maximum criminal fine that could have been imposed. South Africa requested that CMM 06(2024) be interpreted based on context and its intended purpose, rather than in literal terms, taking into consideration the diverse nature of each country's legal system, and that the *El Shaddai* be removed from the current SIOFA IUU vessels list.
55. The EU thanked South Africa for its constructive discussions and cooperativeness. The EU emphasised the very strict standards in CMM 06(2024) noting that paragraph 28 provides three conditions for de-listing an IUU vessel, the third one of which, covered by subparagraphs (c) and (d), provides two alternatives: the flag State must demonstrate that it has taken effective action in response to the IUU fishing, including prosecution or that the vessel has changed ownership. The EU emphasised that the wording is "including prosecution" rather than "such as" or "for example". The EU noted that given there was no effective prosecution, the only sanction on the vessel owner and the vessel itself was a suspension of license, which is not sufficient to meet the standards of the CMM. The EU expressed understanding for South Africa's situation and the independent powers of public prosecutors but reiterated its discomfort with ignoring the literal wording of the CMM and cautioned against setting an undesirable precedent by deviating from it.
56. Australia agreed that the CC had been correct in assessing the request against the provisions of the CMM, concluding that the criteria in paragraphs 28(c) and (d) of CMM 06(2024) had not been met, and forwarding the decision to the MoP for further consideration. At the same time, it recognised the need to respect each country's own legal system and the decision of the Director of Public Prosecutions to not prosecute the vessel owner was independent of the fisheries authority. Australia indicated that it would not object to de-listing the vessel, but cautioned that this must not set a precedent and that each case must be considered based on the individual circumstances and the evidence received.

57. The Cook Islands agreed that the MoP and its subsidiary bodies must apply the provisions of CMM 06(2024) and that the criteria in paragraphs 28(c) and (d) of CMM 06(2024) had not been met. It also noted that there were some circumstances that complicated South Africa's ability to fulfil these criteria. The Cook Islands noted that, under paragraph 28(c) of CMM 06(2024), the flag State must take effective action and that this requires positive action from the flag State, rather than any omission. The Cook Islands recognised the need to respect each country's own national legal system and processes. However, it noted that domestic frameworks must not subvert international legal requirements. The Cook Islands indicated that, in the event there was consensus to delist, the MoP must avoid setting a precedent and ensure that the onus remains on any flag State requesting the removal of a vessel from the IUU vessel list to fulfil the requirements of paragraph 28 of CMM 06(2024).
58. Japan stated that it would not object to de-listing the vessel, expressing understanding for the difficult situation faced by South Africa and the extensive efforts it made under those circumstances. Japan also pointed out that since South Africa was not able to prosecute the vessel owner as required in paragraph 28(c) of CMM 06(2024), it would not realistically be able to realise a change in vessel ownership and thereby fulfil the alternative criterion in paragraph 28(d).
59. China stated that it would not object to de-listing the vessel, pointing out that South Africa had exhausted all legal remedies, cautioning against interpreting CMM 06(2024) from a purely literal standpoint, and noting that the financial losses for the company to not be issued a fishing permit constitutes a strong sanction.
60. The EU disagreed with South Africa's interpretation of the provisions of CMM 06(2024). The financial losses resulting from the inclusion of *El Shaddai* on IUU Vessel Lists cannot be considered a "prosecution and imposition of sanctions of adequate severity" in the meaning of paragraph 28(c) as they resulted from the vessel's listing into RFMOs' IUU lists, action taken by RFMOs rather than by the flag State, which bears primary responsibility for sanctioning a fishing vessel under international law. The EU noted that neither the condition of "prosecution and imposition of sanctions of adequate severity" provided in points (c), nor "change of ownership" provided as an alternative condition in point (d) of paragraph 28 in CMM 06(2024) has been met. However, the EU also recognised that the imposition of sanctions is a flag State responsibility, and that the prosecution is an independent authority from the one issuing fishing permits. Recognising the limits of the prosecution action in this case, the EU noted the assurances provided by South Africa by amending the conditions of the Patagonian toothfish permits and adding conditions to the relevant high-seas vessel licences, and South Africa's commitment to effectively monitor fishing activities of the vessel in the future. The EU also noted the positions of other CCPs who did not oppose the removal of the vessel from the IUU Vessel List. In view of the above, and given the case's specific circumstances, the EU did not oppose the de-listing of the vessel. The EU stressed, however, that this case should not be a precedence for any future SIOFA decisions on its IUU Vessel List. The EU also expressed its general concern and cautioned against overly flexible interpretations of CMM provisions.
61. South Africa extended its appreciation to all parties for their valuable contributions, thoughtful interventions, and the understanding and respect shown toward South Africa's legal framework during CC9 and MoP12. South Africa stated that, in its interpretation of paragraph 28(c) of CMM 06(2024), particularly the requirement for prosecution, South Africa has fulfilled its obligations under the CMM by initiating legal

proceedings against the vessel owner and allowing the judicial process to take its course, in line with South Africa's domestic legal framework. South Africa expressed its appreciation for the outcome, which it felt reflected a fair and balanced application of the CMM and demonstrated the value of cooperation and mutual respect at SIOFA.

62. **The MoP AGREED to remove the *El Shaddai* from the current SIOFA IUU vessels list.**
63. **The MoP ADOPTED the SIOFA IUU Vessel List (Annex I).**
64. The MoP discussed the notification sent by the Russian research vessel *Atlantida* to the Secretariat regarding its plans to conduct research trawls in the SIOFA Area in June 2025.
65. The Executive Secretary explained that the vessel provided said notification to the Secretariat on 16 May 2025. In response, he sent a reply, on 20 May 2025, to the head of the expedition informing him of the process for conducting scientific research within the SIOFA Area as outlined in the Agreement and the CMMs but did not receive any reply. The Executive Secretary subsequently sent a follow-up seeking confirmation of receipt but received no reply once again.
66. The MoP noted that the Executive Secretary's correspondence with the vessel's head of expedition clearly outlined that the proposed research activities within the SIOFA Area would constitute fishing and therefore require prior MoP approval and/or the vessel being on the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV), neither of which had occurred.
67. The MoP discussed that there was publicly available information clearly indicating that the vessel has been engaging in fishing activity within the SIOFA Agreement Area, notwithstanding that the vessel was not listed on the RAV nor was any approval provided by the MoP.
68. **The MoP TASKED the Secretariat to send another follow-up to the head of the expedition and also to the flag State seeking an explanation of their intentions and recent activity.**
69. The MoP encouraged CCPs to conduct analyses to investigate the actions of the vessel, including through Automatic Identification System (AIS) tracking and communication with relevant port States, and to share pertinent information with the MoP.

4.5 Recommendations from the Compliance Committee on current SIOFA CMMs

70. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 59 of the CC9 report regarding France Territories' proposal to amend to CMM 03(2016) (Data Confidentiality) (CC9 Report, Annex E) and held further discussions under agenda item 9.1.**
71. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 65 of the CC9 report regarding the joint proposal by the Cook Islands and France Territories to amend CMM 13(2022) (Mitigation of Seabirds Bycatch) (CC9 Report, Annex F) and held further discussions under agenda item 9.4.**
72. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 68 of the CC9 report regarding Australia's proposal to amend CMM 15(2024) (Management of Demersal Stocks) (CC9 Report, Annex G) and held further discussions under agenda item 9.5.**
73. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 71 of the CC9 report regarding Australia's proposal to amend CMM 12(2024) (Sharks) (CC9 Report, Annex H) and held further discussions under agenda item 9.3.**
74. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 74 of the CC9 report regarding Seychelles' proposal to amend CMM 07(2024) (Vessel Authorisation) (CC9 Report, Annex I) and held further discussions under agenda item 9.2.**
75. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 77 of the CC9 report regarding the CC's endorsement of the EU's proposed amendment to CMM 07(2024) (Vessel Authorisation) (CC9 Report, Annex J) and held further discussions under agenda item 9.2.**
76. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 79 of the CC9 report regarding the EU's proposal to amend**

CMM 12(2024) (Sharks) (CC9 Report, Annex K) and held further discussions under agenda item 9.3.

77. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 84 of the CC9 report regarding the CC's endorsement of the EU's proposed amendments to CMM 16(2023) (Vessel Monitoring System) (CC9 Report, Annex L) and held further discussions under agenda item 9.6.**
78. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 90 of the CC9 report regarding the EU's proposal to amend CMM 15(2024) (Management of Demersal Stocks) (CC9 Report, Annex M) and held further discussions under agenda item 9.5.**
79. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 93 of the CC9 report regarding the EU's proposal to amend CMM 17(2024) (New and Exploratory Fisheries) (CC9 Report, Annex N) and held further discussions under agenda item 9.7.**
80. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 101 of the CC9 report regarding the joint proposal by Australia, the Cook Islands, and Japan for a new CMM for Benthic Protected Areas (BPAs) (CC9 Report, Annex O) and held further discussions under agenda item 10.1.**
81. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 111 of the CC9 report regarding the Cook Islands' proposal for a new CMM for a SIOFA allocation framework (CC9 Report, Annex P) and held further discussions under agenda item 10.2.**

4.6 Operationalization of the SIOFA VMS

82. The Compliance Officer presented MoP-12-33-Rev1, which provided draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for procuring a SaaS-based VMS. The draft ToR was prepared by the Secretariat and VMS WG Chairperson, based on several rounds of review by the VMS WG. It has subsequently been reviewed by the CC.
83. **The MoP NOTED the CC's recommendation in paragraph 153 of the CC9 report, ADOPTED the draft ToR for procuring a SaaS-based VMS (Annex J), and TASKED the Secretariat to launch the procurement process of the SIOFA VMS on the basis of the approved ToR.**
84. The Compliance Officer presented MoP-12-32, which provided potential amendments to CMM 03(2016) (Data Confidentiality), CMM 07(2024) (Vessel Registration), CMM 16(2023) (Vessel Monitoring System), CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards) and the SIOFA SSPs to support the entry into operation of the SIOFA VMS as discussed by the VMS WG and the CC.
85. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 156 of the CC9 report and ADOPTED the potential amendments to the SIOFA SSPs to support the entry into operation of the SIOFA VMS (Annex K).**
86. **The MoP TASKED the Secretariat to publish the SIOFA SSPs to support the entry into operation of the SIOFA VMS as a standalone document on the SIOFA website to enable easier access.**
87. **The MoP NOTED the amendments suggested by the VMS WG to CMM 03(2016) (Data Confidentiality), CMM 07(2024) (Vessel Registration), and CMM 16(2023) (Vessel Monitoring System), NOTED that these amendments had been taken up in CCP proposals, and held further discussions under agenda item 9.**
88. The MoP thanked Ms Fiona Harford for her hard work and leadership as the VMS WG Chairperson.

4.7 Recommendations for the development of the SIOFA Information System Security Policy (ISSP)

89. The Data Officer, Mr Pierre Périès, presented MoP-12-22, which provided a draft ToR for a consultancy to develop the SIOFA ISSP.
90. **The MoP NOTED the CC's recommendation in paragraph of the CC9 report that the**

MoP adopt the draft ToR for a consultancy to develop the SIOFA ISSP (CC9 Report, Annex T) subject to further discussion about the allocation of funding for this work.

91. Following a request for clarification, the Executive Secretary confirmed that funding for consultancies is included in the draft budget under item 9.3, that this funding could be used for the consultancy to develop the SIOFA ISSP, and that no other consultancies are planned for the coming year.
92. **The MoP ADOPTED the ToR for a consultancy to develop the SIOFA ISSP (Annex L), and AGREED to allocate funds for the ISSP work in the 2026 budget and initiate the call for applicants in 2026.**

4.8 Other recommendations from the Compliance Committee

93. The Compliance Officer explained that pursuant to paragraph 5 of CMM 11(2020) (Compliance Monitoring Scheme) the CC and the MoP are required to review any other recommendations made by the MoP in the previous years' Final Compliance Reports. The Compliance Officer presented MoP-12-34-Rev1, which provided the status of the implementation of the recommendations of MoP11 on the SIOFA Final SIOFA Compliance Report (fSCR), as updated by CC9.
94. **The MoP NOTED the status of the implementation of the recommendations from MoP11 outlined in MoP-12-34-Rev1.**
95. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 49 of the CC9 report regarding CCPs' lack of consensus on defining targeting for compliance.**
96. **The MoP NOTED the CC's recommendations in paragraphs 159 and 160 of the CC9 report regarding data collection and data reporting requirements and held further discussions under agenda item 7.4.**
97. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 167 of the CC9 report regarding Comoros' request for renewal of CNCP status and held further discussions under agenda item 15.1.1.**
98. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 171 of the CC9 report regarding India's request for renewal of CNCP status and held further discussions under agenda item 15.1.2.**
99. **The MoP NOTED paragraphs 174 and 177 regarding developing a SIOFA definition of "developing States" and held further discussions under agenda item 11.2.**
100. China expressed its opposition to the content of paragraphs 174 and 177 of the CC9 report, which proposed to establish a clear definition of "developing States" and set up an intersessional working group to advance the development of such a definition. China noted that the classification of developing states is a political and economic issue, rather than a fisheries issue, which should be defined by universal institutions (such as the UN and the World Bank) based on recognised standards, such as gross national income per capita (World Bank) and Human Development Index / Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI; UN), and RFMOs like SIOFA lack the authority to unilaterally determine a country's development status. China noted that the identity of a developing state is the autonomous right of a sovereign State, rather than a "gift" or "label" bestowed by any international organisation. China stated that in accordance with the principle of sovereign equality in the UN Charter, States have the right to independently determine their own development stage and participate in international affairs based on international law. China also pointed out that denying this principle violates the UN Charter's sovereign equality principle, politicises economic issues, and oversteps institutional mandates.
101. **The MoP NOTED paragraphs 181–183 of the CC9 report regarding potential options for addressing capacity needs related to compliance and straddling themes and the prioritisation of capacity building options and held further discussions under agenda**

item 11.3.

102. The MoP NOTED paragraph 186 of the CC9 report regarding the CC's input and the current status of the plan adopted at MoP11 for the implementation of the SIOFA Performance Review Panel recommendations and held further discussions under agenda item 13.1.1.
103. The MoP NOTED paragraph 192 of the CC9 report regarding SIOFA's participation in the SWIOP Project and held further discussions under agenda item 14.3.
104. The MoP NOTED the CC's request, in paragraph 193 of the CC9 report, to consider Comoros' FOP and any implications in accordance with CMM 17(2024) (New and Exploratory Fisheries) paragraph 10, and held further discussions under agenda item 6.
105. The MoP NOTED paragraph 199 of the CC9 report regarding Japan's proposed process for considering the authorisation of the Comoros lobster fishery (CC9 Report, Annex W) and held further discussions under agenda item 6.
106. Following its review, the MoP ADOPTED the CC9 report.

Agenda item 5 – Scientific Committee (SC) and Report of the SC10

5.1 Presentation of the report of the 10th Scientific Committee annual meeting

107. The SC Chairperson, Mr Alistair Dunn, presented a summary of the report of the 10th Scientific Committee meeting (SC10), which was held at the Concarneau Marine Station, Concarneau, France, on 17–26 March 2025. A summary of the recommendations and relevant annexes of the SC10 report is available as MoP-12-07.

5.1.1 Fisheries reports

108. The MoP NOTED paragraph 72 of the SC10 report, NOTED the revised guidelines for the Submission of Annual National Reports given in SC-10-INFO-01-Rev1, and TASKED the Secretariat to make it available on the SIOFA website.
109. The MoP NOTED paragraph 78 of the SC10 report, ENDORSED the Overview of SIOFA Fisheries 2025 (SC-10-14-Rev1), and TASKED the Secretariat to make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.
110. The MoP NOTED paragraph 84 of the SC10 report, ENDORSED the SIOFA Ecosystem Summary 2025 (SC-10-15-Rev1), and TASKED the Secretariat to make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.
111. The MoP NOTED paragraph 236 of the SC10 report, ENDORSED the SIOFA Fisheries Summary: orange roughy 2025, and TASKED the Secretariat to make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.
112. The MoP NOTED paragraph 245 of the SC10 report, ENDORSED SIOFA Fisheries Summary: alfonsino 2025, and TASKED the Secretariat to make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.
113. The MoP NOTED paragraph 282 of the SC10 report, ENDORSED the SIOFA Fisheries Summary: Toothfish 2025, and TASKED the Secretariat to make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.
114. The MoP NOTED paragraph 294 of the SC10 report, ENDORSED the SIOFA fisheries summary for oilfish (*Ruvettus pretiosus*) and escolar (*Lepidocybium flavobrunneum*) 2025, and TASKED the Secretariat to make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.
115. The MoP NOTED paragraph 318 of the SC10 report, ENDORSED the SIOFA Fisheries Summary: hapuka (*Polyprion* spp., hapuku wreckfish *P. oxygeneios*, wreckfish *P. americanus*) 2025, and TASKED the Secretariat to make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.

116. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 322 of the SC10 report, ENDORSED the SIOFA Fisheries Summary: common mora (*Mora moro*) 2025, and TASKED the Secretariat to make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.**
 117. The MoP expressed its appreciation for the hard work by the Science Officer, Dr Marco Milardi, to prepare the Overview of SIOFA Fisheries, the SIOFA Ecosystem Summary, and the SIOFA fisheries summaries.
- 5.1.2 Data Standards, Access and Dissemination**
118. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 118 of the SC10 report regarding proposed amendments to CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards) to cover squid jigging vessel logbooks and observer logbooks shown in Annex D.3 of the SC10 report.**
 119. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 122 of the SC10 report regarding proposed amendments to CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards) for trap and pot fisheries as shown in Annex D.3 of the SC10 report.**
 120. Upon the request of the MoP, the Science Officer prepared a paper (MoP-12-51) that reflected the SC's proposed amendments to CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards).
 121. The MoP held further discussions on the proposed amendments under agenda item 9.8.
- 5.1.3 SIOFA Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment**
122. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 137 of the SC10 report regarding the proposed Comoros hapuka fishery and AGREED with the SC's interpretation that this was not an established fishery.**
 123. The SC Chairperson informed the MoP that the SC noted the revised version of the BFIA for Hapuka Fishery provided by Comoros and noted that it meets the BFIA Standard (SC10 Report, para 140). Furthermore, the SC considered the Comoros' FOP and Data Collection and Analysis Plan (DCAP) and agreed that the approach outlined in the FOP is likely to ensure that the exploratory fishery is developed consistently with its nature as an exploratory fishery, and consistently with the objectives of the Agreement (SC10 Report, para 477). Comoros' FOP is contained in SC-10-51-Rev1 and was submitted to MoP12 upon the request of the MoP.
 124. **The MoP NOTED that in accordance with paragraph 10 of CMM 17(2024) (New and Exploratory Fisheries), the CC is to consider any FOPs and any advice of the SC thereon, but that this had been omitted from the CC's agenda and the CC had therefore sought to defer the review of Comoros' hapuka fishery to the MoP.**
 125. **The MoP further NOTED that:**
 - a. **paragraph 10 of CMM 17(2024) provides that the CC is to also consider an associated draft CMM prepared by the proposing CCP in respect of the new and exploratory fishery but that no associated draft CMM had been submitted; and**
 - b. **paragraph 12 of the same CMM provides that the MoP shall take a decision as to whether to approve the proposed new and exploratory fishery in accordance with the FOP and DCAP, and if the MoP approves the proposed new and exploratory fishery, it shall adopt a CMM in respect of the fishery which shall include objectives, reference points, a precautionary catch limit and any other management measures the MoP deems appropriate.**
 126. **The MoP NOTED that Comoros, as a CNCP, is not permitted to submit a proposal for a new CMM, NOTED that under Rule 6, paragraph 1j) of the RoP, the MoP Chairperson shall perform any other functions as may be assigned to him or her by the MoP, and REQUESTED that the Chairperson table a CMM proposal for the proposed hapuka fishery on behalf of Comoros and present it for further discussion under agenda item**

10.3.

127. The Cook Islands noted the highly unusual nature of the proposed approach, noting that some of the issues may have arisen due to this being a new CMM and the first time the MoP has considered an application for a new and exploratory fishery.
128. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 154 of the SC10 report; NOTED that the SC had difficulties interpreting the current provisions that define established fisheries and new and exploratory fisheries, in the case of Mauritius' planned bottom trawling activities as the planned activities appeared to meet the species, fishing gear and CCP criteria for being considered an established fishery, but fishing has not taken place in more than 10 years; NOTED the SC's request for further guidance on the definitions of established fisheries and new and exploratory fisheries; and held further discussions under agenda item 6.**
129. **The MoP AGREED that it would be useful to conduct an updated cumulative SIOFA BFIA to better understand the state of bottom fishing in the SIOFA Area and TASKED the SC to develop a ToR for a consultancy to conduct this work and to present the ToR to MoP13.**
130. The MoP held further discussions on the appropriate timing for this work as part of its consideration of the SC work plan under agenda item 5.1.12.

5.1.4 SIOFA Precautionary Approach and Management (PAM)

131. **The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 179 of the SC10 report, for holding additional PAM workshops, including joint workshops with the MoP along with technical ad-hoc meetings with experts from the SC and MoP, to ensure that the work would be appropriately developed and fully considered by the SC and MoP. The MoP discussed this matter further as part of the SC work plan under agenda item 5.1.12.**
132. **The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendations, in paragraph 180 of the SC10 report, that:**
- a. **the development of biological reference points (BRPs) and harvest control rules (HCRs) should be evaluated with consideration to their robustness to the effect of climate change on stock productivity and distribution.**
 - b. **the precautionary approach framework should include consideration of the value of monitoring of, for example, age and length distributions, spatial distribution, etc., for evidence of changes in productivity or spatial distribution that would indicate if climate change effects would impact the scientific advice for managers.**
133. **The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 181 of the SC10 report, that exceptional circumstance rules be developed for the HCRs and that these include guidelines for management if climate change effects on spatial distribution or productivity that would affect the management advice were detected.**

5.1.5 Stock assessments and advice

134. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 223 of the SC10 report and NOTED that:**
- a. **for all stock structure assumptions tested, the current stock status of orange roughy is well above the target 40%B₀ level, and the exploitation rates are currently below F_{40%}.**
 - b. **the biomass of orange roughy is not predicted to drop below 40%B₀ under projection of continuing current catch.**
 - c. **for some potential scenarios, however, the exploitation rates of orange roughy could increase in future for some stocks.**
135. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 224 of the SC10 report, NOTED the SC's recommendation to continue the current approach of maintaining orange roughy catch at 2015–2020 levels, NOTED the SC's recommendation of a catch limit consistent with the average**

catch from 2015–2020 which equates to 1010.75 t for the SIOFA Area (which includes catch outside the assessment areas) should the MoP wish to establish a catch limit for orange roughy, and NOTED that currently there is no proposal to split any catch limit between or within areas.

136. The MoP NOTED paragraph 248 of the SC10 report, NOTED that the study in SC-10-38 indicated a single panmictic population of Patagonian toothfish in the SIOFA Area, and NOTED the SC's recommendations to:
 - a. harmonise management measures across toothfish management units, and
 - b. continue to maintain management approaches that are consistent with the management framework of CCAMLR.
137. The MoP NOTED paragraph 255 of the SC10 report, NOTED that the main purpose of the line spacing requirements on Del Cano Rise (DCR) is to spread the tagging and recapture effort for stock assessment/monitoring purposes, and NOTED the SC's advice that a minimum line spacing could help mitigate depredation of toothfish on the line by marine mammals.
138. The MoP NOTED paragraph 257 of the SC10 report and NOTED that, in the interim, CMM 15(2024) paragraph 19 should be interpreted as specifying that the line spacing should apply at the trip level, until further advice from the SC has been formulated.
139. The MoP NOTED paragraph 264 of the SC10 report and NOTED the SC's reaffirmation of its recommendation for the establishment of a new Management Area for toothfish, South Indian Ridge (SIR), which should be the area bounded by the box defined in Table 1 below.

Table 1: The proposed South Indian Ridge (SIR) area

Latitude	Longitude
40°00' S	43°30' E
44°00' S	43°30' E
44°00' S	40°55' E
43°47.2' S	40°30' E
40°00' S	40°30' E

140. The MoP held further discussions on reflecting this recommendation in CMM 15(2024) (Management of Demersal Stocks) under agenda item 9.5.
141. The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation in paragraph 267 to set a catch limit of 52.8 t for the DCR Management Area for 2026, based on the SIOFA trend analysis, and held further discussions under agenda item 9.5.
142. The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation in paragraph 270 of the SC10 report to set a catch limit of 83.4 t for the proposed SIR Management Area for 2026, based on the SIOFA distance-based trend analysis, and held further discussions under agenda item 9.5.
143. The MoP NOTED paragraph 311 of the SC10 report and NOTED that China's historical squid fishing footprint spans SIOFA Subareas 1, 4, 7 and 8.
144. The MoP NOTED paragraph 312 of the SC10 report and NOTED that squid are mobile and may be distributed beyond Subareas 1, 4, 7 and 8.
145. The MoP NOTED the SC's request, in paragraph 313 of the SC10 report, that the MoP reconsider the operational scope of squid fisheries and held further discussions under agenda item 9.8.

5.1.6 Bycatch and incidental captures

146. The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 347 of the SC10 report, to add *Bythaelurus naylori* to Annex 1 of CMM 12(2024) (Sharks) and to consider smooth lanternshark (*Etmopterus pusillus*) a species at "high risk". The MoP held further discussions on reflecting this recommendation in CMM 12(2024) (Sharks) under agenda item 9.3.
147. The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 358 of the SC10 report and consistent with previous advice from SC8 and SC9, to take urgent action to limit the catch of deepwater sharks associated with the bottom longline fishery in Subareas 2, 4 and 5. The MoP NOTED the following SC recommendations:
 - a. Subarea 4: that, as a precautionary measure, bottom longline fishing be managed on a set-by-set basis and that, consistent with the SC definition of targeted species, in each set where the catch composition is over 50% of deepwater sharks, the vessel will apply the 5 nm move on rule.
 - b. Subarea 5: that, as a precautionary measure, bottom longline fishing be temporarily prohibited until a Portuguese dogfish stock assessment in the whole SIOFA Area is presented.
 - c. Subarea 2: that the existing catch limit on Portuguese dogfish be retained.
148. The MoP NOTED paragraph 360 of the SC10 report and NOTED that, due to the increased catch of deepwater sharks and the unavailability of the results of the wire trace trial, the SC had re-iterated the SC8 advice (para 230, SC8 report), which recommended restricting bottom longlines to nylon trace, until such time the results of the proposed trial on trace type is analysed by SC.
149. The MoP held further discussions on reflecting the recommendations of paragraphs 358 and 360 of the SC10 report in CMM 12(2024) (Sharks) under agenda item 9.3.
150. The MoP ADOPTED the recommendation in paragraph 374 of the SC10 report to adopt a skate tagging rate that is based on a level of observer coverage as high as opportunity allows.
151. The MoP NOTED paragraph 419 of the SC10 report and NOTED the SC's recommendation to amend CMM 13(2022) (Mitigation of Seabirds Bycatch) to include specifications or guidance for the mitigation of seabird bycatch from trawl vessels. The MoP held further discussions on reflecting this recommendation in CMM 13(2022) (Mitigation of Seabirds Bycatch) under agenda item 9.4.

5.1.7 Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME)

152. The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 426 of the SC10 report, to update Annex 1 of CMM 01(2024) (Interim Management of Bottom Fishing) with the revised VME indicator taxa list in Annex D.1 of the SC10 report.
153. The MoP held further discussions on reflecting this recommendation in CMM 01(2024) (Interim Management of Bottom Fishing) under agenda item 9.8.

5.1.8 Marine protected areas

154. The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 443 of the SC10 report, to designate Atlantis Bank as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing due to the presence of unique habitats, VME indicator taxa, and endemic species.
155. The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 445 of the SC10 report, to designate Coral as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing, except bottom longlining, due to the presence of unique habitats, VME indicator taxa, and endemic species.
156. The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 447 of the SC10 report, to designate Fools Flat as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing due to the presence of VME

indicator taxa and potential unique habitats.

157. The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 449 of the SC10 report, to designate Middle of What as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing due to the presence of unique habitats, VME indicator taxa, endemic species and long history of closure following high historic fishing effort.
158. The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 451 of the SC10 report, to designate Walter's Shoal as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing, except longlining, due to the presence of unique habitats, the area's recognition as a VME and endemic species.
159. The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 453 of the SC10 report, to designate Banana as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing due to the presence of unique habitats, VME indicator taxa, and endemic species.
160. The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 455 of the SC10 report, to designate Bridle as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing due to the presence of VME indicator taxa and endemic species.
161. The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 457 of the SC10 report, to designate East Broken Ridge as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing due to the presence of VME indicator taxa.
162. The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 459 of the SC10 report, to designate Gülden Draak as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing due to the potential presence of VME indicator taxa, potential unique habitats, and sensitive geology.
163. The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 461 of the SC10 report, to designate Mid-Indian Ridge as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing due to the sensitive geology of the area, the likely presence of VME indicator taxa, and the remote and pristine nature of this area.
164. The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 463 of the SC10 report, to designate Rusky Knoll as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing due to the presence of VME indicator taxa, potentially unique habitats, and long period of closure following historic fishing effort.
165. The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 465 of the SC10 report, to designate South Indian Ridge as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing, except longlining, due to the presence of potential VME indicator taxa, potential unique habitats, and potential sensitive geological features.
166. The MoP NOTED paragraph 466 of the SC10 report, NOTED that the SC has proposed the establishment of a new toothfish management area under the same name (South Indian Ridge), and ENDORSED the SC's recommendation that the proposed South Indian Ridge BPA, if it is designated, be renamed Magneto to reflect the magnetic anomaly found in that area.
167. The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 467 of the SC10 report, that these BPAs, if designated, should undergo collective or individual implementation reviews by 2035 (i.e., within 10 years) or as new information comes to light.
168. The MoP held further discussions on the designation of these areas under agenda item 10.1.
169. China expressed appreciation to the SC for its discussions on marine protected areas (MPAs), which are of great significance for the protection of VMEs. China noted that while the SC may provide helpful suggestions, the establishment of MPAs or BPAs falls under the purview of the Agreement on Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ). China also pointed out that MPA matters have far broader

objectives, safeguarding entire marine ecosystems, biodiversity, and ecological processes and requiring a holistic approach that balances environmental, social, and economic factors. China noted that this complexity demands expertise and authority held by specialised environmental bodies, like BBNJ, rather than RFMOs.

5.1.9 New and Exploratory Fisheries and Research cruises

170. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 496 of the SC10 report and NOTED that the SC reviewed and approved the draft Nansen research cruise plan (SC-10-59-Rev1) subject to further development in collaboration with the EAF Nansen programme and key scientists.**
171. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 497 of the SC10 report and NOTED that the R.V. Dr Fridtjof Nansen will operate according to the conditions approved by the MoP (para 108, MoP11 Report), including that:**
 - a. **the data are submitted to SIOFA within 9 months of the cruise (i.e., by October 2026).**
 - b. **information placed in the public domain must be in accordance with SIOFA data rules.**
 - c. **CCPs participate in work and capacity building.**
172. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 500 of the SC10 report and NOTED that the SC had reaffirmed the SC9 recommendation (para 105, SC9 Report) that a specific research cruise CMM be developed.** The MoP held further discussions on the development of a research cruise CMM under agenda item 6.3.

5.1.10 Scientific Observers

173. **The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 530 of the SC10 report, to amend CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards) as shown in Annex D.3 of the SC10 report.** The MoP held further discussions on reflecting this recommendation in CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards) under agenda item 9.8.
174. **The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 541 of the SC10 report, that the MoP consider adopting the IOTC e-monitoring standards (IOTC Resolution 23/08) for collecting scientific data on pelagic longline fisheries in SIOFA.**
175. **As recommended by the SC in paragraph 542 of the SC10 report, the MoP TASKED the SC to develop e-monitoring standards for gear types other than pelagic longlines, using the IOTC e-monitoring standards as a basis, and NOTED the SC's intention to hold a Workshop on the Development of E-Monitoring Standards in early 2026.**

5.1.11 Climate change

176. **The MoP NOTED that the SC did not provide any specific advice related to climate change at SC10. The MoP NOTED that the SC work plan includes Project CLI-2024-01 for the assessment of SIOFA species and ecosystems for vulnerability to climate change impacts.**
177. The DSCC thanked the SC for considering climate change in its work and urged the MoP to consider climate refugia as part of the process for designating areas under the revised protected areas designation protocol. The DSCC welcomed the SC project on the assessment of SIOFA species and ecosystems for vulnerability to climate change impacts and noted the need for funding for that project. The DSCC urged the MoP to consider incorporating climate change impacts into its decisions and CMMs.

5.1.12 Future work

178. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 569 of the SC10 report and NOTED that the SC had provided a summary of progress on the recommendations of the SIOFA Performance Review Panel in 2024 that were adopted at MoP11 (Annex I, SC Report).**
179. The MoP held further discussions on the recommendations of the SIOFA Performance

Review Panel under agenda item 13.2.1.

180. **The MoP NOTED the SC's request, in paragraph 578 of the SC10 report, for further guidance on a number of aspects of capacity building:**
 - a. **Areas in which a certain level of capacity would be desirable/required (as it can be difficult for CCPs that lack capacity in a certain area to recognise and/or convey that lack of capacity);**
 - b. **Timelines and prioritisation; and**
 - c. **Potential funding sources beyond CCPs, such as multilateral banks.**
181. The MoP held further discussions on capacity building under agenda item 11.3.
182. **The MoP NOTED the SC's recommendation, in paragraph 585 of the SC10 report, that the next SC meeting, including any focused agenda topics, be held for 7 days from 23 to 31 March 2026.**
183. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 586 of the SC10 report and NOTED that a 7-day meeting would be 1 day shorter than in recent years and that there is a risk of the SC not completing its agenda but that the SC believed that this risk was a low one.**
184. The MoP held further discussions on 2026 meeting arrangements under agenda item 18.
185. The Science Officer presented the draft SC workplan for 2025–2029, along with project priority scores assigned by CCPs.
186. The MoP reviewed and revised the draft SC workplan.
187. **The MoP TASKED the Secretariat to apply the SIOFA trend analysis rules to the William's Ridge Management Areas and to work closely with CCPs when the trend analysis rules are developed for the Del Cano Rise and South Indian Ridge areas.**
188. **The MoP NOTED that the necessity of Project ALF-2025-01 for alfonso age and growth, which had been included in the SC work plan, would depend on the outcomes of Project ALF-2024-01 for alfonso age protocol development, which is ongoing. The MoP AGREED to maintain the budget associated with Project ALF-2025-01 and to TASK the SC to report to the MoP on whether Project ALF-2025-01 and its associated budget would still be required once Project ALF-2024-01 is complete and the SC has reviewed the results.**
189. **The MoP AGREED to add "Update to the SIOFA cumulative BFIA" to the SC's future projects.**
190. The EU noted that, for scientific work on the three main SIOFA target species, the source of funding for such work for toothfish has often been provided by voluntary contribution from the EU, while such work for orange roughy and alfonso is usually funded by the MoP budget. The EU called on those CCPs that are actively participating in the orange roughy and alfonso fisheries to consider also providing voluntary contributions to advance scientific work for these fisheries and relieve some of the pressure on the MoP budget. The EU recognised that scientific work benefits all CCPs, not only those that are actively involved in a particular fishery, but pointed out that SIOFA is a small organisation and that each CCP has a responsibility to contribute to SIOFA's scientific work.
191. The Cook Islands pointed out that it has supported SIOFA's acoustics surveys as well as data collection and ageing and growth work on alfonso and orange roughy through voluntary financial and in-kind contributions.
192. Thailand pointed out that its vessels conduct research on the fisheries it operates, including the collection of data by onboard scientific observers. Thailand expressed its intention to convey to the next SC how it could make further contributions to SIOFA scientific work.
193. Japan thanked the EU for its generous funding to SIOFA scientific work and pointed out

that Japan has funded and conducted otolith analysis for alfoncino caught by Japanese vessels to support SIOFA's alfoncino stock assessment work.

194. The Cook Islands suggested that, for transparency, a column could be added to the table of projects in the work plan to indicate any voluntary contributions made by CCPs to a particular project.
195. **The MoP ENDORSED the SC Workplan as outlined in MoP-12-08-Rev1.**
- 5.1.3 Other recommendations**
196. **The MoP requested the MoP and SC Chairpersons develop draft Terms of Reference for the Third Joint MoP-SC Workshop on the Development of Harvest Strategies (WS2025-HSS).**
197. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 597 of the SC10 report and NOTED that the SC agreed to elect Ms Charlotte Chazeau (France Territories) as an SC Vice-Chairperson.** The MoP welcomed the election of Ms Chazeau as an SC Vice-Chairperson.
198. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 600 of the SC10 report and NOTED that, as there were no nominations for a new SC Chairperson from among CCPs and recognising the significant progress that the SC has made under the leadership of the current SC Chairperson, Mr Alistair Dunn, the SC recommended that the MoP extend his term for two years as this would ensure stability and continuity in advancing the SC's work over this time period.** The MoP held further discussions on the SC chairing arrangements under agenda item 16.1.
199. **The MoP NOTED paragraph 602 of the SC10 report, NOTED that the creation of the Science Officer position has greatly enhanced the SC's ability to conduct its work and provide advice, and NOTED the SC's strong recommendation that this position be renewed when the existing contract expires in 2026 and that Dr Marco Milardi be retained in that position.**
200. **The MoP NOTED that although the SC reviewed and assessed an FOP that was submitted to SC10, the SC did not make a clear recommendation to the CC or the MoP in the SC10 report. The MoP REQUESTED that the SC more clearly convey its advice and recommendations on any FOPs that it assesses in future SC reports.**
201. The DSCC welcomed the SC report, particularly the work on the adoption of a revised protected area designation protocol. The DSCC urged the MoP to endorse the protocol as an initial step towards implementing protection for areas and informed the MoP that it has outlined several options for progressing such work in MoP-12-INFO-02. In addition, the DSCC proposed that the MoP consider seamounts to be VMEs, in line with the FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas. The DSCC also welcomed SIOFA's commitment to holding further discussions on the protection of VMEs and the prevention of severe adverse impacts on them, and urged the MoP to advance work to that end.
202. **Following its review, the MoP ADOPTED the report of the 10th meeting of the Scientific Committee.**

Agenda item 6 – New and Exploratory Fisheries

6.1 New Fisheries

6.2 Exploratory Fisheries

203. Comoros gave a presentation outlining the FOP for its planned hapuka fishery. The full FOP is available in SC-10-51-Rev1.
204. **The MoP NOTED that the SC has assessed the BFIA for Comoros' planned hapuka fishery and confirmed that it meets the BFIA standard.**

205. **The MoP NOTED that the SC has assessed the FOP for Comoros' planned hapuka fishery and endorsed it from a scientific perspective.**
206. **The MoP NOTED that as the next step, the CC was to assess the FOP from a compliance perspective, but had not assessed the FOP and requested that this assessment be deferred to the MoP.**
207. **The MoP AGREED to take the following approach for assessing the FOP for Comoros' planned hapuka fishery from a compliance perspective, if possible:**
 - a. **The Secretariat would develop a checklist for assessing FOPs from a compliance perspective, similar to the one used by the SC for assessing FOPs from a scientific perspective (SC10 Report, Annex H).**
 - b. **The MoP would review and endorse the checklist.**
 - c. **Comoros would conduct a self-assessment of its FOP using the endorsed checklist.**
 - d. **The MoP would review the Comoros' self-assessment and conduct its own assessment of Comoros' FOP.**
208. **The MoP also NOTED that the MoP would, if possible, also consider an associated draft CMM, which the MoP Chairperson would table on Comoros' behalf at the direction of the MoP (MoP-12-52).**
209. Several CCPs expressed their discomfort with deviating from standard processes, particularly the requirement to submit CMM proposals no less than 40 days before the date fixed for the opening of the MoP. These CCPs indicated that they would endeavour to follow the proposed process, to the best of their abilities, but not at the expense of the MoP's existing work.
210. The Compliance Officer prepared and presented a draft checklist for assessing FOPs from a compliance perspective based on the checklist developed by the SC.
211. **The MoP reviewed, revised and ENDORSED the draft checklist for assessing FOPs from a compliance perspective (Annex M).**
212. Due to time constraints and its full agenda, the MoP was unable to progress beyond this stage in its proposed process for considering Comoros' plans for a new and exploratory hapuka fishery. The MoP invited Comoros to take the following steps in accordance with CMM 17:
 - a. complete a self-assessment of its FOP using the endorsed compliance-based assessment checklist;
 - b. submit the self-assessment to the CC for further review;
 - c. prepare a draft CMM for the planned hapuka fishery; and
 - d. request a CP or PFE to submit the draft CMM to the CC and the MoP on its behalf.
213. Comoros thanked CCPs for the goodwill and assistance they had extended.
214. Mauritius drew the MoP's attention to the absence of its alfonsino midwater trawl fishery from the table of established SIOFA fisheries in Annex 1 of CMM 17(2024) (New and Exploratory Fisheries). Mauritius explained that the fishery had already been in operation prior to the entry into effect of said CMM, that the vessel conducting the fishery is listed on the SIOFA RAV, and that the associated data from the fishery had been provided in its annual report submitted to the SC in 2025. Mauritius believed that the absence of its alfonsino midwater trawl fishery from the table of established SIOFA fisheries was an omission and requested that the MoP add Mauritius as a participant to the alfonsino midwater trawl fishery in Annex 1 of CMM 17(2024).
215. **The MoP NOTED that Mauritius' alfonsino midwater trawl fishery began prior to the establishment of CMM 17(2024).**

216. **The MoP NOTED that in order for Mauritius' alfonso midwater trawl fishery to be included in the table of established SIOFA fisheries in Annex 1 of CMM 17(2024) (New and Exploratory Fisheries), the following procedure must be followed:**
- a. **Mauritius shall present its catch data and/or other information about the fishery to the SC.**
 - b. **The SC shall provide advice to the MoP on the inclusion of the fishery in Annex 1.**
 - c. **The MoP shall consider whether or not to update Annex 1 based on the SC's advice.**
217. **The MoP AGREED that the current omission of Mauritius' alfonso midwater trawl fishery from Annex 1 of CMM 17(2024) (New and Exploratory Fisheries) would not prohibit Mauritius from continuing to operate in this fishery.**
218. Japan presented MoP-12-40-Rev1, which proposed a process through which the authorisation of the Comoros lobster fishery could be considered. Japan recommended designating the fishery as a new and exploratory fishery and establishing interim monitoring measures until, in accordance with CMM 17(2024) (New and Exploratory Fisheries), the formal approval thereon as a new and exploratory fishery has been made, in order for the Comoros to properly implement the requirements stipulated in SIOFA CIRCULAR n° 2024-40. Japan explained that there had been general support for the proposal at the CC but that further refinement of the details was required, and that it has subsequently updated its proposal based on feedback from CCPs. Japan invited initial feedback, while explaining that it was working in the margins with other interested parties to prepare a further revision.
219. The Executive Secretary cautioned that the Secretariat would likely lack the capacity to process and circulate daily reports from the fishery.
220. Japan presented an updated proposal based on comments received at CC9 and during the current meeting (MoP-12-40-Rev2).
221. Chinese Taipei noted that in light of the extraordinary circumstances, it supported the proposal in the spirit of Article 13 of the SIOFA Agreement, taking the special requirements of developing States into consideration.
222. **The MoP ENDORSED the proposed process to designate the Comoros lobster fishery as a new and exploratory fishery in accordance with CMM 17(2024) (Annex N).**
223. **The MoP AGREED to designate the Comoros lobster fishery as a new and exploratory fishery, in accordance with CMM 17(2024), from the end of MoP12 to the beginning of MoP13.**
224. **The MoP AGREED to authorise the Comoros lobster fishery on an interim basis under the following transition process, so that the formal procedures for approval of this fishery will be completed in accordance with CMM 17(2024) in a timely fashion.**
- a. **In accordance with CMM17(2024), the proponents shall develop a FOP which shall be reviewed by SC11 and CC10 in accordance with their established processes (e.g. Fisheries Operation Plan Checklists).**
 - b. **In accordance with CMM17(2024), the proponents shall develop a CMM for consideration by CC10 and MoP13.**
 - c. **In accordance with paragraph 12 of CMM17(2024) the CMM shall be time bound for no more than 3 years from the commencement of the fishery (18th December 2024).**
225. **The MoP AGREED that:**
- a. **the authorisation shall be based on conditions, such as TAC and TAE,**

- stipulated in Annex N.1.
- b. The period of authorisation is for one year from the end of MoP12 to the beginning of MoP13 and the MoP shall not consider any extension of the interim authorisation unless CMM 17 has been complied with in full, including SC11 and CC10 consideration of the FOP and MoP13's approval of a CMM submitted in accordance with all SIOFA procedural requirements.
226. The MoP AGREED to establish the following provisional monitoring measures with a view to properly monitoring and ensuring the compliance by the Comoros lobster fishery to the conditions (TAC, TAE) required by the intersessional decision, before its approval for Comoros to conduct this proposed fishery as a new and exploratory fishery in accordance with CMM 17.
- a. In order to monitor the use of the TAC in a transparent manner, Comoros shall send monthly catch reports of its lobster fishery to the Secretariat using the template in Annex N.2.
 - b. The Secretariat will circulate this report to CCPs.
 - c. In order to monitor the use of the TAE in a transparent manner, Comoros shall ensure the *FV Rinascente 9* reports daily to the Secretariat of the trap settings, including the position of traps (30 minutes resolution), using the template in Annex N.3. This daily report is required when at least one trap remains to be set under the water.
 - d. The Secretariat will compile the daily position reports from *FV Rinascente 9* on a monthly basis and circulate this monthly compilation to CCPs .
 - e. Any CCP that wishes to receive the daily position reports on a more frequent basis shall notify the Secretariat 30 days in advance.
227. The EU stressed that this would be the only time that it considers such exceptional procedures, noting that CMM 17(2024) has been adopted and entered into effect, and that its procedures shall always be respected. The EU also strongly called on Comoros to complete the necessary procedures to become a CP, now that it has started fishing operations in the SIOFA Area and its fishing interest is expanding.
228. The MoP NOTED that the MoP shall not consider any extension of the designation of the Comoros lobster fishery beyond MoP13 unless CMM 17 has been complied with in full, including SC11 and CC10 consideration of the FOP and MoP13's approval of a CMM submitted in accordance with all SIOFA procedural requirements.
229. The MoP EMPHASISED that the established rules and procedures set forth in SIOFA CMMs and other basic documents must be respected and complied with when addressing the items in agenda 6 on New and Exploratory Fisheries.
230. Japan recognised that CCPs continued to have different interpretations of the definition of established fisheries, likely stemming from their respective understanding of Annex 1 of CMM 17(2024) (New and Exploratory Fisheries). Japan stated that in its view, a fishery did not need to simultaneously meet all components in the table in Annex 1 (species/gear/participant/area) to be considered an established fishery. Japan considered the gear component to be most important as differences in gear would result in differences in impact on the target species, ecologically related species and VMEs. Regarding paragraph 3c of CMM 17(2024), Japan expressed the view that this provision only applied in the case that no CCP has undertaken fishing in that fishery in the previous ten years, rather than a specific CCP.
231. Japan suggested that the MoP would likely continue to have difficulty implementing CMM 17(2024) and suggested that the SC conduct a review of Annex 1 of the CMM and

provide its advice to the MoP. The review should, in particular, include the following two perspectives: 1) whether a different structure, e.g., oriented by gear, would be more appropriate; and 2) how to include other primary species.

232. The Cook Islands pointed out that the main reasoning behind the ten-year period in CMM 17(2024) is that if a CCP has not fished in a fishery for ten years, within that time, gear types and other factors will have changed and the potential impacts on the bottom might be different. Therefore, a CCP seeking to resume bottom fishing after a ten-year lapse would need to re-evaluate its potential fishing impact as part of an updated BFIA.

6.3 Scientific Research

233. The EU presented MoP-12-48, a paper to facilitate continued discussions on developing a framework for research cruises and scientific research in the SIOFA Area. The paper built on a previous EU proposal from MoP6 (2019) and considered SC discussions and recommendations from SC6 to SC10. The EU recognised that further development of the working paper is required, invited initial comments from CCPs, and welcomed further engagement from CCPs at the meetings of the MoP and its subsidiary bodies, as well as intersessionally, towards the adoption of a new CMM at MoP13.
234. CCPs provided further feedback, including the following:
- a. Refinement of the definition of “scientific research”;
 - b. Clarification of whether a fishing vessel could be used as a research vessel and whether research vessels commissioned by a CCP that were not undertaking fishing activities needed to be registered on the SIOFA RAV and comply with the provisions of all SIOFA CMMs; and
 - c. Resolution of seemingly conflicting provisions in different paragraphs.
235. Seychelles and Mauritius pointed out that they needed to consider the implications of the proposal on research conducted in the JMA and that they would present the proposal to the Joint Commission of the JMA for further review.
236. The DSCC welcomed the proposal from the EU. The DSCC pointed out the need to consider the impact of research bottom trawling on VMEs or potential VMEs, including seamounts, and whether the proposed framework should make clear which current CMMs are being applied during planned research, for example when conducting research that would impact on the sea over closed areas or VMEs, including seamounts.
237. Based on CCPs’ feedback, the EU submitted an updated proposal (MoP-12-48-Rev1) as a basis for further intersessional work.
238. The EU thanked the MoP for its feedback and indicated its intention to continue to work with CCPs to develop the proposal further and to present it to the SC workshop “Window of Opportunity – Research Vessels In SIOFA” (WS2025-ORS) and to SC11 for their input.
239. China presented MoP-12-50, which provided its draft research cruise plan for the 2025–2026 survey year. Building on its 2023 and 2024 high seas resource cruises, China intends to continue to conduct scientific surveys in the SIOFA area from October 2025 to March 2026 in the area of 9°S–10°N and 59°E–68°E to contribute to the scientific research on SIOFA managed species and their associated ecosystem and environment. Specifically, the survey is aimed at gaining a preliminary understanding of the species composition and quantity distribution of swimming organisms, plankton, fish eggs, and juvenile fish in the surveyed waters; grasping the physical marine environmental characteristics of the surveyed waters; and analysing the components of the pelagic marine ecosystems in the surveyed waters. China will submit the results of its research surveys to the SC.
240. **The MoP NOTED China’s draft plan for a research cruise in the SIOFA Area and the purpose of the research cruise, which is to collect scientific data for research on SIOFA**

species and their environment and marine ecosystems.

Agenda item 7 – Data access and dissemination

7.1 Data and security audits implementation update

241. The Data Officer presented MoP-12-21, which summarised the data and security audit recommendations endorsed by the MoP, and provided an update on the implementation status of each recommendation. In 2025 most of the recommendations have been considered and implemented. However, a few recommendations still need to be addressed.
242. **The MoP NOTED the status of the implementation of the recommendations of the data and security audits (MoP-12-21).**

7.2 Discussion on public data definition and limitation, recommendation from SC9

243. The MoP discussed the definition and limitation of public data as part of its discussions of proposed amendments to CMM 03(2016) (Data Confidentiality) under agenda item 9.1.

7.3 Review of the criteria and process by which papers are classified and implications for the RoP

244. The Data Officer presented MoP-12-23-Rev2, which provided an overview of the criteria and process, based on the RoP and past meeting recommendations, by which the Secretariat classifies papers as proposals, working papers or information papers and by which it determines whether papers should be made public or their access restricted. Annex A of the paper provided a draft SIOFA Meetings Documents Policy, covering document distribution and access, storage and disposal rules.
245. The EU expressed concern with the general direction of the draft meetings documents policy and emphasised the need for greater transparency. The EU also considered the various document classifications in the draft policy to be overly complex and restrictive.
246. Several participants questioned the practicality and logic of the “restricted” classification, whereby if a document is classified as “restricted”, observers would not have access to it, but the document would then be discussed publicly in plenary with observers present and be projected on the screen.
247. In response to a question for clarification regarding the “confidential” classification for SC documents, the Data Officer and the SC Chairperson explained that the SC has so far not received any documents labelled as “confidential” but that this classification would be useful to have in the event that a paper containing confidential data, such as confidential operational information, were to be submitted to the SC in the future.
248. Japan suggested that closed sessions of the MoP may in practice be attended by not only Heads of Delegation but also other invited delegates and that documents for closed sessions should also be accessible to delegates.
249. The MoP also suggested some other editorial amendments.
250. The DSCC expressed support for greater transparency of SIOFA in its documents and for making documents available to observers and releasing them to the public. The DSCC explained that it has struggled in the past to provide input into the SIOFA process because it had limited access to information on fisheries due to confidentiality issues.
251. **The MoP NOTED that the draft SIOFA Meetings Documents Policy required further development and refinement. The MoP REQUESTED that CCPs provide comments on the draft to the Secretariat in the intersessional period and TASKED the Secretariat to present an updated draft to MoP13.**

7.4 Review of the data collected by the CCPs and data reported to the Secretariat

252. The Data Officer presented MoP-12-29, which described the data required to be collected by CCPs, the data required to be reported to the Secretariat, and the differences between the two types of data, as tasked by MoP11. The Data Officer explained that these two types of data are mostly the same. Regarding Catch and Effort and Observer data, he noted that separating the data collection and the data submission requirements in CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards) would improve flexibility and efficiency when the SC provides recommendations on data to be collected and how the collection should be undertaken. Furthermore, if the data collection requirements were set outside the CMM, there would not be a need to amend and adopt a new CMM every time the data collection needs change. The Data Officer explained that the CC had reviewed the same paper and recommended continuing to keep the data collection requirements and the data submission requirements that are set in CMM 02(2023) in said CMM.
253. **The MoP NOTED that the data to be collected and the data to be reported are usually the same.**
254. **The MoP AGREED to continue to keep the data collection requirements and the data submission requirements that are set in CMM 02(2023) in said CMM, rather than setting the data collection requirements outside the CMM.**

Agenda item 8 – Interim bottom fishing measures

8.1 States or fishing entities that became CCPs before the MoP in 2017 – revision to measures established under CMM 01 (2024)

255. The EU explained that it had submitted a minor update to its measures established under CMM 01(2024). The EU explained that as its relevant legislation is renewed each year, the EU informs the Secretariat of the updated legislative reference each year. The EU confirmed that no revisions of substance have been made to its measures.
256. **The MoP NOTED that no interim bottom fishing measures were submitted under agenda item 8.1.**

8.2 States or fishing entities that became CCPs after the MoP in 2017 – approval of measures pursuant to paragraph 28 of CMM 01 (2024)

257. **The MoP NOTED that no interim bottom fishing measures were submitted under agenda item 8.2.**
258. **The MoP NOTED that agenda item 8 had been included on the MoP's agenda due to the requirements in paragraphs 10(2) and 10(3) of CMM 01(2024) (Interim Management of Bottom Fishing) that revisions to measures established under CMM 01(2024) and approval of measures pursuant to paragraph 28 of CMM 01 (2024) be disclosed to the ordinary Meeting of the Parties. The MoP also NOTED however, that no such measures had been submitted to MoP12 and that this was also the case at many other meetings of the MoP. The MoP further NOTED that CCPs are already asked whether they have disclosed such measures as part of the completion of their compliance reports.**
259. **The MoP AGREED:**
- a. **that any update to a CCP's interim bottom fishing measures could be submitted to the MoP as an information paper with the expectation that they would not be discussed unless the MoP considers this to be necessary; and**
 - b. **that "Interim bottom fishing measures" would no longer be a standing agenda item of the MoP but this would not prejudice CCPs' right to propose its inclusion on the MoP's agenda.**
260. The DSCC urged SIOFA to develop a comprehensive set of bottom fishing conservation

measures that replaces current ad-hoc interim measures applied by individual CCPs and avoids significant adverse impacts (SAIs) on VMEs, including seamounts. The DSCC has made suggestions to past MoPs on BFAs and measures needed based on the FAO deep-sea guidelines and approaches by other RFMOs, including those outlined in MoP-12-INFO-04. DSCC welcomed further discussions at the SC on precautionary approaches, spatial management measures, move-on rules and other measures to protect VMEs, including seamounts, from SAI and applying these in a comprehensive CMM.

261. Mauritius and Seychelles, on behalf of the Joint Commission for the Mauritius-Seychelles JMA, provided a statement reaffirming their serious concern over the continued consideration and potential authorisation of bottom trawling activities in the JMA region. The full statement is included in **Annex O**.

Agenda item 9 – Review and amendment of Conservation Management Measures (CMMs) currently in force

9.1 Amendments to CMM 03 (2016) Data Confidentiality

262. France Territories presented MoP-12-35-Rev2, which proposed amendments to CMM 03(2016) (Data Confidentiality) to implement modifications related to the VMS implementation process and to address longer-term considerations on data confidentiality within SIOFA bodies. France Territories explained that there had been general support for the proposal at CC9 but that CCPs needed time for further consideration, particularly regarding the treatment of economic data.
263. Based on feedback from CCPs, France Territories presented an updated proposal (MoP-12-35-Rev4).
264. **The MoP reviewed and ADOPTED the amendments to CMM 03(2016) (Data Confidentiality) (Annex P).**

9.2 Amendments to CMM 07 (2024) Vessel Authorisation

265. Seychelles withdrew its proposal (MoP-12-42) to amend CMM 07(2024) (Vessel Authorisation) in light of the comments received from CCPs at CC9, as well as the proposed plans of the SC to work towards a definition of bycatch by developing a scientifically based categorisation of the different species that are targeted by the SIOFA fisheries or fall under the category of retained or discarded bycatch. Seychelles thanked CCPs for the comments they provided at CC9.
266. The EU presented MoP-12-43, which proposed an amendment to CMM 07(2024) (Vessel Authorisation) based on discussions by the VMS WG (VMSWG06 Report, para 19). The proposed amendments aimed to establish procedures for handling vessels with incomplete Automatic Location Communicator (ALC) details.
267. **The MoP reviewed and ADOPTED the amendments to CMM 07(2024) (Vessel Authorisation) (Annex Q).**

9.3 Amendments to CMM 12 (2024) Sharks

268. Australia presented MoP-12-41-Rev1, a proposal to amend CMM 12(2024) (Sharks) to implement recommendations made by the SC (SC10 Report, paras 347, 358 and 360). Australia explained that the proposal reflected feedback received from CCPs at CC9 and during the current meeting.
269. The EU explained that it had also submitted a proposal (MoP-12-44) to amend CMM 12(2024) based on the recommendations from SC10. The EU explained that its proposal was similar to that of Australia but that it differed in its interpretation of paragraphs 359 and 360 of the SC10 report regarding the ongoing trial on the use of wire traces. The EU

- noted that the trial has just been completed and that the results will be available soon, that the workshop (WS2025-DWS) will be held to review the results of the trial, and that the SC will also analyse the results and present its advice to MoP13. Therefore, the EU considered it would be premature to include a provision prohibiting the use of wire traces from January 2027. The EU also expressed reservation regarding the inclusion of a footnote with a definition of bycatch, noting that the definition of bycatch is a matter of ongoing discussion, that the purpose of such a definition would be to guide the Secretariat, and that any such definition therefore did not belong in an individual CMM.
270. The Cook Islands supported the Australian proposal, pointing out that the current version already constituted a compromise that had duly taken into consideration the EU's concerns and expressing disappointment that the EU still had reservations. The Cook Islands pointed out that the SC, as well as international scientific literature, has provided clear advice on the effectiveness of the use of wire trace as a mitigation measure, and believed that Australia's proposal was not calling for any premature action.
 271. Australia presented an updated proposal (MoP-12-41-Rev2) with the removal of the footnote defining bycatch and addition of square brackets around the paragraph prohibiting the use of wire traces from January 2027.
 272. The EU reiterated its concern about the inclusion of provisions that pre-emptively prohibit the use of wire traces. The EU noted paragraphs 258 and 259 of the SC9 report and noted that the SC noted that there was limited information available on the impact of wire traces on deep water bycatch rates in bottom long lines and that most research on the use of wire or monofilament traces has been focused on pelagic sharks in tuna fisheries. The EU pointed out that it has financed multiple projects in support of more robust scientific on deepwater sharks, including the proposed trial on the impact of using alternative trace types, which has just been completed, as well as a tagging and sampling protocol for hierarchical risk analysis, genetic analysis, and a post-release survival study. The EU reiterated that the results of the wire trace trial would be reviewed at an SC workshop and at the next SC, that the SC would provide its advice to MoP13, and that the EU would be ready for further discussion at MoP13 based on the outcomes of the trial.
 273. The Cook Islands supported the updated proposal, while expressing disappointment that the current provisions were not more closely aligned with the original SC10 advice.
 274. Australia disagreed with the position expressed by the EU noting the two key measures for subarea 4 and subarea 5 are an urgent and precautionary management response to the expansion of fishing effort in 2024 into new areas of SIOFA for this fishery. Australia also noted the catch of deepwater sharks has increased by over 70% from 2023 to 2024, but agreed to remove the paragraph about prohibiting wire trace and revise its proposal in order to reach consensus (MoP-12-41-Rev3).
 275. Japan expressed its general concern regarding the prohibition of related fishing activities before a stock assessment has been conducted. However, Japan also noted with concern the serious situation in terms of fishing impact on deepwater shark species. Japan stated that it would therefore not block consensus.
 276. **The MoP ADOPTED the amendments to CMM 12(2024) (Sharks) (Annex R).**
 277. **The MoP AGREED that for the purpose of assessing compliance with CMM obligations, the species constituting the majority of the retained catch in a reporting year shall be considered to be a target species. This interpretation shall be applied from the reporting year 2026 and shall not be applied retroactively to the compliance assessments for catches taken in 2024 or 2025. The MoP AGREED that this**

interpretation will only apply to vessels registered on the SIOFA RAV.

278. The Cook Islands thanked Australia for its leadership on this proposal and shared Australia's disappointment that the MoP was not able to include specific provisions regarding the use of wire trace by bottom longline vessels. The Cook Islands noted that the science and the SC10's advice are clear. Despite the MoP's inability to achieve consensus on that paragraph, the Cook Islands strongly supported effective and sustainable fishing practices regarding catch of deepwater sharks and welcomed the adoption of the revised CMM.
279. The EU thanked Australia for taking the EU's concerns and comments into consideration and withdrew its own proposal to amend the same CMM (MoP-12-44).
280. The DSCC thanked Australia for its proposal but expressed disappointment that the measure did not go further in protecting deepwater shark species in these fisheries.

9.4 Amendments to CMM 13 (2022) Mitigation of Seabirds Bycatch

281. The Cook Islands presented MoP-12-37-Rev1, a joint proposal by the Cook Islands and France Territories to amend CMM 13(2022) (Mitigation of Seabirds Bycatch). The proposal was aimed at implementing recommendations made by the SC (SC10 Report, para 419) for more effective seabird bycatch mitigation in SIOFA fisheries consistent with the advice of the SC. The proposal seeks to address global concerns about seabird population declines and the latest scientific advice, including the addition of mitigation requirements for trawl vessels. It also sought to remove redundant text from the current measure.
282. Thailand suggested that the area of application, south of the 25°S, be specified for the measures for trawlers.
283. Japan reiterated the position it expressed at CC9 that, while Japan recognised the importance of seabird mitigation measures, it did not think there was sufficient reason for the proposal to apply such measures to trawl vessels as the incidental seabird mortalities from trawl fisheries in the SIOFA Area are rare.
284. Based on CCPs' feedback, the Cook Islands revised its proposal (MoP-12-37-Rev2), including making some of the proposed trawl measures non-obligatory.
285. Japan thanked the Cook Islands for addressing some of its reservations but expressed its continued concern regarding the application of mitigation measures on trawl vessels, when seabird bycatch is rarely reported from trawl fisheries in the SIOFA Area.
286. France Territories pointed out that the seabird mortality rate is harder to assess for trawl fisheries compared to longline fisheries.
287. Several CCPs expressed support for the proposal, while expressing disappointment that the proposal could not include measures for trawl fisheries that were of a similar robustness to those that have been applied to longline fisheries.
288. Japan noted that the SC had considered the ACAP Best Practices and analyses of seabird distributions, and acknowledged the usefulness of such work. However, Japan did not think it was prudent to directly apply such work to the context of trawl fisheries in the SIOFA Area.
289. The Cook Islands presented an updated proposal reflecting feedback received from CCPs (MoP-12-37-Rev3).
290. Japan reiterated that seabird mortality in SIOFA trawl fisheries is rare and cautioned that seabird distribution and seabird mortality are separate matters. Japan believed that there was therefore no scientific justification for imposing additional obligations on these fisheries.
291. Taking Japan's continued concerns into consideration, the Cook Islands presented a

revised proposal (MoP-12-37-Rev4), in which the proposed measures for trawl fisheries were restructured as voluntary guidelines in the Annex of the CMM.

292. The MoP reviewed the updated proposal and added an editorial amendment (MoP-12-37-Rev5).
293. **The MoP ADOPTED the amendments to CMM 13(2022) (Mitigation of Seabirds Bycatch) (Annex S).**
294. France Territories welcomed the adoption of the proposal and thanked the Cook Islands for its hard work, while reiterating its disappointment that stricter, binding measures could not be adopted for trawl fisheries.
295. Japan reiterated that, as a matter of principle, it did not consider it necessary to impose additional obligations on a fishery where seabird mortality is rare and that it was unconvinced that the papers submitted to the SC justified the imposition of such obligations. However, out of respect for the enthusiasm by the proponents to showcase their seabird-safe fisheries and considering that this is a voluntary guidance, Japan was willing to compromise this time and to support the proposal. Japan cautioned against this becoming a precedent and suggested that there were other ways for CCPs to showcase the efforts of their industry besides adding measures to the CMM.
296. The Cook Islands thanked its co-proponent, France Territories, for working together to develop a proposal that implements the SC's scientific advice and that is in line with ACAP best practice. The Cook Islands noted the critical status of a number of Indian Ocean seabird species and expressed its strong commitment to sustainable fishing operations that include specific and science-based mitigation measures to address seabird bycatch. Despite the trawl elements of the CMM being voluntary, the Cook Islands indicated that it would maintain the measures outlined in the guidelines as mandatory regulations for its flagged vessels to reflect the best practice seabird mitigation and urged other CCPs to also implement those measures.
297. The EU supported the encouragement expressed by the Cook Islands.

9.5 Amendments to CMM 15 (2024) Management of Demersal Stocks

298. Australia presented MoP-12-36, which proposed amendments to CMM 15(2024) (Management of Demersal Stocks) to implement recommendations from SC10 and to reduce the operational burden on vessel operators and the Secretariat in relation to daily notifications. The proposed amendments aim to:
 - a. establish the South Indian Ridge (SIR) management area and the SC recommended catch limit;
 - b. include an interim catch sharing arrangement similar to current practice in Del Cano;
 - c. recognise the ability to transfer catch limits as is currently practiced for Del Cano;
 - d. update the catch limit for Del Cano;
 - e. update the requirement to report catch from Del Cano and SIR to weekly instead of monthly;
 - f. move the VMS requirement in Del Cano to the "general provisions" for toothfish;
 - g. make minor changes to the toothfish reporting forms in the relevant Annexes; and
 - h. trigger daily notifications only when two or more vessels have notified their intent to fish in Williams Ridge.
299. The Cook Islands noted that the EU had proposed amendments to the same CMM and expressed its preference for Australia's proposal as a starting point. The Cook Islands also indicated its preference for first establishing a SIOFA allocation framework before including allocation mechanisms in CMMs.

300. With respect to toothfish allocation in Del Cano and SIR management areas, Japan indicated its preference for the Australian proposal as Japan's toothfish longline fishery would be excluded under the EU proposal.
301. The EU presented MoP-12-46, which proposed amendments to CMM 15(2024) (Management of Demersal Stocks) to incorporate recommendations from SC10 regarding the management of toothfish, orange roughy, and alfonsino. The proposed amendments aimed to:
 - a. establish the SIR management area with a TAC for toothfish and a mechanism for allocating said TAC (SC10 Report, paras 264 and 270);
 - b. increase the TAC for Del Cano Rise (SC10 Report, para 267);
 - c. amend the management system for Williams Ridge by retaining the catch limit while removing effort-based management (SC10 Report, para 248);
 - d. establish a catch limit for orange roughy (SC10 Report, para 224); and
 - e. establish a catch limit for alfonsino (MoP10 Report, para 79).
302. Australia and the EU prepared a merged proposal (MoP-12-46-Rev1) that combined elements from each other's proposals. The EU presented the proposal for the MoP's consideration.
303. CCPs had different views on the catch-sharing arrangements for the proposed SIR management area.
304. In the absence of an agreed catch-sharing mechanism for SIR, CCPs could not reach consensus on the establishment of the proposed SIR management area and associated catch limit.
305. France Territories pointed out that the SC has advised that there is one toothfish population across the Del Cano Rise management area and the proposed SIR management area. Therefore, in order to ensure the sustainability of this toothfish population, France Territories did not support an increase in the TAC for Del Cano Rise without the establishment of the proposed SIR management area and associated catch limit.
306. Australia stated that it did not support the removal of the grid cell-based management measures for Williams Ridge without first seeking the SC's advice on an appropriate catch limit.
307. Australia withdrew its proposal to update the requirement to report catch from Del Cano and SIR to weekly instead of monthly, explaining that this had been premised on the establishment of the SIR management area.
308. Mauritius expressed concern with regard to the catch limits being proposed for orange roughy and alfonsino. Mauritius was of the opinion that since there are no recent stock assessments for alfonsino carried out and given that there are no mechanisms for control or monitoring, a catch limit cannot be implemented at this stage for both species.
309. In the absence of allocation mechanisms for orange roughy and alfonsino, CCPs could not reach consensus on establishing catch limits for these fisheries.
310. The MoP reviewed and revised the merged proposal (MoP-12-46-Rev3).
311. **The MoP ADOPTED the amendments to CMM 15(2024) (Management of Demersal Stocks) (Annex T).**
312. Australia expressed its disappointment and concern that the MoP had once again made no progress in establishing the SIR management area and an appropriate catch limit for that area, which were both key scientific committee recommendations. Australia considered this to be another example of the MoP's inability to make progress on substantive issues, which is impacting on the integrity of SIOFA and the credibility of its

fisheries. Australia emphasised the need for CCPs to work together over the next year to resolve this issue and implement the recommendations to harmonise the management of toothfish to ensure its long-term sustainable use.

313. The EU expressed its disappointment that the MoP could not reach a consensus on adopting the different recommendations of the SC and incorporating them in CMM 15(2023), particularly the lack of consensus on the establishment of SIR, its associated TAC and an allocation mechanism. The EU noted that establishing a TAC without an allocation mechanism would result in an Olympic fishery, which it did not consider to be appropriate fishery management. The EU expressed its intention to continue to engage actively with other toothfish harvesters to find a way forward. The EU also expressed its disappointment that the MoP did not adopt a TAC for orange roughy, noting the advice for the setting of an orange roughy catch limit in paragraph 224 of the SC10 report, as well as paragraph 79 of the MoP10 report in which the MoP endorsed the recommendations in paragraph 178 of the SC8 report regarding candidate HCRs for interim management. The EU acknowledged that CCPs actively fishing on this stock were not ready to adopt a TAC without an allocation mechanism, but did not think it appropriate for the EU, which does not fish for orange roughy, to propose an allocation mechanism. The EU called on CCPs fishing for orange roughy and for alfonsino to propose the establishment of catch limits for those species based on the SC's advice. The EU also reminded the MoP that CMM 15 is not a toothfish management measure but a measure to manage demersal stocks.
314. The DSCC expressed disappointment with the final results of CMM 15. It reiterated its concern over unconstrained and unregulated toothfish fishing continuing to take place. It also expressed disappointment that SIOFA could not agree to a catch limit for orange roughy fisheries given the recommendations by the SC10. The DSCC urged the MoP to adopt catch limits for all toothfish fisheries, and for orange roughy and alfonsino fisheries at MoP13.
315. SIOFA noted that the orange roughy and alfonsino fisheries are effort limited and that there are not enough vessels currently operating in SIOFA to exceed the recommended catch limits.

9.6 Amendments to CMM 16 (2023) Vessel Monitoring System

316. The EU presented MoP-12-45, which proposed amendments to CMM 16(2023) (Vessel Monitoring System) based on discussions by the VMS WG (VMSWG06 Report, para 24). The proposed amendments aimed to refine technical specifications and operational procedures for the SIOFA VMS.
317. **The MoP reviewed and ADOPTED the amendments to CMM 16(2023) (Vessel Monitoring System) (Annex U).**

9.7 Amendments to CMM 17 (2024) New and Exploratory Fisheries

318. The EU presented MoP-12-47, which proposed amendments to CMM 17(2024) (New and Exploratory Fisheries) to specify the area of China's established squid jigging fishery in the Agreement Area based on information submitted by China on its historic squid fishery (SC10 Report, paras 311–313).
319. China sought clarification regarding the intended meaning of paragraph 227 of the MoP11 report, which states, "The MoP AGREED that CCPs may participate in the established fisheries in the SIOFA Area listed in Annex 1 of the new CMM, provided said fishery is not a bottom fishery, the CCP uses the same gears as have been used in the established fishery, and the CCP's fishing activity operates in the same area, not exceeding the area of the established fishery". China indicated its understanding that this

meant that any CCP may participate in an established fishery that meets the abovementioned conditions without having to conduct a BFIA or other procedures required for a new and exploratory fishery, such as the submission of an FOP.

320. China noted that squid are a mobile and pelagic species with a short lifecycle. China noted that, in light of squids' biological and ecological characteristics, the operational scope of its squid fisheries should not be limited to the current areas in Annex 1. China expressed its intention to provide updated historical data and other information to SC11 and seek a consideration of the appropriate operational scope for its squid fisheries.
321. **The MoP reviewed and ADOPTED the amendments to CMM 17(2024) (New and Exploratory Fisheries) (Annex V).**

9.8 Other amendments to CMMs

322. The Science Officer presented the SC's proposed editorial amendments to the revised VME indicator taxa list in Annex 1 of CMM 01(2024) (Interim Management of Bottom Fishing), as described in Annex D.1 of the SC10 report.
323. **The MoP reviewed and ADOPTED the above amendments to CMM 01(2024) (Interim Management of Bottom Fishing) (Annex W).**
324. The MoP discussed additional amendments to CMM 01(2024) in conjunction with its consideration of a proposal for a new CMM for Benthic Fishery Closures under agenda item 10.1.
325. The Science Officer presented MoP-12-51, which detailed the SC's proposed amendments to CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards).
326. **The MoP reviewed and ADOPTED the amendments to CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards) (Annex X).**

Agenda item 10 – New Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs)

10.1 Proposal for a Benthic Protected Areas CMM

327. The Cook Islands presented MoP-12-38-Rev3, a joint proposal by Australia, the Cook Islands, and Japan, which proposed a new CMM for benthic fishery closures (BFCs). The proposal aimed to enact the recommendations from the workshop to progress future protected area designation (WS2024-PAD) and SC10 (SC10 Report, paras 443, 445, 447, 449, 451, 453, 455, 457, 459, 461, 463 and 465) to establish 12 BFCs within the Agreement Area, comprising nine areas closed to all bottom fishing and three areas closed to bottom fishing but with allowances for bottom longlining. The Cook Islands explained that the proposal also incorporated feedback received from CCPs at CC9.
328. Mauritius appreciated the Cook Islands' efforts to amend the proposal to avoid overlap with Mauritius' maritime zones. Nevertheless, Mauritius expressed its serious and continuing concern that even with the adjusted boundaries, the proposed CMM still covers areas that are subject to exploratory activities being undertaken under the auspices of the International Seabed Authority (ISA). Mauritius cautioned against adopting unilateral or uncoordinated measures within SIOFA, without consultation with the ISA. Mauritius urged the MoP to consider a more coherent and coordinated approach, including the possibility of initiating formal consultations with the ISA. Mauritius expressed its continued commitment to constructive engagement in SIOFA's efforts to protect VMEs, but reiterated the need to ensure that such measures do not conflict with parallel international legal frameworks or scientific activities and that any ongoing activities conducted under the realm of international law should not be affected by any SIOFA measures.
329. Of the two alternate approaches in the Cook Islands' proposal that were aimed at

addressing Mauritius' concerns, some CCPs expressed their preference for adding a clarifying footnote regarding the proposed Mid-Indian Ridge BFC, although one of these CCPs requested more general language than the phrase "territorial claims".

330. The Cook Islands clarified that it had no intention to propose any measures that would conflict with international processes or impinge on any CCP's sovereign rights, and expressed its intention to continue to work with CCPs to address any concerns they may have.
331. The DSCC welcomed the proposals for the establishment of BFCs, which are within the competence of SIOFA in restricting bottom fishing where it causes harm. The DSCC noted that these areas have gone through extensive consultation and discussion through the SC processes over the last year and considered these measures to be an important part of protecting VMEs, including seamounts, and associated biodiversity. The DSCC looked forward to the proposals being adopted by the MoP.
332. The Cook Islands updated its proposal further to address CCPs' feedback (MoP-12-38-Rev4).
333. The MoP reviewed the updated proposal and made some additional editorial amendments (MoP-12-38-Rev4).
334. **The MoP ADOPTED the new CMM (CMM 18(2025)) for Benthic Fishery Closures (Annex Y).**
335. **The MoP NOTED that, with the adoption of CMM 18(2025) for BFCs, paragraphs 42, 43 and 44 of CMM 01(2024) (Interim Management of Bottom Fishing) would become redundant and AGREED to revise CMM 01(2024) by deleting these paragraphs and Annex 3 to update CMM 01.**
336. **The MoP ADOPTED the amendments to CMM 01(2024) (Interim Management of Bottom Fishing) (Annex W), which also included an update of Annex 1, VME Indicator Taxa.**
337. SIODFA congratulated the Cook Islands, Japan, and Australia on the adoption of the BFCs and thanked them for their efforts. SIODFA noted that it was a world first when a group of fishing companies instituted these protected areas in 2006 and that SIODFA has stood by its commitments to these areas for nearly 20 years. SIODFA welcomed SIOFA carrying on this work into the future.
338. The DSCC welcomed the adoption of the new CMM for BFCs as a significant step forward in protecting benthic areas and associated biodiversity in the SIOFA Area. The DSCC considered this a first step in the protection of VMEs, including seamounts, and looked forward to the identification of further protected areas in the future.

10.2 Proposal for an interim SIOFA allocation framework CMM

339. The Cook Islands presented MoP-12-39-Rev2, which proposed a new CMM for a SIOFA allocation framework based on the direction of the MoP, the discussions of the SC, and the discussions of the CC. The proposed allocation framework would establish allocation criteria and include stipulations related to catch management measures such as allocation transfers and the management of overages, underages and carryovers. The framework would apply to all established SIOFA fisheries.
340. In response to a question for clarification, the Cook Islands confirmed that the new allocation framework would not supersede existing allocations but would be applied in any future reallocation. The EU shared the Cook Islands' interpretation.
341. The EU thanked the Cook Islands for including contribution to science in the allocation criteria, but called for more emphasis to be placed on this criterion.
342. Australia cautioned that emphasising contribution to science could disadvantage

developing States, which may have had fewer opportunities than developed States to make such contributions.

343. In response to a question for clarification, the Cook Islands confirmed that the proposed 5% total annual catch allocation for new entrants was intended to be the combined allocation for all new entrants in a given year, rather than the percentage allocated to each new entrant.
344. Seychelles and Mauritius expressed concern regarding the 5% total annual catch allocation for new entrants and because the provision does not make a distinction between a new CP and PFE entrant and a new CNCP entrant. They pointed out that 5% was a minimal amount, that these provisions would prevent the participation of new entrants, and that this would prejudice the legitimate rights and aspirations of developing coastal States, particularly small island developing States (SIDS), from developing their own sustainable fisheries.
345. The Cook Islands clarified that it had no intention to prejudice the rights of developing States and that it placed great importance on such rights. The Cook Islands explained that it had tried to find a balance between the rights and aspirations of new entrants, and the rights of existing participants.
346. Several CCPs suggested that paragraphs 6 and 7 required further consideration and refinement.
347. Thailand suggested that the proposal should more clearly tie allocation in each fishery to the underlying scientific information and data about that fishery.
348. CCPs also suggested a number of other editorial amendments.
349. The Cook Islands presented an updated proposal (MoP-12-39-Rev3) based on CCPs' comments.
350. Seychelles and Mauritius pointed out that the updated proposal still did not address their concerns.
351. The MoP could not reach consensus on the adoption of the proposal.
352. **The MoP NOTED continued interest among CCPs for the development of a SIOFA allocation framework and AGREED to continue to discuss this matter at MoP13.**
353. The Cook Islands thanked CCPs for their engagement and feedback and expressed its intention to work intersessionally with CCPs and develop a new proposal to present to MoP13.

10.3 Other new CMM

354. A draft CMM for Comoros' planned hapuka fishery (MoP-12-52) was tabled but not discussed due to time constraints.

Agenda item 11 – Capacity building needs for developing states

11.1 Technical assistance needed for the implementations of obligations

355. Pew informed the MoP that it would be able to provide support for CCPs' capacity building in specific areas, such as the development and implementation of HCRs and management strategy evaluation (MSE). Pew offered to hold further discussions with individual CCPs on the sidelines of the meeting.
356. The MoP welcomed the offer from Pew.

11.2 Review of existing mechanisms to provide support to developing States and other relevant information relating to Article 13.

357. The Executive Secretary presented MoP-12-24-Rev1, which provided an overview of the existing mechanisms to provide support to developing States under Article 13 of the

Agreement, focusing on the needs of the developing States bordering SIOFA, the cooperation between the parties, and the provision of financial assistance to eligible countries. SIOFA appears to be compliant with the Agreement. However, the Agreement has no clear definition of “developing States”. The Secretariat used the World Bank’s classification on some CCPs, but this could disadvantage small island States that might soon achieve high-income status while remaining dependent on the level of the previous supports that it would no longer be eligible to receive. To avoid this, it could be appropriate to introduce vulnerability indices that make it possible to identify the needs of any CCP more precisely and to draw up an action plan with each of them progressively.

358. **The MoP NOTED the work done by the Secretariat to develop a paper that outlines the existing mechanisms to provide support to developing States and other relevant information relating to Article 13, as tasked by MoP11.**
359. China reiterated its position that the developing status of a State is a political and economic issue and not a fisheries issue. China state that it would not be prudent for SIOFA to discuss this status and suggested following the World Bank or UN classification of “developing State”.
360. The EU suggested that the MoP had a general understanding of CCPs’ level of development and capacity and that the MoP should take a pragmatic and non-restrictive approach in providing support for CCPs’ capacity building, without trying to discuss any SIOFA-specific definition of “developing State”.
361. The Cook Islands welcomed the discussion and recognition of the rights of developing States, particularly SIDS, to access resources as part of global commons. The Cook Islands agreed that SIOFA should not seek to redefine “developing States”. The Cook Islands supported an approach in which the Secretariat and CCPs give close consideration to how best to support developing States, particularly SIDS, and explore ways to share ideas and knowledge to support and value their rights.
362. The Executive Secretary clarified that the Secretariat was not intending to suggest that the MoP develop a SIOFA-specific definition of “developing State” and was only seeking the MoP’s guidance on the appropriate reference to apply. The Executive Secretary explained that it currently applies the World Bank classification.
363. Chinese Taipei noted that the World Bank classification may not be the only reference that SIOFA could apply.
364. Seychelles did not object to the use of the World Bank classification but suggested that MVI should also be considered.
365. **The MoP discussed mechanisms for providing support to developing States and the prioritisation of capacity-building efforts and AGREED on the following:**
 - a. **The Secretariat can continue to use the World Bank’s classification for “developing States”, as appropriate.**
 - b. **Vulnerability indices can be introduced to gauge the eligibility for assistance.**
 - c. **Support for capacity-building needs will be provided on a request basis, with CCPs being responsible for conveying their needs and requests to the Secretariat.**
 - d. **The Secretariat will consider any requests it receives and endeavour to accommodate those requests to the extent possible.**
 - e. **If the Secretariat receives multiple requests in the same year, higher priority will be given to the following:**
 - i. **requests that are more likely to enhance the capacity of CCPs to implement the obligations under the Agreement and the SIOFA**

CMMs;

- ii. requests from CCPs that have not previously received capacity building support or have received such support less recently; and
 - iii. requests from CCPs that are SIDS.
- f. If funding is required for the provision of capacity-building support, the Secretariat will notify the MoP and seek its approval for the proposed support activities and allocation of the associated budget.

11.3 Review of the options to facilitate and address the capacity building needs of CCP developing States

366. The Executive Secretary presented MoP-12-25-Rev2, paper that was developed by the Secretariat following the request from the MoP to identify capacity building needs of developing States and provide options for addressing these needs. The paper was prepared through consultation with CCPs, who identified a range of needs spanning science, data, general capacity, compliance, and needs straddling data/compliance and data/science. It also reflects input from the SC and the CC. The Executive Secretary presented potential options for addressing these needs and invited the MoP to comment on capacity building needs/mechanisms.
367. **The MoP NOTED the work done by the Secretariat in preparing the paper (MoP-12-25-Rev2) on options for facilitating and addressing the capacity building needs of CCP developing States.**
368. **The MoP TASKED the Secretariat to correspond with the relevant CCPs to seek their input on their preferences among the proposed options in MoP-12-25-Rev2 and to submit an updated paper, with CCPs' input, for review to SC11, CC10, and MoP13.**
369. Mauritius informed that it had presented two BFIA reports in connection with bottom trawl to SC10 for assessment. The SC raised additional points in order to develop the BFIA and these aspects were not found in the BFIA standard. In this context, Mauritius proposed that the SIOFA BFIA standard needs to be reviewed for a more practical means to ensure that it contains all the aspects required for the development of a BFIA. Based on the recommendations of SC10 (SC10 Report, para 156), it was proposed that a checklist be developed to assess any BFIA in the future. Mauritius requested that this checklist should be developed. Mauritius then requested the assistance of the Secretariat with respect to preparation of the BFIA, in line with the BFIA standard.
370. The SC Chairperson thanked Mauritius and noted that the BFIA standard was on the SIOFA website. He invited CCPs to provide a paper to the SC that may help further refine and clarify the BFIA standard.
371. Pew suggested that it could work with the Secretariat and that it could hold a two or three-day workshop that would encompass all three options proposed for addressing need no. 19 (Development and implementation of HCRs and MSE) in SC-12-25-Rev2.

Agenda item 12 – Climate Change

12.1 Identification of advice required from Scientific Committee on the implications of climate change

372. Australia noted the inclusion of Project CLI-2024-01 for the assessment of SIOFA species and ecosystems for vulnerability to climate change impacts in the SC work plan. Australia welcomed this planned work as a good first step to support SIOFA's future discussions in relation to climate change.
373. The DSCC welcomed the inclusion of climate change in the MoP agenda. The DSCC urged SIOFA to incorporate climate change impacts into its decisions and CMMs and indicated

that it had submitted further suggestions on this subject in MoP-12-INFO-04, including the MoP considering what advice it would like from the SC on the potential implications of climate change on SIOFA ecosystems and species. The DSCC also urged the MoP to support funding for research proposals by the SC to assess SIOFA species and ecosystems for vulnerability to climate change impacts.

374. The FAO-DSF Project noted that it has been working with RFMO partners on climate change through focused project consultancies and would hold a virtual workshop with scientists and managers in late 2025 or in 2026 to review the results of these consultancies with project partners. The FAO-DSF Project encouraged MoP participants to join the workshop.

Agenda item 13 – Secretariat administration

13.1 SIOFA Procurement Policy for High-Value Services / Goods

375. The Compliance Officer presented MoP-12-03, which provided a proposal for a high-value procurement policy and procedures. The Compliance Officer explained that, in light of SIOFA's growing operational needs, it is necessary to establish a transparent, fair, and efficient process for procuring high-value goods and services that is aligned with SIOFA's Financial Regulations and other standard best practices. The policy outlines procedures for needs assessment, competitive bidding, evaluation by a designated panel, and contract implementation. It also allows for specific exemptions to maintain flexibility, while robust reporting and recordkeeping ensure transparency and accountability.
376. The MoP reviewed and updated the policy (MoP-12-03-Rev1).
377. **The MoP ADOPTED the High-Value Procurement Policy and Procedures for SIOFA (Annex Z) and AGREED to enter it into effect immediately following the close of MoP12.**

13.2 Report on Secretariat activities (since MoP11)

378. The Executive Secretary presented a report (MoP-12-02) on staff resources and Secretariat activities prepared in accordance with Rule 8.1(f) and 8.1(g).
379. **The MoP NOTED the report on the Secretariat activities in MoP-12-02.**
380. The Executive Secretary encouraged CCPs to send the Secretariat a confirmation of receipt in response to SIOFA Circulars sent by the Secretariat.

13.2.1 Actions done relative to SIOFA Performance Review recommendations

381. The Secretariat presented MoP-12-26-Rev2, which provided a summary of the status of the implementation of the recommendations proposed by the SIOFA Performance Review Panel in 2023 and adopted by MoP10. The summary was updated at MoP11, with input from the SC and the CC. Further updates have been proposed by SC10 and CC9. The Executive Secretary invited the MoP to provide further comments as appropriate.
382. The MoP reviewed the implementation plan and added further comments. The updated implementation plan is attached as **Annex AA**.
383. **The MoP AGREED to implement a more streamlined process for reviewing the status of the implementation of the SIOFA Performance Review recommendations going forward as follows:**
- a. **The implementation status of recommendations that relate to the work of the subsidiary bodies of the MoP will be reviewed and discussed within the relevant subsidiary body and captured in any output from those bodies, e.g., the SC and CC reports.**
 - b. **The MoP's review will focus on the implementation status of recommendations that require the specific direction of the MoP and recommendations for which**

progress has been made in the intersessional period.

- c. **The MoP will not regularly review the implementation status of recommendations that are incomplete and for which no actions have been taken in the intersessional period.**
- d. **The table of recommendations in the paper presented by the Secretariat for the MoP will be reordered as follows:**
 - i. **Recommendations on which progress has been made in the intersessional period will be presented at the top of the table.**
 - ii. **Recommendations that have been adopted by the MoP and completed will be moved to second from bottom in the table;**
 - iii. **Recommendations that the MoP has not adopted will be moved to bottom in the table.**

13.3 Financial status

384. Agenda item 13.3 and its sub-agenda items were discussed in a closed session.

13.3.1 Update on the 2020 fraud

385. China informed the MoP that it is making progress in recovering the defrauded funds for its 2019 and 2020 contributions. China will continue to push forward in its efforts to recover the defrauded sum and remit it to SIOFA as soon as possible.

386. The Executive Secretary stated that the Secretariat will continue to support China's efforts to recover these contributions and hopes that the matter will be resolved before the end of 2026.

387. The MoP held more detailed discussions on this matter, including the information provided in MoP-12-20, in a meeting of the Heads of Delegation.

13.3.2 Financial report

388. The Executive Secretary presented a report on financial resources (MoP-12-05) to the MoP with an overview of the budget position, annual financial statements and any funds held in reserve, in accordance with Regulation 9.1 of the Financial Regulations and Rule 8(1)(f) of the RoP.

389. **The MoP NOTED the Report on Financial Resources provided by the Secretariat in MoP-12-05.**

13.3.3 External Auditor report

390. The Executive Secretary presented the Auditor's report (MoP-12-06). The report confirmed that, in all material respects, SIOFA's financial position as at 31 December 2024 and its financial performance for the year then ended are in compliance with SIOFA Financial Regulations.

391. **The MoP NOTED the annual financial statements and the Auditor's report presented in MoP-12-06.**

13.4 SIOFA Budget

392. Agenda item 13.4 and its sub-agenda items were discussed in a closed session.

13.4.1 Mid-year budget tracking paper with the actual expenditure

393. The Executive Secretary presented the 2025 mid-year budget report (MoP-12-INFO-01).

394. **The MoP NOTED the mid-year budget report provided in MoP-12-INFO-01.**

13.4.2 Provisional 2026 budget and 2027 forecast budget

395. The Executive Secretary presented the draft SIOFA 2026 budget in MoP-12-04-Rev2. CCPs requested clarifications and modifications to the draft budget, and the MoP incorporated those changes in the 2026 budget.

396. Information on the 2026 forecast budget is available in MoP-12-04-Rev2.

397. **The MoP AGREED to step increments for the Secretariat members as described in MoP-**

12-04-Rev2.

398. **The MoP AGREED to extend the duration of future contracts for professional officers of the Secretariat from two years to three years to provide greater contract stability.**
399. Australia indicated its intention to host the SC11 meeting and suggested that it may be able to bear some of the meeting support costs that are currently allocated for the SC11 meeting in the 2026 budget, subject to further internal discussions.
400. Seychelles indicated its intention to host the CC10 and MoP13 meetings and suggested that it may be able to bear some of the meeting support costs that are currently allocated for those in the 2026 budget, subject to further internal discussions.
401. The EU called for CCPs that are actively participating in fisheries to make not only in-kind but also financial voluntary contributions to support related research activities.

13.4.3 Adoption of the budget

402. **The MoP ADOPTED the 2026 budget (Annex AB), in accordance with Financial Regulation 3.7.**

Agenda item 14 - Cooperation with other RFMOs, international bodies and other relevant matters

14.1 Cooperation with CCAMLR, RFMOs and other international organisations**14.1.1 CCAMLR**

403. The Executive Secretary reported that members of the Secretariat attended the 43rd meetings of CCAMLR and the CCAMLR Scientific Committee virtually and that the El Shaddai vessel was removed from the CCAMLR IUU vessel list at the CCAMLR annual meeting.

14.1.2 SEAFO

404. The Executive Secretary reported that the Secretariat was not able to attend meetings of the South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO) this year due to scheduling reasons but that it continues to maintain close cooperation with SEAFO.

14.1.3 SWIOFC

405. The Compliance Officer reported that he participated in an extraordinary meeting of South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC), the SWIOFC Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) Experts Workshop, and the SWIOFC Working Party on Collaboration and Cooperation in Tuna Fisheries.

14.1.4 SPRFMO

406. The Executive Secretary reported that cooperation with the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO) is continuing.

14.1.5 ACAP

407. The Executive Secretary reiterated that the MoP made an intersessional decision to renew the MoU between the MoP and the ACAP Secretariat.

14.1.6 IOTC

408. The Executive Secretary reported that the Secretariat attended IOTC meetings on Reunion Island in April. The Executive Secretary reminded the MoP of its previous discussions on trying to conclude an MoU with the IOTC and the MoP's view that SIOFA and the IOTC could continue to collaborate in an informal manner. He reported that the Secretariat is continuing to explore options for more formal cooperative arrangements between the two organisations. The Executive Secretary also reported that, in conjunction with the 29th Session of the IOTC, the Secretariat organised an informal cocktail dinner on SIOFA premises for IOTC delegates, SIOFA delegates, and the Secretariat staff to discuss mutual objectives.

409. The Compliance Officer reported that he visited the Secretariat headquarters of the North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC) to learn from the NPFC's data security and confidentiality measures and data management practices in relation to the operation of the NPFC VMS. He reported that he was also able to exchange best practices with the NPFC Secretariat and that the two sides shared information about their current scientific projects and how scientific projects are managed.

14.2 Cooperation with FAO

14.2.1 FAO ABNJ Deep Sea Fisheries Project

410. The FAO presented MoP-12-INFO-05, which provided an overview of the DSF Project's recent and upcoming activities relevant to SIOFA. Key achievements include the convening of a virtual workshop on the application of the precautionary approach to the management of DSF stocks; the holding of various capacity building workshops and training, including an observer training capacity building workshop for SIOFA CCPs in Mauritius; the organizing of a Symposium on the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM), in collaboration with the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES); an industry workshop with DSF industry operators from across the globe; and development of a "smart" Deepwater Shark Guide. Proposed activities for 2025–2026 include a workshop on deepwater sharks to be held on 14–16 July 2025, a workshop on improving the integration of cross-sectoral activities to maintain biodiversity and resource sustainability to be held on 24–26 September 2025, activities from September 2025 in partnership with ICES to examine data-collection requirements and assessment methods that will help determine the status of select data-limited stocks, and a joint cruise with the R/V Nansen in the SIOFA Area in November/December 2025.
411. The Executive Secretary reported that the Secretariat participated in the observer training capacity building workshop and that it will participate in the workshop on deepwater sharks and joint research cruise with the R/V Nansen.

14.2.2 FAO Regional Fishery Body Secretariats' Network (RSN)

412. The Executive Secretary reported that he attended the Honiara Summit in the Solomon Islands with support from the Sasakawa Peace Foundation and that he attended an event on the role of regional fisheries bodies in supporting implementation of SDG 14.4. held by RSN in conjunction with the Summit.

14.2.3 FAO FIRMS

413. The Science Officer reported that he attended the FAO Fisheries and Resources Monitoring System (FIRMS) 9th Technical Workgroup meeting virtually and completed the annual submission of aggregated data to FAO-FIRMS.

14.3 Cooperation with SWIOP

414. The Compliance Officer presented MoP-12-49, which proposed EU support for SIOFA under the new Sustainable Western Indian Ocean Programme (SWIOP) and sought agreement for the signing of an MoU with Expertise France, the implementing partner for the "Support to RFMOs (IOTC & SIOFA)" component of SWIOP. The project would include activities contributing to the general strengthening of SIOFA and designing capacity-building activities that would benefit the entire membership of SIOFA and would support specific CCPs, namely Mauritius, Seychelles and Comoros. Due to the project timing, the MoU would need to be signed intersessionally by the end of 2025.
415. The EU provided some additional background information regarding SWIOP. The EU explained that the Secretariat had been actively involved in drafting the ToR for the project to ensure that it reflects the needs of SIOFA. However, SWIOP would not

significantly add to the Secretariat's workload, nor require any additional allocation to the SIOFA budget. Under SWIOP, direct in-country activities can be conducted in Mauritius, Seychelles, or Comoros. SWIOP can also support other activities that support SIOFA as a whole, provided they are not in-country activities in other CCPs' countries.

- 416. **The MoP NOTED the proposed EU Support.**
- 417. **The MoP AGREED to the participation of SIOFA in the SWIOP Project and TASKED the Secretariat to sign the proposed MoU between SIOFA and Expertise France on its behalf.**
- 418. The MoP also discussed the importance of SIOFA staying abreast of developments related to the BBNJ Agreement and other relevant fora. The Chairperson recalled that RFMOs can use advice provided by other international organisations such as FAO, but RFMOs are to remain independent and to develop their own management measures.
- 419. **The MoP TASKED the Secretariat to gather information about developments related to BBNJ and other fora of relevance to SIOFA where possible in the course of its activities, such as its participation in the RSN, and to submit information papers with this information to future meetings of the MoP.**
- 420. The DSCC welcomed efforts by SIOFA to prepare for the entry into force of the BBNJ Agreement and drew the MoP's attention to MoP-12-INFO-03, which contained the DSCC's recommended actions for the MoP.

Agenda item 15 – Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CNCs)

- 421. The Executive Secretary explained that in accordance with the SIOFA RoP, the Secretariat extended invitations to Somalia, Kenya, Madagascar, Maldives, Mozambique, South Africa, Yemen, and Tanzania to participate in the CC9 and MoP12 meetings.

15.1 Renewal of CNCP status

15.1.1 Comoros

- 422. The MoP acknowledged that Comoros had written to the Secretariat on 25 April 2025 to apply to retain its CNCP status (MoP-12-27).
- 423. **The MoP AGREED that Comoros qualifies to retain its CNCP status in 2025.**
- 424. The MoP invited and encouraged Comoros to become a CP, noting that this would be the appropriate way forward as Comoros begins fishing operations and expands its fishing interests, and would enable Comoros to participate directly in SIOFA decision-making.
- 425. Comoros expressed its intention to become a SIOFA CP and explained that it has initiated procedures to that end.

15.1.2 India

- 426. The MoP acknowledged that India had written to the Secretariat on 25 April 2025 to apply to retain its CNCP status (MoP-12-28).
- 427. India acknowledged the concerns raised by the CC and the MoP regarding its absence from CC9, the delayed submission of its compliance report, and its failure to respond to follow-up queries. India explained about unforeseen technical issues and reporting limits as a non-fishing CNCP. India explained that it had submitted its revised Compliance Report (MoP-12-53) on 1 July 2025 and explained that it had taken a number of remedial steps to avoid recurrence of the above issues. Furthermore, India expressed its commitment to upholding the objectives and principles of SIOFA and provided its assurances that it would comply with the requirements of SIOFA fully in future.
- 428. The MoP expressed its disappointment that India had once again failed to engage fully with the SIOFA compliance assessment process, including not attending CC9, submitting its compliance report late and without sufficient detail, and not responding to follow-ups

from the Secretariat. The MoP also expressed its disappointment that India had not submitted the information that it had committed to providing at MoP11 until partway through MoP12. The MoP emphasised that several CCPs would be unwilling to consider renewing India's CNCP status in 2026 if it did not attend CC10. On the other hand, the MoP welcomed India's continued interest in SIOFA, especially as a coastal State.

429. The Executive Secretary reminded the MoP that it had previously agreed that only in-person participants could make interventions at SIOFA meetings and that virtual participants were limited to observing. He also reminded India that, as a developing State, it is eligible to apply for support to attend SIOFA meetings in person in accordance with the SIOFA Financial Regulations.
430. **The MoP AGREED that India qualifies to retain its CNCP status in 2025.**

Agenda item 16 – Future Chairing arrangements

16.1 Chairperson of the SC

431. **The MoP AGREED to extend the term of Mr Alistair Dunn as the Chairperson of the SC for two years.**
432. Mr Dunn thanked the MoP for agreeing to extend his term and expressed his appreciation to all members of the SC for their active engagement and cooperation.
433. **The MoP NOTED that Dr Zhou Fang (China) had completed the first year of his two-year term as an SC Vice Chairperson and that he intended to continue to serve in his position in the coming year.**
434. **The MoP NOTED that the SC agreed to elect Ms Charlotte Chazeau (France Territories) as a new SC Vice Chairperson.**

16.2 Chairperson of the Compliance Committee

435. **The MoP NOTED that the CC Chairperson, Mrs Meera Koonjul (Mauritius), and the CC Vice Chairperson, Mr Patrick Sachs (Australia), completed the first year of their two-year terms at the end of the CC9 meeting and that both intend to continue to serve in their positions in the coming year.**

16.3 Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Meeting of the Parties (MoP)

436. **The Meeting of the Parties AGREED that Ms Anaïd Panossian (France Territories) would serve as its Chairperson and that Ms Laura Marot (EU) would serve as its Vice-Chairperson from the conclusion of the 12th Meeting of the Parties to the conclusion of the 13th Meeting of the Parties.**

Agenda item 17 – Any other business

437. **The MoP NOTED that CCPs' remote delegates had been unable to participate in the closed sessions due to the Secretariat's concerns about access by MoP participants that were not authorised to attend these sessions. The MoP AGREED that, going forward, the MoP plenary sessions and MoP closed sessions would be separate Zoom meetings with separate links, thereby enabling remote CCP delegates to attend closed sessions, while addressing concerns about unauthorised access.**

Agenda item 18 – 2026 meeting arrangements

438. **The MoP AGREED that the 11th meeting of the SC will take place from 23 to 31 March 2026.**
439. **Australia tentatively expressed its intention to host the 11th meeting of the SC.**
440. The MoP thanked Australia for its offer.
441. **The MoP AGREED that the 10th meeting of the CC will take place from 1 to 3 July 2026**

and the 13th Meeting of the Parties will take place from 6 to 10 July 2026.

442. **Seychelles confirmed its intention to host the 10th meeting of the CC and the 13th Meeting of the Parties.**

443. The MoP thanked Seychelles for hosting the meetings.

Agenda item 19 – Report adoption

444. **The MoP ADOPTED the report of its 12th ordinary meeting at 12:25 p.m., 4 July 2025.**

Agenda item 20 – Meeting closure

445. The MoP thanked the Government of Mauritius for hosting the meeting.

446. The MoP thanked the Chairperson for his leadership and wished him a very happy birthday.

447. The Chairperson thanked the MoP, the Executive Secretary and the Secretariat, the interpreters, the rapporteur, and the technical team for their hard work.

448. The MoP thanked the Executive Secretary and the Secretariat for their efforts, the interpreters for their contribution, the rapporteur for his work, and the technical team for its support.

449. The meeting was closed at 12:30 p.m., 4 July 2025.

**MINISTRY OF AGRO-INDUSTRY, FOOD SECURITY, BLUE ECONOMY
AND FISHERIES**

Opening Ceremony

**Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
(SIOFA)**

12th Meeting of Parties

on

30 June 2025

Hennessy Park Hotel, Ebene

**Speech by Honourable A. Boolell,
Minister of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue
Economy and Fisheries**

Mr Ichiro Nomura, Chairperson of the 12th Meeting of Parties;

Distinguished Heads of Delegations from Australia, Cook Island, China, Comoros, the European Union, France on behalf of its Overseas Territories, India, Japan, Korea, Madagascar, Seychelles, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, and the USA.

Dear Participants

Ladies and Gentlemen,

All Protocols observed.

Good Morning,

1. The Republic of Mauritius welcomes you all, especially the delegates and the SIOFA Secretariat, in this prestigious venue for a fruitful twelfth Meeting of Parties of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA).
2. The SIOFA is playing a key role in promoting the sustainable use of the fishery resources through cooperation among the Contracting Parties, and ensuring the long-term conservation and management of the living resources in this part of the ocean.
3. Mauritius signed the Agreement on 5th July 2007 and ratified it on 20th December 2010. Since then, Mauritius has been actively engaged in the discussions and in the fulfilment of the management measures set by the SIOFA. Mauritius has been hosting the SIOFA Meeting of Parties every alternate year and it's a privilege to welcome you all again on our paradise island for the third time.

Ladies and gentlemen,

4. It is essential here to highlight that, being a Small Island Developing State, Mauritius highly depends on the ocean and its marine resources to sustain livelihood and food security. At the same time, Mauritius is listed as one among the most climatically vulnerable countries.
5. Yet, Mauritius remains committed to the Sustainable Development Goals – 14 of the United Nations, which advocates the protection of marine life, through conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources.

Ladies and gentlemen,

6. Recognising the relevance of the ocean for our country, the Government of Mauritius, through my Ministry, is strongly committed to maximising the benefits that the sea offers, with strong emphasis on ecosystem approach to fisheries and biodiversity protection and conservation, as well as developing the Blue Economy as a new economic pillar of the country.
7. Let me assure you that Mauritius has been driving towards the sound development of its fisheries sector by actively engaging in the strengthening of its national fisheries legislations and marine conservation strategies. Mauritius continues to firmly adhere to its commitments to regional and international conventions and resolutions for better management of our living resources.

Ladies and gentlemen,

8. I strongly believe that, as a leader and citizen of the country, responsible and sustainable fishing practices need to also be adopted by one and all with a view to preserving our resources for generations and generations to come.
9. Nonetheless, taking into account the multiple challenges brought to us by the new uses of the sea compounded by climate change, it is instrumental to emphasise the need to act in a global manner as fish plays a key role in food security and good nutrition to the world population.
10. As rightly mentioned by Mr Sigmar Gabriel, Former Vice Chancellor of Germany, I quote:

“Without sound conservation and management measures, fisheries will quickly become depleted and a basic component of global food security will be lost.”

Ladies and gentlemen,

11. These meetings are, thus, instrumental to bring Members from all the different countries to discuss on the challenges, gaps and lessons learnt, to ensure that the fisheries resources last longer, and is beneficial to all Member States.
12. In this context, the SIOFA plays an integral role in establishing cooperation with other Regional Fisheries Management Organisations such as the South West

Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC), the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), while also collaborating with international bodies such as the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO).

13. The SIOFA acts as a core fisheries body in the region, bringing together all Member States, which have resulted in the successful implementation of the Conservation and Management Measures in the SIOFA Agreement Area. Such engagements by all Member States ensure the long-term continued sustainability of fishery resources and protection of the marine environment. And I have to congratulate all the Member States for this achievement.
14. As regards this SIOFA Meeting of Parties, I am confident that the discussions will yield the desired outcomes.
15. Overall, in spite of the on-going environmental and economic challenges, I strongly believe that such concerted actions among nations and different regional and international organisations, are vital to ensure the sustainable, inclusive and equitable use of this common good for the benefit of humanity and the environment.
16. Besides the intense one-week meeting, I would warmly invite you all to find some time to visit and enjoy the hospitality that our beautiful island offers.
17. I now have the pleasure to declare the SIOFA 12th Meeting of Parties **OPEN** and wish you all fruitful and constructive deliberations.

Thank you.

Opening Speech by Mr. Ichiro Nomura, Chairperson of the Meeting of the Parties

Dear Head of Delegation, Observers, and Distinguished Guests,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to you all to the twelfth Meeting of the Parties (MoP) of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) in Mauritius.

On behalf of the MOP, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Government of Mauritius for hosting and arranging this Annual Meeting of the MOP. I would also like to thank the Executive Secretary Mr. Thierry Clot and his team for the excellent work done throughout the year in preparation for this meeting. We are also grateful to the chairs and conveners of SIOFA subsidiary bodies, working groups and workshops for their hard work and contribution to the meetings that took place during the intersessional period.

As you are all aware, the environment surrounding fishery resources, in particular, deep-sea resources and its associated fisheries is becoming more and more severe due to the climate change and other factors, and the role of SIOFA for long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fishery resources becomes more important. I expect that active discussions will be held through the MoP this week.

Since this SIOFA meeting will likely become my last SIOFA engagement, let me take the liberty of conveying my personal views about this organization.

I am very much honored to have acted as a chair of the Compliance Committee for the last two years and now to be chairing the Meeting of the Parties this year for this prestigious organization.

My first impression on this organization was how so many diversified topics and associated numerous documents we must face despite rather insignificant scale of existing fishing operations! Later I realized that this organization was dealing with almost all essential elements as required for a responsible and legitimate RFMO.

Unlike in some other RMFOs, we do not observe apparent and intransigent conflicts between participants from developing countries and those from developed countries. Basically, we have given a sense of respect with each other. We should keep this spirit.

Unlike in cases at other RFMOs we managed to avert the violence of a veto under the consensus rule. We have, in my opinion, used the consensus rule in a peaceful and considered manner, which should continue.

All delegations are rather friendly to others and tried to accommodate other needs as much as possible as long as their requests were reasonable. Observers, including the industry groups and NGOs, contributed constructively to the discussions. This overall attitude of the delegates has made the SIOFA meetings as a whole friendly and comfortable to stay in. That aspect should not discontinue.

With a limited number and capacity of the Secretariat, it is my humble opinion that the Executive Secretary and the staff members of this organization have been working extremely hard and producing excellent products. They may face some criticisms from the Parties through a newly created performance assessment process, but it is for the purpose of collaboration for betterment, not intended for fault-finding and censorship. Friendly and exuberant deportment of the Executives Secretary has been always appreciated by all. We should all assist him to make the Secretariat all the more effective.

This session of MoP seems to be much more loaded with substantive works compared to previous sessions which had been pretty busy. I have no full confidence to finish our homework with good results. But let us work together and make our best efforts for the next five days to attain our goal.

With this, I would like to declare the 12th Meeting of the Parties of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement officially open.

Thank you for your attention.

List of Registered Participants (MoP12)

Delegation	Title	Full name	Role	Mode
Chairperson				
	Mr	Ichiro Nomura	MoP Chairperson	in-person
Contracting Parties, Participating Fishing Entities and Cooperating Non-contracting Parties (CCPs)				
Australia	Mr	Patrick Sachs	Head of Delegation	in-person
Australia	Mr	Adam Camilleri	Alternate	in-person
Australia	Dr	Lyn Goldsworthy	Adviser	in-person
Australia	Ms	Stacey Antunovich	Adviser	remote
Australia	Mr	David Power	Adviser	remote
Australia	Ms	Fraser McEachan	Adviser	remote
Australia	Mr	Andrew Field	Adviser	remote
Australia	Ms	Selina Stoute	Adviser	remote
Australia	Ms	Elissa Mastroianni	Adviser	remote
Australia	Mr	Trent Timmis	Adviser	remote
Australia	Mr	Rhys Arangio	Adviser	remote
Australia	Mr	Brad Millic	Adviser	remote
Australia	Mr	Malcolm McNeill	Adviser	remote
Australia	Ms	Addy Sekhon	Adviser	remote
China	Mr	Ming Zhao	Head of Delegation	in-person
China	Mr	Yujian Zhao	Alternate	in-person
China	Mr	Chenyang Wang	Advisor	in-person
China	Ms	Liling Zhao	Alternate	in-person
China	Dr	Zhou Fang	Advisor	in-person
China	Dr	Jun Yu	Advisor	in-person
China	Dr	Jiaqi Wang	Advisor	in-person
China	Mr	Junhao He	Advisor	in-person
China	Mr	Chong Sun	Advisor	remote
China	Dr	Tinglin Li	Advisor	in-person
China	Dr	Qiang Wu	Advisor	in-person
China	Dr	Heng Zhang	Advisor	in-person
Comoros	Dr	Chamoine Soidri	Head of Delegation	in-person
Comoros	Mr	Mohamed Ali Mohamed	Alternate	in-person
Comoros	Mr	Vladislav Prudchenko	Consulting	in-person
Comoros	Mr	Andrei Afanasev	Consulting	in-person
Comoros	Mr	Aboubacar Issa	Assistant	in-person

Delegation	Title	Full name	Role	Mode
Cook Islands	Mr	Luahua Tua-Trood	Head of Delegation	in-person
Cook Islands	Dr	Steve Brouwer	Alternate	in-person
Cook Islands	Mr	Viv Fernandes	Alternate	in-person
European Union	Ms	Laura Marot	Head of Delegation	in-person
European Union	Ms	Agata Malczewska	Alternate	in-person
European Union	Ms	Denisa Pintilie	Intern	remote
European Union	Dr	Sebastian Rodriguez Alfaro	SC Representative	in-person
European Union	Ms	Teresa Molina Schmid	Advisor	remote
European Union	Mr	Ismael Yagüe Sabido	Advisor	remote
European Union	Mrs	Margarita Mancebo Robledo	Advisor	remote
European Union	Mr	Luis Belmonte González	Advisor	in-person
European Union	Mr	Jonathan Vila Graña	Advisor	in-person
European Union	Mrs	Elodie Sez nec	Advisor	in-person
France-OT	Ms	Adèle Moisan	Head of Delegation	in-person
France-OT	Mr	Mafal THIAM	Alternate	remote
France-OT	Mrs	Anaïd Panossian	Delegate	remote
France-OT	Ms	Charlotte Chazeau	SC Alternate	remote
France-OT	Mr	Alexis Martin	SC HoD	remote
India	Dr	Mohammed Koya	Head of Delegation	in-person
Japan	Mr	Taisuke Iwano	Head of Delegation	in-person
Japan	Mr	Kazuki Tsuda	Alternate	in-person
Japan	Mr	Joji Morishita	Advisor	in-person
Japan	Mr	Hideki Moronuki	Advisor	in-person
Japan	Dr	Takehiro Okuda	Advisor	in-person
Japan	Mr	Hyoue Suzuki	Advisor	remote
Japan	Mr	Koji Batori	Advisor	remote
Japan	Ms	Yasuko Kyo	Advisor	remote
Japan	Mr	Takeshi Shibata	Advisor	in-person
Japan	Mr	Naohisa Miyagawa	Advisor	remote
Japan	Mr	Sachio Hagiya	Advisor	remote
Japan	Mr	Tomohori Kondo	Advisor	remote
Japan	Mr	Hidefumi Yatomi	Advisor	remote
Japan	Ms	Shiho Morimoto	Advisor	remote
Korea	Mr	Ro Yun Kim	Head of Delegation	in-person
Korea	Ms	Ji-young Oh	Alternate	remote
Korea	Ms	Soomin Kim	Alternate	in-person
Mauritius	Dr	Dhanadjay Kawol	Head of Delegation	in-person
Mauritius	Mrs	Meera Koonjul	Alternate & CC Chairperson	in-person
Mauritius	Mr	Vikash Munbodhe	Member	in-person

Delegation	Title	Full name	Role	Mode
Mauritius	Mr	Doorvanand Kawol	Member	in-person
Mauritius	Ms	Luvna Caussy	Member	in-person
Mauritius	Mr	Shekar Jugroo	Adviser	in-person
Mauritius	Mr	Yannick Lauri	Adviser	in-person
Mauritius	Mr	Mahmadally Choychoo	Adviser	in-person
Seychelles/JMA	Mr	Roy Clarisse	Head of Delegation	in-person
Seychelles	Mrs	Julie Bibi	Alternate	in-person
Seychelles	Ms	Stephanie Radegonde	Expert	in-person
Seychelles	Ms	Elisa Radegonde	Expert	in-person
Seychelles	Mr	Vincent Lucas	Expert	remote
Seychelles	Mr	Roddy Allisop	Expert	remote
Seychelles	Ms	Karyss Auguste	Expert	remote
Seychelles	Mr	Daniel Bristol	Expert	remote
Seychelles	Ms	Danielle Jupiter	Expert	remote
Seychelles/JMA	Mr	Philippe Michaud	Expert	remote
Seychelles	Mr	Howard Tan	Advisor	in-person
Seychelles	Mr	Lin Yu Hsien	Advisor	in-person
Chinese Taipei	Mr	Tsu-Kang (Albert) Wen	Head of Delegation	in-person
Chinese Taipei	Mr	Chia-chun (Jason) Wu	Alternate	in-person
Chinese Taipei	Dr	Wen-Ning Chang	Adviser	in-person
Chinese Taipei	Mr	Po-hsiang Liao	Adviser	in-person
Chinese Taipei	Ms	Chia-Ti Li	Adviser	in-person
Chinese Taipei	Ms	Chia-Jung Wang	Adviser	remote
Chinese Taipei	Mr	Kuan-Ting Lee	Delegate	in-person
Chinese Taipei	Mr	Chi-Ju Li	Delegate	in-person
Thailand	Ms	Sampan Panjarat	Head of Delegation	in-person
Thailand	Mr	Teerapong Apaipakdee	Alternate	in-person
Thailand	Mr	Aekkarat Wongkeaw	Adviser	remote
Thailand	Mr	Prasit Luesrithawornsin	Adviser	remote
Thailand	Ms	Tirabhorn Yothakong	Adviser	remote
Thailand	Ms	Chonlada Meeanan	Adviser	remote
Thailand	Mr	Titipat Tongdonkruang	Adviser	remote
Thailand	Mr	Woramate Chatinakrob	Adviser	remote
Thailand	Mr	Weerapol Thitipongtrakul	Adviser	remote
Thailand	Mr	Bunyarit Permnak	Adviser	remote
Thailand	Ms	Supranee Chatthong	Adviser	remote
Thailand	Ms	Jidapa Setthatham	Adviser	remote

Delegation	Title	Full name	Role	Mode
Observers				
DSCC	Mr	Barry Weeber	Head of Delegation	in-person
DSCC	Mrs	Renee Heal	Alternate	in-person
DSCC	Mr	Duncan Currie	Alternate	remote
FAO-DSF	Ms	Sarah Fagnani	Head of Delegation	in-person
FAO-DSF	Ms	Eszter Hidas	Alternate	remote
FAO-DSF	Dr	Anthony Thompson	Alternate	remote
FAO-DSF	Dr	Keith Reid	Alternate	remote
JMA	Dr	Mohammed Rezah Badal	Alternate	in-person
JMA		Dheerendra Kumar Dabee	Alternate	in-person
JMA		Martine Young Kim Fat	Alternate	in-person
JMA	Mrs	Geereesha Topsy-Sonoo	Alternate	in-person
Kenya	Mr	Isaac Wafula Barasa	Head of Delegation	in-person
Mozambique	Dr	Anastácia Tomás Simango Nhate	Adviser	
Mozambique	Dr	Rosa Lourenco Simbine	Alternate	
PEW	Dr	Glen Holmes	Head of Delegation	in-person
PEW	Ms	Laura Eeles	Alternate	in-person
SIODFA	Mr	Charles Heaphy	Head of Delegation	in-person
SIODFA	Dr	Ross Shotton	Alternate	remote
South Africa	Mr	Johannes de Goede	Head of Delegation	in-person
South Africa	Adv	Nicolette Vink	Alternate	remote
South Africa	Mr	Thabiso Maratsane	Alternate	in-person
South Africa	Mr	Saasa Pheeha	Support	remote
South Africa	Mr	Bernard Liedemann	Support	remote
South Africa	Mr	Mandisile Mqoqi	Support	remote
South Africa	Mr	Sobahle Somhlaba	Support	remote
Secretariat and Support				
SIOFA	Mr	Alistair Dunn	SC Chairperson	in-person
SIOFA Secretariat	Mr	Thierry Clot	Executive Secretary	in-person
SIOFA Secretariat	Mr	Pierre Périès	Data Officer	in-person
SIOFA Secretariat	Dr	Marco Milardi	Science Officer	in-person

Delegation	Title	Full name	Role	Mode
SIOFA Secretariat	Mr	Johnny Louys	Compliance Officer	in-person
SIOFA Secretariat	Ms	Salomé Boulenger	Secretariat Assistant	in-person
SIOFA Secretariat	Mr	Alex Meyer	Rapporteur	in-person
SIOFA Secretariat	Mr	James Christie	Interpreter	in-person
SIOFA Secretariat	Mrs	Pauline Chardin	Interpreter	in-person

منظمة
الغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

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United Nations



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Продовольственная и
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Organización de las
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Our Ref.:

Your Ref.:

Rome, 2 May 2025

Dear Mr Clot,

I confirm that, as of today, 2 May 2025, the status of participation in the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) is correctly reflected on the FAO website. Please find attached for your easy reference the information contained in the above-mentioned website.

Yours sincerely,

Donata Rugarabamu
Legal Counsel

Mr Thierry CLOT
Executive Secretary
SIOFA

SOUTHERN INDIAN OCEAN FISHERIES AGREEMENT (SIOFA)
adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries in Rome, Italy on 7 July 2006

Registered with the United Nations under Nº 49647 on 21 June 2012

Countries	Signed	Ratification	Acceptance	Approval	Accession
Australia	29 Dec 2006	23 Mar 2012			
China					23 Oct 2019
Comoros	7 Jul 2006				
Cook Islands					5 Jun 2008
European Union	7 Jul 2006			15 Oct 2008	
France	7 Jul 2006	25 Jan 2013			
Japan					17 Jun 2014
Kenya	7 Jul 2006				
Madagascar	4 Oct 2006				
Mauritius	5 July 2007	10 Dec 2010			
Mozambique	7 Jul 2006				
New Zealand	7 Jul 2006				
Republic of Korea					29 Oct 2014
Seychelles	7 July 2006	5 Nov 2007			
Thailand					21 Apr 2017

MoP12 Adopted Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting

- 1.1. Opening statements
- 1.2. Practical arrangements for the meeting
- 1.3. Admission of observers
- 1.4. Status of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
- 1.5. Participation in decision-making

2. Administrative arrangements

- 2.1. Adoption of the agenda
- 2.2. Confirmation of meeting documents
- 2.3. Appointment of rapporteurs

3. Intersessional decision-making

- 3.1. Review of intersessional decisions taken since MoP11

4. Compliance Committee (CC) and report of the CC9

Discussion of the CC recommendations to the MoP

- 4.1. Presentation of the report of the 9th meeting of the Compliance Committee

- 4.2. SIOFA Compliance Report (SCR)

The Meeting of the Parties shall consider the Provisional SIOFA Compliance Report (pSCR) prepared by the CC and any comments from CCPs on their respective sections of the pSCR. The Meeting of the Parties shall adopt by consensus a Final SIOFA Compliance Report (fSCR) at its ordinary meeting in accordance with Article 8 of the Agreement and Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure (ref. CMM 11 para 22)

- 4.3. Report of intersessional Vessel Monitoring System working group

- 4.4. Listing of IUU fishing vessels

The Meeting of the Parties shall review the Provisional IUU Vessel List, considering any new suitably documented information [...] and adopt a new IUU Vessel List (ref CMM 06(2024))

- 4.5. Recommendations from the Compliance Committee on current SIOFA CMMs

- 4.6. Operationalization of the SIOFA VMS

- 4.7. Recommendations for the development of the SIOFA Information System Security Policy (ISSP)

- 4.8. Other recommendations from the Compliance Committee

5. Scientific Committee (SC) and report of the SC10

Discussion of the SC recommendations to the MoP

- 5.1. Presentation of the report of the 10th annual meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee (SC10)
 - 5.1.1. Fisheries reports
 - 5.1.2. Data standards, access and dissemination
 - 5.1.3. SIOFA Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment
 - 5.1.4. SIOFA Precautionary Approach and Management (PAM)
 - 5.1.5. Stock assessments and advice
 - 5.1.6. Bycatch and incidental captures
 - 5.1.7. Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME)
 - 5.1.8. Marine protected areas
 - 5.1.9. New and exploratory fisheries and research cruises
 - 5.1.10. Scientific observers
 - 5.1.11. Climate change
 - 5.1.12. Future work
 - 5.1.13. Other recommendations

6. News and Exploratory Fisheries

- 6.1 New fisheries
- 6.2 Exploratory fisheries
- 6.3 Scientific research

7. Data access and dissemination

- 7.1. Data and security audits implementation update
- 7.2. Discussion on public data definition and limitation, recommendation from SC10
- 7.3. Review of the criteria and process by which papers are classified and implications for the RoP
- 7.4. Review of the data collected by the CCPs and data reported to the Secretariat

8. Interim bottom fishing measures

- 8.1. States or fishing entities that became CCPs before the MOP in 2017 – revision to measures established under CMM 01(2024).
- 8.2. States or fishing entities that became CCPs after the MOP in 2017 – approval of measures pursuant to paragraph 28 of CMM 01(2024).

9. Review and amendment of Conservation Management Measures (CMMs) currently in force.

Standing agenda item for the presentation of reviews or proposed amendments to existing CMMs and possible adoption:

- 9.1. Amendments to CMM 03 (2016) Data Confidentiality
- 9.2. Amendments to CMM 07 (2024) Vessel Authorisation
- 9.3. Amendments to CMM 12 (2024) Conservation and Management Measures for sharks
- 9.4. Amendments to CMM 13 (2022) Mitigation of seabirds bycatch
- 9.5. Amendments to CMM 15 (2024) Management of Demersal Stocks
- 9.6. Amendments to CMM 16 (2023) Vessel Monitoring System
- 9.7. Amendments to CMM 17 (2024) New and Exploratory fisheries
- 9.8. Other amendments to CMMs

10. New Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs)

Standing agenda item for the presentation of any proposals of new CMMs and possible adoption

- 10.1. Proposal for a Benthic Protected Areas CMM
- 10.2. Proposal for a CMM interim SIOFA allocation framework CMM
- 10.3. Other new CMM

11. Capacity building needs for developing States

- 11.1. Technical assistance needed for the implementations of obligations
- 11.2. Review of existing mechanisms to provide support to developing States and other relevant information relating to Article 13.
- 11.3. Review of the options to facilitate and address the capacity building needs of CCP developing States.

12. Climate change

- 12.1. Identification of advice required from Scientific Committee on the implications of climate change

13. Secretariat administration

- 13.1. SIOFA Procurement Policy for High-Value Services / Goods
- 13.2. Report on the Secretariat activities (since MoP11)
 - 13.2.1. Actions done relative to SIOFA Performance Review recommendations.
- 13.3. Financial status (closed session)
 - 13.3.1. Update on the 2020 fraud.
 - 13.3.2. Financial report.
 - 13.3.3. External Auditor report.
- 13.4. SIOFA Budget (closed session)
 - 13.4.1. Mid-year budget tracking paper with the actual expenditure.
 - 13.4.2. Provisional 2026 budget and 2027 forecast budget.
 - 13.4.3. Adoption of the budget.

14. Cooperation with other RFMOs, international bodies and other relevant matters

- 14.1. Cooperation with CCAMLR, RFMOs and other international organisations
 - 14.1.1. CCAMLR
 - 14.1.2. SEAFO
 - 14.1.3. SWIOFC
 - 14.1.4. SPRFMO
 - 14.1.5. ACAP
 - 14.1.6. IOTC
- 14.2. Cooperation with FAO
 - 14.2.1. FAO ABNJ Deep Sea Fisheries Project
 - 14.2.2. FAO Regional Fishery Body Secretariats' Network (RFBSN)
 - 14.2.3. FAO FIRMS
- 14.3. Cooperation with SWIOP

15. Cooperating non-Contracting Parties

15.1. Renewal of CNCP status

15.1.1. Comoros

15.1.2. India

16. Future chairing arrangements

16.1. Chairperson of the Scientific Committee

The current contract for the SC Chairperson will end in 2025 after MoP12.

16.2. Chairperson of the Compliance Committee

The nomination of the current CC Chairperson is going for 2 years and could be renewed for 2 years more in 2026 after MoP13.

16.3. Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Meeting of the Parties

In accordance with Rule 5 of the RoP, the Chair of the Meeting of the Parties will be held by France-OT, and the Vice-Chair of the MoP will be held by EU for the 2025-2026 period.

17. Any other business

18. 2026 meeting arrangements

19. Report adoption.

20. Meeting closure

List of Meeting Documents (MoP12)

Code	Document Title	Agenda Item	Note
<i>Administration and Meeting organisation</i>			
MoP-12-ADM-01	Registration Form	n/a	
MoP-12-ADM-02	Template for MoP11 documents	n/a	
MoP-12-ADM-03 Rev1	Meetings Notice and practical information	1.2	
MoP-12-ADM-04	Provisional Agenda	2.1	
MoP-12-ADM-05	Revised Provisional Agenda	2.1	
MoP-12-ADM-06 Rev6	List of meeting documents (MoP12)	2.2	This paper
MoP-12-ADM-07	List of MoP12 agenda items and meeting documents	2.2	
<i>Proposals and working papers</i>			
MoP-12-01	SIOFA status FAO repository	1.4	
MoP-12-02	Report on the Secretariat Activities (since MoP 11)	13.2	
MoP-12-03	SIOFA Procurement Policy for High-Value Services / Goods	13.1	
MoP-12-04 Rev1	SIOFA Draft Budget 2026, 2027-2028 forecast	13.4.2	CLOSED SESSION
MoP-12-05	Annual Financial Report	13.3.2	CLOSED SESSION
MoP-12-06	Financial auditor and accountant reports	13.3.3	CLOSED SESSION
MoP-12-07	Recommendations of SC10 relevant to MoP	5.1	
MoP-12-08	SIOFA SC Workplan and Budget	5.1.12, 13.4.2	
	<i>Files MoP-12-09 to MoP-12-16 (SC10 fisheries and ecosystems summaries) have been removed</i>		

Code	Document Title	Agenda Item	Note
MoP-12-17	Report and Recommendations of CC9	4.1	Cf Report of CC9
MoP-12-18	Provisional SIOFA compliance report	4.2	RESTRICTED
MoP-12-19	Provisional SIOFA IUU vessel list	4.4	RESTRICTED
MoP-12-20	Update on the 2020 fraud	13.3.1	CLOSED SESSION
MoP-12-21	Data and security audits implementation 2025 update	7.1	RESTRICTED
MoP-12-22	Draft ToR for SIOFA ISSP	7.1	
MoP-12-23	SIOFA working paper on meeting document policy	7.2, 7.3	
MoP-12-24 Rev1	Paper that outlines the existing mechanisms to provide support to developing States (WP)	11.2	
MoP-12-25 Rev1	SIOFA capacity building paper	11.3	
MoP-12-26 Rev2	SIOFA Performance Review Implementation	13.2.1	
MoP-12-27	Letter from Comoros to renew its status as CNCP	15.1	
MoP-12-28	Letter from India to renew its status as CNCP	15.1	
MoP-12-29	Data Required to be collected by CCPs vs Data Required to be submitted by CCPs	7	
MoP-12-30	Options Paper for the Hosting of the SIOFA Vessel Monitoring System	4.6	
MoP-12-31 Rev1	VMS WG Progress Workplan Update	4.6	
MoP-12-32	Potential amendments to CMMs and the SIOFA SSPs to support the entry into operation of the SIOFA VMS	4.6	
MoP-12-33 Rev1	Draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the provision of a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) for the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA)	4.6	
MoP-12-34	Review of Recommendations of the 11th Meeting of the Parties (MoP11) on the SIOFA Final SIOFA Compliance Report	4.1	
MoP-12-35	FR-OT Proposal Amendement to CMM03(2016) Data confidentiality	9.1	Rev 2 as Draft
MoP-12-36	AUS Proposal to amend CMM 15 (2024) Management of demersal stocks	9.5	
MoP-12-37 Rev1	Proposal Amendment to CMM 13 (2022) Mitigation of Seabirds Bycatch	9.4	

Code	Document Title	Agenda Item	Note
MoP-12-38 Rev2	Proposal-for-a-CMM-on-Benthic-Protected-Areas	10	Rev2 as Draft
MoP-12-39 Rev1	Proposal-for-an-Interim-SIOFA-Allocation-Framework-CMM	10	Rev1 as Draft
MoP-12-40	JPN Proposed Comoros Lobster fisheries status	6	
MoP-12-41	AUS Proposal to amend CMM 12 (2024) Sharks	9.3	
MoP-12-42	SYC Proposal to amend CMM 07 (2024) Vessel Authorisation	9.2	
MoP-12-43	EU Proposal to amend CMM 07 (2024) Vessel Authorisation	9.2	
MoP-12-44	EU Proposal to amend CMM 12 (2024) Sharks	9.3	
MoP-12-45	EU Proposal to amend CMM 16 (2023) Vessel Monitoring System	9.6	
MoP-12-46	EU Proposal to amend CMM 15 (2024) Management of Demersal Stocks	9.5	
MoP-12-47	EU Proposal to amend CMM 17 (2024) New and Exploratory Fisheries	9.7	
MoP-12-48	SIOFA Framework on fisheries based and scientific research	6.3	
MoP-12-49	EU Sustainable Western Indian Ocean Program (SWIOP)	14	
MoP-12-50	Draft Plan on the research cruise of China for 2025-2026 survey year	6.3	
<i>Information papers</i>			
MoP-12-INFO-01	Mid-Year Budget Report	13.3	CLOSED SESSION
MoP-12-INFO-02	Implementing Area Protection	5.1.8	
MoP-12-INFO-03	Preparing SIOFA for the entry into force of the BBNJ Agreement	9, 17	
MoP-12-INFO-04	Making Progress on VME and Seamount Protection	5.1.7	
MoP-12-INFO-05	FAO Deep Sea Fisheries (DSF) Project - Update of activities 2024-2026	14.2	
MoP-12-INFO-06	COK SIOFA BPA short summaries	10.1	LATE PUBLICATION

Final SIOFA Compliance Report (SCR)/ Summary

Assessment Period 1 Jan 2024 - 31 Dec 2024 (inclusive)

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
No Potential Compliance Issue Identified							

Table 2 **Implementation of CMM 01 (2024) and CMM 01 (2023) (Interim Management of Bottom Fishing)**

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
Comoros	22. (CMM01(2023)) Any CCP that has not submitted a BFIA pursuant to paragraph 21 may, at least 30 days prior to the commencement of any subsequent ordinary meeting of the Scientific Committee and before the Meeting of the Parties has authorised the SIOFA bottom fishing footprint and the SIOFA BFIA developed by the Scientific Committee in accordance with paragraph 7, submit to the Secretariat a BFIA	Not assessed in 2024	Compliant	Sec: Comoros submitted a BFIA to the MoP06 (https://siofa.org/sites/default/files/documents/meetings/MoP6-Doc11%20Comoros%20BFIA.pdf). However, the BFIA was not updated prior to the Comoros undertaking its current lobster fishery. CC to advise on applicability and compliance status		Non-Compliant	No Follow up action requested
Comoros	22. (CMM01(2024))Any CCP that authorises or is seeking to authorise any vessel flying its flag to bottom fish in the Agreement Area shall submit to the Secretariat a Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment for its individual bottom fishing activities in the Agreement Area that meets	New Obligation	Compliant	Sec: Comoros submitted a BFIA to the MoP06 (https://siofa.org/sites/default/files/documents/meetings/MoP6-Doc11%20Comoros%20BFIA.pdf). However, the BFIA was not updated prior to the Comoros undertaking its current lobster fishery. CC to advise on applicability and compliance status		Non-Compliant	No Follow up action requested

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
	the requirements of paragraph 26 [of CMM 01(2024)]						
Comoros	25. Any CCP that has not submitted a BFIA in accordance with paragraph 22 shall not authorise any vessels flying its flag to bottom fish in the Agreement Area until: a. that CCP has prepared and submitted a BFIA, and the Scientific Committee has reviewed that BFIA and determined it meets the requirements of paragraph 26; or b. it has otherwise been decided by the Meeting of the Parties.	Not assessed in 2024	Compliant	Potential Compliance Issue: Comoros Authorized one vessel to undertake bottom fishing in the Agreement Area with an outdated BFIA.	The Union of Comoros has submitted a BFIA in September 2024 which was assessed by the Scientific committee in November 2024 and approved in December 2024 by the Mop	Non-Compliant	No Follow up action requested
Comoros	27. (a) (CMM01(2023))/28 a. (CMM01(2024)) prior to authorising any vessels flying its flag to bottom fish in the Agreement Area, each of these new CCPs which has fished more or less than 40 days in a single calendar year as referred to in paragraph 10(1) a. or b. shall advise the Meeting of the Parties of the measures it intends to take pursuant to paragraph 10(1) a. i., ii., iii. and iv.	Not Applicable	Compliant	Potential Compliance Issue: The Secretariat has no record of measures submitted pursuant to this obligation. Comoros to confirm submission of measures pursuant to this paragraph	The record of measures has been submitted to the secretary on May 19, 2025	Non-Compliant	No Follow up action requested

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
Comoros	27. (b) (CMM01(2023))/ 28 b. (CMM01(2024)) prior to authorising any vessels flying its flag to bottom fish in the Agreement Area, each of these new CCPs which has fished more or less than 40 days in a single calendar year as referred to in paragraph 10(1) a. or b. shall 30 days prior to an ordinary meeting of the Scientific Committee after it becomes a CCP, submit the data referred to in paragraph 20 and a BFIA as outlined in paragraph 21 to the Scientific Committee for its consideration in accordance with paragraph 23.	Compliant	Compliant	Potential Compliance Issue: The Secretariat has no record of measures submitted pursuant to this obligation. Comoros to confirm submission of measures pursuant to this paragraph	The record of measures has been submitted to the secretary on May 19, 2025	Non-Compliant	No Follow up action requested

Table 3 **Implementation of CMM 02 (2023) (Data Standards)**

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
China	4. CCPs shall ensure that data on fishing activities, including for target, non-target and associated and dependent species such as marine mammals, marine reptiles, seabirds or 'other species of concern', are collected from vessels flying their flag that are fishing in the Agreement Area in accordance with the relevant sections of Annex A.	Not Assessed	Not Applicable	China indicate that this obligation is not applicable. Last assessment was "not Assessed" due to the technical impediments related to this obligation, as the matter is yet to be addressed by the CMM	In 2024, all data required for squid jigging vessels operating in the SIOFA area can be found in the 2024 national report. Due to the specific nature of squid jigging gear, there are no bycatch or incidental catch issues. Additionally, the current ANNEX B does not include the requirements for squid jigging and China is scheduled to submit a proposal to include the requirement for squid jigging in the ANNEX	Not Assessed	China to propose amendments to CMM 02 to include the requirement for squid jigging in the ANNEX

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
China	15. CCPs shall, for all observed trips, collect observer data in accordance with the relevant sections of Annex B. All observer data collected by CCPs shall be reported to the Secretariat by 31 May each year for the previous calendar year.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	China reports that "The current ANNNEX B does not included the requirements for squid jigging and China is schedueld to submit aproposal to include the requirement for squid jigging in the ANNEX. " Therefore, in view that this is a technical impediment to implement the obligation, the assessment may be deemed as "Not Assesed"	China agree with the Secretariat Comments	Not Assesed	China to propose amendments to CMM 02 to include the requirement for squid jigging in the ANNEX
Seychelles	12. All CCPs shall implement national scientific observer programs to collect from activities undertaken by vessels flying their flag:	Non-Compliant	Non-Compliant			Critically Non-Compliant	Seychelles to implement an EM Program for its longline fleet as its observer program.
Seychelles	15. CCPs shall, for all observed trips, collect observer data in accordance with the relevant sections of Annex B. All observer data collected by CCPs shall be reported to the Secretariat by 31 May each year for the previous calendar year.	Non-Compliant		No preliminary self-assessment submitted.	Non-Compliant	Critically Non-Compliant	Seychelles to implement an EM Program for its longline fleet as its observer program.
Seychelles	19 & 20. CCPs shall report all data required to be reported by this measure to the Secretariat in accordance with the formats described in this CMM, including its annexes and as specified by para 20	Not Applicable	Non-Compliant	Secretariat record indicates that set details are not fully provided (e.g. no end setting or hauling information provided). Only OIL catch has been reported.	Partial data submitted. Final data to be submitted in June 2025. Sec: Assessment relates to 2024 submission.	Non-Compliant	Seychelles to improve logbook to ensure capture of data in accordance with this CMM

Table 4 **Implementation of CMM 04 (2016) (Vessels Without Nationality)**

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
No Potential Compliance Issue Identified							

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken

Table 5Implementation of CMM 05 (2016) (Pelagic Driftnets and Deepwater Gillnets)

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
India	1. The use of all large-scale pelagic driftnets in the Agreement Area is prohibited for any vessel flying the flag of a Contracting Party, cooperating non-Contracting Party (CNCP) or participating fishing entity (PFE).	Non-Compliant	Compliant	Pending follow-up action: CC08 was of the view that this obligation is applicable to all CCPs, including India. India was requested to submit national binding measures with respect to this obligation. No measures submitted as of yet.	[No Feedback] Feedback during MoP12: This obligation is applicable in the Agreement Area only. Since India does not have a fishery fishing in the SIOFA agreement area, India reiterates that this obligation is not applicable to India for now. India remains committed to upholding its international obligations and will fully comply should its vessels operate in the Agreement Area in the future. Further, India is at finalisation of a National legal instrument in this regard which shall necessitate India-flagged vessels to comply with all national and intenrational legal instruments in the High Seas including complying to the CMMs of SIOFA as applicable.	Critically Non-Compliant	India to provide updates on submission of missing measures at the MoP12

Table 6Implementation of CMM 06 (2024) and CMM 06 (2022) (IUU Vessel List)

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
India	19. a Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall take all necessary measures under their applicable legislation and pursuant to paragraphs 56 and 66 of the IPOA-IUU to take all the necessary measures to eliminate the IUU activities, including if necessary, the withdrawal of the fishing licences, authorisations or permits granted to vessels included in the IUU Vessel List, and the refusal of the fishing licences, authorisations or permits to such vessels;	Non-Compliant	Compliant	Pending follow-up action: CC08 was of the view that this obligation is applicable to all CCPs, including India. India was requested to submit national binding measures with respect to this obligation. No measures submitted as of yet.	Under the provisions in the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 (MZI Act), India takes all the necessary measures to eliminate the IUU activities, including, if necessary, the withdrawal of the fishing licences, authorisations or permits granted to vessels included in the IUU Vessel List, and the refusal of the fishing licences, authorisations or permits to such vessels. These provisions include those listed under Section 5: Licensing of Foreign Fishing Vessels; Section 6: Cancellation, Suspension, or Variation of Licence; and Section 14: Power to Make Rules of the MZI Act. Further, India is a party to the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA)-IUU steered by the Bay of Bengal Programme-IGO. India is also working on having the National Plan of Action (NPOA)-IUU in line with the IPOA-IUU. India is also actively working to have a domestic legal instrument that shall adequately enable accession to the PSMA.	Critically Non-Compliant	India to provide updates on submission of missing measures at the MoP12

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
India	19. b Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall take all necessary measures under their applicable legislation and pursuant to paragraphs 56 and 66 of the IPOA-IUU to ensure that its vessels do not participate in any transshipment or other operations such as joint-fishing, transfers at sea of fuel, crew, gear or any other supplies either as an unloading or receiving vessel, with vessels included in the IUU Vessel List;	Non-Compliant	Compliant	Pending follow-up action: CC08 was of the view that this obligation is applicable to all CCPs, including India. India was requested to submit national binding measures with respect to this obligation. No measures submitted as of yet.	Under the provisions of the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 (MZI Act), India takes all the necessary measures to ensure that its vessels do not participate in any transshipment or other operations such as joint-fishing, transfers at sea of fuel, crew, gear or any other supplies either as an unloading or receiving vessel, with vessels included in the IUU Vessel List. These provisions include those listed under Section 5: Licensing of Foreign Fishing Vessels; Section 6: Cancellation, Suspension, or Variation of Licence; and Section 14: Power to Make Rules. Further, India is a party to the Regional Plan of Action-IUU steered by the Bay of Bengal Programme-IGO and is working on having the IPOA-IUU. India is also at finalisation of a National legal instrument to regulate the fishing in the High Seas by the India-flagged vessel which sets conditions of compliance on all relevant aspects, including transshipments by India authorised fishing/collector vessels. Further, India is also actively working to have a domestic legal instrument that shall adequately enable accession to the PSMA.	Critically Non-Compliant	India to provide updates on submission of missing measures at the MoP12

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
India	19.c Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall take all necessary measures under their applicable legislation and pursuant to paragraphs 56 and 66 of the IPOA-IUU to ensure that vessels on the IUU Vessel List are denied access to ports unless for the purpose of inspecting them and taking other appropriate actions in conformity with international law which are at least as effective as denial of port entry in preventing, deterring and eliminating IUU fishing;	Non-Compliant	Compliant	India to indicate how this measure is made binding domestically (legislation, administrative procedures etc)	Under the provisions in the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 (MZI Act), India takes all the necessary measures to ensure that vessels on the IUU Vessel List are denied access to ports unless for the purpose of inspecting them and taking other appropriate actions in conformity with international law which are at least as effective as denial of port entry in preventing, deterring and eliminating IUU fishing. These provisions include those listed under Section 5: Licensing of Foreign Fishing Vessels; Section 6: Cancellation, Suspension, or Variation of Licence; Section 7: Prohibition of Unauthorized Entry; and Section 14: Power to Make Rules. Further, India is a party to the Regional Plan of Action-IUU steered by the Bay of Bengal Programme-IGO and is at preparation of a National Plan of Action-IUU to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing effectively. India is at finalisation of a national legal instrument to regulate fishing by the India-flagged vessels in the High Seas in compliance with the relevant RFMOs. India is also actively working to have a domestic legal instrument that shall adequately enable accession to the PSMA.	Critically Non-Compliant	India to provide updates on submission of missing measures at the MoP12

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
India	19. d Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall take all necessary measures under their applicable legislation and pursuant to paragraphs 56 and 66 of the IPOA-IUU to give priority to the inspection of vessels on the IUU Vessel List, if such vessels are found in their ports;	Non-Compliant	Compliant	Pending follow-up action: CC08 was of the view that this obligation is applicable to all CCPs, including India. India was requested to submit national binding measures with respect to this obligation. No measures submitted as of yet.	Under the provisions in the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 (MZI Act), India takes all necessary measures under their applicable legislation and pursuant to paragraphs 56 and 66 of the IPOA-IUU to give priority to the inspection of vessels on the IUU Vessel List, if such vessels are found in their ports. These provisions include those listed under Section 7 – Entry of Foreign Fishing Vessels into Specified Ports; Section 14 – Power to Make Rules and Section 6 – Suspension or Cancellation of Licence. Further, India is already a party to the Regional plan of Action-RPOA steered by the Bay of Bengal Programme-IGO and is at preparations for enacting the National Plan of Action (NPOA)-IUU to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing in the waters under its jurisdiction and the India-flagged vessels in the High Seas. India is also actively at having domestic law that shall adequately enable accession to the PSMA.	Critically Non-Compliant	India to provide updates on submission of missing measures at the MoP12

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
India	19. e Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall take all necessary measures under their applicable legislation and pursuant to paragraphs 56 and 66 of the IPOA-IUU to prohibit the chartering of vessels on the IUU Vessel List;	Non-Compliant	Compliant	Pending follow-up action: CC08 was of the view that this obligation is applicable to all CCPs, including India. India was requested to submit national binding measures with respect to this obligation. No measures submitted as of yet.	[No Feedback] Feedback during MoP12: India is not allowing chartering of foreign fishing vessels at present. Further, under the provisions in the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 (MZI Act), India takes take all necessary measures under their applicable legislation and pursuant to paragraphs 56 and 66 of the IPOA-IUU to prohibit the chartering of vessels on the IUU Vessel List. These provisions include those listed under Section 5 – Licensing of Foreign Fishing Vessels; Section 6 – Suspension or Cancellation of Licence; and Section 14 – Rule-Making Power. Further, India is already a party to the Regional Plan of Action-RPOA steered by the Bay of Bengal Programme-IGO and is at preparations for enacting the National plan of Action (NPOA)-IUU to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing in the waters under its jurisdiction. India is also actviely at having domestic law that shall adequately enable accession to the PSMA. India is also at finalisation of a national legal instrument to regulate fishing by the India-flagged vesse in the High Seas in compliance with the relevant RFMOs.	Critically Non-Compliant	India to provide updates on submission of missing measures at the MoP12
India	19. f Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall take all necessary measures under their applicable legislation and pursuant to paragraphs 56 and 66 of the IPOA-IUU to refuse to grant their flag to vessels on the IUU Vessel List;	Non-Compliant	Compliant	Pending follow-up action: CC08 was of the view that this obligation is applicable to all CCPs, including India. India was requested to submit national binding measures with respect to this obligation. No measures submitted as of yet.	India is not granting its flag to any foreign fishing vessels, especially those listed in the IUU vessel list. The Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 (MSA, 1958) is the primary legislation in India governing maritime affairs, including the registration of Indian ships. While the Act broadly covers all Indian ships, it has specific provisions for fishing vessels, particularly under Part XVA: Indian Fishing Boats. The provisions under the	Critically Non-Compliant	India to provide updates on submission of missing measures at the MoP12

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
					Act adequately address the concerns.		
India	19. g Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall take all necessary measures under their applicable legislation and pursuant to paragraphs 56 and 66 of the IPOA-IUU to prohibit commercial transactions, such as imports, exports or re-exports, landings and transshipments of fisheries resources covered by the Agreement, as well as other operations involving such fisheries resources, from vessels on the IUU Vessel List;	Non-Compliant	Compliant	Pending follow-up action: CC08 was of the view that this obligation is applicable to all CCPs, including India. India was requested to submit national binding measures with respect to this obligation. No measures submitted as of yet.	India takes all necessary measures under the provisions of MZI Act, 1981 (Section 5 – Licensing of Foreign Fishing Vessels; Section 6 – Cancellation or Suspension of Licence; Section 14 – Rule-Making Power), Customs Act, 1962 (Sections 11, 111, 113 empowering the Government to prohibit import/export of goods in violation of international conventions or national interest), Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992 & Foreign Trade Policy and Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. Further, India is already a party to the Regional Plan of Action-RPOA steered by the Bay of Bengal Programme-IGO and is at preparations for enacting the National plan of Action (NPOA)-IUU to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing in the waters under its jurisdiction. India is also actively at having domestic law that shall adequately enable accession to the PSMA. India is also at finalisation of a national legal instrument to regulate fishing by the India-flagged vessel in the High Seas in compliance with the relevant RFMOs.	Critically Non-Compliant	India to provide updates on submission of missing measures at the MoP12

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
India	19. h Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall take all necessary measures under their applicable legislation and pursuant to paragraphs 56 and 66 of the IPOA-IUU to prohibit change of crew on board of vessels on the IUU Vessel List;	Non-Compliant	Compliant	Pending follow-up action: CC08 was of the view that this obligation is applicable to all CCPs, including India. India was requested to submit national binding measures with respect to this obligation. No measures submitted as of yet.	India takes all necessary measures under the provisions of Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 (MZI Act), and supporting enforcement powers under the Foreigners Act, 1946, The Passport (Entry into India) Rules, 1950, and port clearance protocols under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 and Customs Act, 1962. These provisions include Section 5 – Licensing of Foreign Fishing Vessels; Section 7 – Entry into Specified Ports; and Section 14 – Power to Make Rules of the MZI Act, Foreigners Act, 1946 (Grants Government powers to regulate the entry, stay, and departure of foreigners in India), The Passport (Entry into India) Rules, 1950 (Requires entry permits for all foreigners, including seafarers), Customs Act, 1962 – Section 30A & 31 (Regulates the arrival and departure of vessels, including the permission for crew transfer) and Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 – Sections 42 & 216 (Relates to seafarers’ documentation, crew changes, and port inspections).	Critically Non-Compliant	India to provide updates on submission of missing measures at the MoP12

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
India	19. i Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall take all necessary measures under their applicable legislation and pursuant to paragraphs 56 and 66 of the IPOA-IUU to encourage traders, importers and transporters to refrain from transactions in, and transshipment of, fishery resources covered by the Agreement caught by vessels on the IUU Vessel List;	Non-Compliant	Compliant	Pending follow-up action: CC08 was of the view that this obligation is applicable to all CCPs, including India. India was requested to submit national binding measures with respect to this obligation. No measures submitted as of yet.	India takes all necessary measures under the provisions in the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 (MZI Act), Customs Act, 1962, the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992, the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, and India's Consumer Protection and CSR framework. These provisions include those under Section 5, 7 and 14 of MZI Act (Allow India to deny port access and landing of fish from vessels contravening management measures in place), Customs Act, 1962 (Section 11: Allows the Government to prohibit imports or exports of goods to protect public interest or comply with international obligations and Sections 111–113: Allow seizure and confiscation of illegally imported goods), Companies Act, 2013 – CSR & Ethical Trade (Under Section 135 and Schedule VII, companies are encouraged to adopt sustainable and responsible supply chains).	Critically Non-Compliant	India to provide updates on submission of missing measures at the MoP12

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
India	19. j Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall take all necessary measures under their applicable legislation and pursuant to paragraphs 56 and 66 of the IPOA-IUU to collect and promptly exchange with other Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs, any appropriate relevant information on vessels included in the IUU Vessel List;	Non-Compliant	Compliant	Pending follow-up action: CC08 was of the view that this obligation is applicable to all CCPs, including India. India was requested to submit national binding measures with respect to this obligation. No measures submitted as of yet.	India takes all necessary measures under the provisions of Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 (MZI Act), and the Indian Coast Guard Act, 1978 and Customs Act, 1962 to collect and promptly exchange with other Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs, any appropriate relevant information on vessels included in the IUU Vessel List. Further, India is already a party to the Regional Plan of Action-RPOA steered by the Bay of Bengal Programme-IGO and is at preparations for enacting the National Plan of Action (NPOA)-IUU to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing in the waters under its jurisdiction. India is also actively at having domestic law that shall adequately enable accession to the PSMA. India is also at finalisation of a national legal instrument to regulate fishing by the India-flagged vessels in the High Seas in compliance with the relevant RFMOs.	Critically Non-Compliant	India to provide updates on submission of missing measures at the MoP12

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken

Table 7 Implementation of CMM 07 (2024) and CMM 07 (2022) (Vessel Authorization)

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
Seychelles	1. ...[F]ishing vessels that are not entered onto the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels are deemed not to be authorised to fish for, retain on board, tranship or land fishery resources in the Agreement Area.	Not Assessed in 2024	Compliant	Potential Compliance Issue: Seychelles reports that there have been 329,399.93 KG retained onboard, transhiped and/or landed by 19 vessels not on the SIOFA RAV between October 2023 and December 2024.	Given that the SIOFA area overlaps with IOTC area of competence, this requirement is ambiguous and not in line with recommendation of SIOFA SC regarding targeted and non-targeted species.	Not Assessed	To be discussed at the MoP, noting the technical complexity of implementing this paragraph in fisheries overlapping with the IOTC. [MoP noted that the vessels were authorized by the IOTC and that the vessels were not targetting the SIOFA Species implicated in this assessment]
Seychelles	7. CMM 07(2022)/ 6. CMM 07(2024):Each CCP shall take measures, under their applicable legislation, to prohibit the fishing and fishing related activities on fishery resources covered by the Agreement by vessels	Not Assessed in 2024	Non Compliant		Vessels not on SIOFA RAV are not authorized to target SIOFA Species in SIOFA area of competence. However they are allowed to retain SIOFA species accidentally captured t within the IOTC area. The Framework Agreement for Seychelles Flagged Industrial Longliners: Article 4	Not Assessed	To be discussed at the MoP, noting the technical complexity of implementing this paragraph in fisheries overlapping with the

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
	which are not registered in the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels.				Principles and objectives underlying the implementation of this Agreement / 1. The Parties hereby undertake to promote and implement sustainable fishing in the Seychelles fishing zone and outside Seychelles EEZ in areas under the management of IOTC and SIOFA. 4. COMPANY fishing vessels under this Agreement shall engage in fishing activities in: (a) IOTC area of competence for species under the mandate of IOTC as follows: ii. any other species listed in Annex 1 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) other than the target species mentioned in paragraph 4(a)(i) shall be considered as bycatch. In addition, oilfish, escolar and any other species not prohibited that might be incidentally caught in the normal surface longline operation shall be considered as bycatch. iii. sharks belonging to the families Alopiidae and Sphyrnidae; shark species Cetorhinus maximus, Rhincodon typus, Carcharodon carcharias and Carcharhinus longimarus; and any other species protected or prohibited under the laws of Seychelles, the framework of the IOTC or other relevant international agreements shall be prohibited from catching and retaining on board. (b) SIOFA agreement area for fishery resources as defined by its Agreement.		IOTC. [MoP noted that the vessels were authorized by the IOTC and that the vessels were not targetting the SIOFA Species implicated in this assessment]

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
India	7. CMM 07(2022)/ 6. CMM 07(2024):Each CCP shall take measures, under their applicable legislation, to prohibit the fishing and fishing related activities on fishery resources covered by the Agreement by vessels which are not registered in the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels.	Not Assessed in 2024	Compliant	India to provide national binding measures to implement this obligation	Indian fishing vessels are not fishing SIOFA managed fishery resources in the Agreement area. The provisions in the Marine Fishing Regulation Acts (MFRAs) of the coastal provinces (states/Union Territories) of India have adequate provisions to deter fishing in the areas outside jurisdiction of the State/UT including in High Seas and waters of other nations. India is at finalisation of a national legal instrument to regulate fishing in the High Seas which will further deter the India-flagged vessels venturing to High Seas without proper authorisation in conformity with the relevant RFMOs.	Non-Compliant	India to provide updates on submission of missing measures at the MoP12

Table 8 **Implementation of CMM 08 (2020) (Port Inspection)**

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
Mauritius	25. The inspection report shall be forwarded to the competent authority of the inspected vessel and to the Secretariat within 30 days following the date of completion of the inspection or as soon as possible where potential compliance issues have arisen or if there are issues which warrant the attention of the competent authority of the inspected vessel. If the inspection report cannot be transmitted	Critically Non-Compliant	Compliant	Potential Compliance Issue: Secretariat's records indicates that one (1) inspection report was submitted 34 days after completion of inspection.	Mauritius will ensure that inspection reports will be submitted in a timely manner.	Critically Non-Compliant	Mauritius to ensure reports are submitted on time.

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
	within that time period, the port State shall notify the Secretariat within that same time period of the reasons for the delay and when the report will be submitted.						
Chinese Taipei	28. Where, following port State inspection, a Contracting Party, CNCP or PFE receives an inspection report indicating that there are clear grounds to believe that a vessel flying its flag has engaged in IUU fishing, it shall immediately and fully investigate the matter and shall, upon sufficient evidence, take enforcement action without delay in accordance with its laws and regulations.	Not Applicable		No information provided related to this obligation. Chinese Taipei to provide relevant information, including preliminary self-assessment if required. Sec: Chinese Taipei To confirm if there were no clear grounds to believe that a vessel flying its flag has engaged in IUU fishing.	This obligation is for the competent authority, so it would not be transformed into domestic regulations because of our legislation practice. This Agency will immediately initiate a full investigation once this Agency receives inspection report from the port State and takes further enforcement action. Since there was no inspection report received in 2024, there was no need to take further action. Therefore, either "compliant" or "not applicable" would be acceptable for our preliminary assessment.	Not Applicable	No follow-up action required.
Chinese Taipei	29. Each Contracting Party, CNCP and PFE shall report to the Secretariat on any actions it has taken in respect of vessels flying its flag that, as a result of port State measures taken pursuant to this CMM, have been determined to have engaged in IUU fishing.	Not Applicable		No information provided related to this obligation. Chinese Taipei to provide relevant information, including preliminary self-assessment if required. Sec: Chinese Taipei To confirm if there were no clear grounds to believe that a vessel flying its flag has engaged in IUU fishing.	This obligation is for the competent authority, so it would not be transformed into domestic regulations because of our legislation practice. Since there was no fishing vessel that had been determined to have engaged in IUU fishing in 2024, there was no need to report to the Secretariat. Therefore, either "compliant" or "not applicable" would be acceptable for our preliminary assessment.	Not Applicable	No follow-up action required.

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
Chinese Taipei	30. Each Contracting Party, CNCP, PFE and CNPFE shall provide a report to each ordinary meeting of the Compliance Committee of action that they have taken pursuant to paragraph 27.	Not Applicable		No information provided related to this obligation. Chinese Taipei to provide relevant information, including preliminary self-assessment if required. Sec: Chinese Taipei To confirm if there were no clear grounds to believe that a vessel flying its flag has engaged in IUU fishing.	This obligation is for the competent authority, so it would not be transformed into domestic regulations because of our legislation practice. Since there was no fishing vessel that had engaged in IUU fishing and was seeking entry to or in the port of another CCP, there was no need to take further action. Therefore, either "compliant" or "not applicable" would be acceptable for our preliminary assessment.	Not Applicable	No follow-up action required.
India	26. Each Contracting Party, CNCP and PFE shall require its vessels to cooperate with the port State in inspections carried out pursuant to this CMM.	Critically Non-Compliant	Compliant	Pending follow-up action: CC08 was of the view that this obligation is applicable to all CCPs, including India. India was requested to submit national binding measures with respect to this obligation. No measures submitted as of yet.	India presently is not engaged in fishing in the High Seas including in the SIOFA agreement area. India remains committed to upholding its international obligations and will fully comply should its vessels operate in the Agreement Area in the future. A national legal instrument mandating the obligation of vessels to comply with all national and international legal framework in their jurisdictional areas is being finalised. Further, India is a party to the Regional Plan of Action-IUU steered by the Bay of Bengal Programme-IGO and is at preparation of a National Plan of Action-IUU to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing effectively. India is also actively working to have a domestic legal instrument that shall adequately enable accession to the PSMA.	Critically Non-Compliant	India to provide updates on submission of missing measures at the MoP12

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken

Table 9 **Implementation of CMM 09 (2022) (Control)**

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
Seychelles	11. Without prejudice to other requirements in specific CMMs, each Contracting Party, CNCP and PFE shall ensure that the scientific observers carried by vessels flying its flag operating in the Agreement Area are qualified and authorised to perform their tasks and record any requested data.	Non Compliant		No preliminary self-assessment provided		Critically Non-Compliant	Seychelles to implement an EM Program for its longline fleet as its observer program.
Comoros	6. Each Contracting Party, CNCP and PFE shall without delay notify the Secretariat of the information regarding the marking of fixed gear used by vessels flying its flag. This notification does not need to be repeated unless there are changes to be reported.	Not Applicable	Compliant	The Secretariat holds no record of this information. Comoros to confirm if this has been submitted to the Secretariat, and if not, to provide these information here. Sec: Confirming this was received, albeit in 2025.	Pictures of fishing gears were taken during the inspection of the vessel in 2024 before applying for the authorisation in SIOFA together with pictures of the vessel. The data should have been submitted when the fishing vessel Rinascente 9 has applied to be listed in the record of authorised vessels in early 2024. However we will send these pictures to the secretariat again.	Non-Compliant	No follow-up action required.

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken

Table 10 Implementation of CMM 10 (2023) (Monitoring)

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
Cook Islands	21. Each CCP shall ensure, for each vessel flying its flag undertaking an at sea transfer operation of fuel, crew, gear or any other supplies, either as an unloading or receiving vessel, where one or both vessels has been involved or intends to undertake fishing for fishery resources in the Agreement Area during that trip, that: a. the vessel notifies its competent authority at least 24 hours in advance of the planned transfer. b. the notifications include the relevant information available regarding the transfer in accordance with Transfer Notification Annex V. c. the competent authority transmits the notification to the Secretariat without delay. d. the vessel notifies all of the operational details to its competent authority, as specified in Transfer Declaration Annex VI, within 24 hours following the transfer.	Not Applicable	Compliant	No reports were received by the Secretariat during the calendar year. Report provided by the Cook Islands indicates that the donor vessel is not on RAV and not a fishing vessel, and in cases where receiving vessels were registered on SIOFA RAV, the flag state of the receiving vessel submitted those reports. CC to advise on aplicability and compliance status		Compliant	

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
Cook Islands	33. As part of its CCP Compliance Report under paragraph 12 of CMM 11(2020) (Compliance Monitoring Scheme), each CCP shall provide annually [information required by paragraph 33], as applicable, to the Secretariat for consideration by the Compliance Committee in relation to each transshipment and at sea transfer by vessels flying its flag that took place during the previous calendar year in accordance with paragraphs 16 to 32.	New Obligation	Compliant	Submission made for 2025. Assessment Period relates to submissions made in 2024	Cook Islands Submitted transfers at sea, for the calendar year 2024. If the requirement is submit transfers at sea for the calendar year 2023, Cook Islands can submit his information but it will take some time to collate the data.	Non-Compliant	Cook Islands to submit missing data after conclusion of MoP12.
Mauritius	10. In the event of a technical failure or non-operation of the ALC fitted on board a vessel: a. the device shall be repaired or replaced within a month. After this period, the vessel shall not be authorised to begin a new trip with a defective ALC. If the trip is lasting more than one month, the repair or the replacement shall take place as soon as practicable after the vessel enters a port. If the ALC has not been repaired or replaced within 90 days, the CCP shall order the vessel to cease fishing, stow all fishing gear and return immediately to port in order to undertake repairs. The vessel shall not be authorised to begin a new trip without a ALC having been repaired or replaced; b. the master of the fishing vessel shall manually	Compliant	Compliant	New requirement under 10.c entered into force 1 Jan 2024 (prohibition to authorize transshipment while vessel has a faulty ALC). As per Fisheries (Vessel Monitoring System) Regulations 2024: Section 6: Obligations of the operator of every fishing vessel The operator of every fishing vessel shall (g) the owner or agent is notified immediately where the Mobile Transceiver Unit, or a personal computer or data terminal connected to the Mobile Transceiver Unit, ceases to operate; (h) that the Fisheries Monitoring Centre and the Mauritius National Coast Guard Operations Room are informed of any cessation or malfunction of the Mobile Transceiver Unit immediately upon becoming aware of same; and (i) the Fisheries Monitoring Centre is promptly informed of the name of the person on board nominated to [Sec]: Measures may not be sufficient to implement para 10 in its entirety		Non-Compliant	Mauritius in the process of amending its regulation to include this provision

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
	communicate to its Fisheries Monitoring Centre (FMC), at least every four hours, reports by other means of communication (such as email, facsimile, telex, telephone message or radio). Such reports must include, inter alia, information required in paragraph 8 b; and c. no transshipments at sea shall be authorized and initiated unless and until the reporting requirements and procedures established in sub-paragraph b are complied with.						

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
Seychelles	10. In the event of a technical failure or non-operation of the ALC fitted on board a vessel: a. the device shall be repaired or replaced within a month. After this period, the vessel shall not be authorised to begin a new trip with a defective ALC. If the trip is lasting more than one month, the repair or the replacement shall take place as soon as practicable after the vessel enters a port. If the ALC has not been repaired or replaced within 90 days, the CCP shall order the vessel to cease fishing, stow all fishing gear and return immediately to port in order to undertake repairs. The vessel shall not be authorised to begin a new trip without a ALC having been repaired or replaced; b. the master of the fishing vessel shall manually communicate to its Fisheries Monitoring Centre (FMC), at least every four hours, reports by other means of communication (such as email, facsimile, telex, telephone message or radio). Such reports must include, inter alia, information required in paragraph 8 b; and c. no transshipments at sea shall be authorized and initiated unless and until the reporting requirements and procedures established in sub-paragraph b are complied with.	Compliant	Compliant	New requirement under 10.c entered into force 1 Jan 2024 (prohibition to authorize transshipment while vessel has a faulty ALC). Seychelles to provide measures that implements this new requirement Sec: Measures may be deemed insufficient as there are no measures to implement para 10 c.	The Framework Agreement for Seychelles Flagged Industrial Longliners / Appendix 6 -Transmission by the COMPANY vessel in the event of breakdown of the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) 1. The master of a COMPANY vessel shall ensure at all times that the VMS of that vessel is fully operational and that the position messages are correctly transmitted to the Seychelles FMC. 2. In the event of breakdown, the VMS of the COMPANY vessel shall be repaired or replaced within thirty (30) days. If the VMS has not been repaired or replaced within thirty (30) days, the COMPANY vessel shall no longer be authorised to continue and/ or commence a fishing trip. 3. COMPANY vessels with a defective VMS shall communicate their position messages by email to the FMC at least every four hours, providing all the mandatory information. a) the vessel identification; (b) the most recent geographical position of the vessel (longitude, latitude), with a margin of error of less than 100 metres and with a confidence interval of 99%; (c) the date and time the position is recorded; (d) the vessel's speed and course.	Non-Compliant	To be transposed in new regulations under new Fisheries act (2025)

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
Seychelles	18. Each CCP shall ensure that vessels flying its flag only undertake transshipments at sea of fishery resources, with other vessels included on the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels.	Not Applicable	Compliant	Obligation being assessed for the first time as obligation was not applicable to Seychelles last year, Seychelles to provide measures implementing this obligation domestically Sec:Measures provided does not relate to obligation	1.Implemented as part of the Terms and Conditions of Authorisation to fish within the SIOFA competence zones. 2.Fisheries Act 2014 - PART II - MANAGEMENT OF FISHERIES Sub-Part 1- Management plans and management measures - Article 7 7.(1) The Authority shall collect and analyse statistical data and other information on fisheries, fishing related activities and aquaculture, including fishermen engaged in fishing activities. (5) The Minister may enter into arrangements or agreements with other States or territories, either directly or through an international organisation, providing for the exchange, in a standardised format, and in a manner consistent with applicable confidentiality requirements, of fisheries information, including evidentiary information relating to breaches of national fisheries legislations and international fisheries conservation and management measures.	Non-Compliant	To be transposed in new regulations under new Fisheries act (2025)

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
Seychelles	19. Each CCP shall ensure that vessels flying its flag do not undertake transshipments at sea of fishery resources with vessels included in the IUU vessel lists established by CCAMLR or any regional fisheries management organization.	New Obligation	Compliant	Obligation being assessed for the first time, Seychelles to provide measures implementing this obligation domestically Sec:Measures provided does not relate to obligation	1.Implemented as part of the Terms and Conditions of Authorisation to fish within the SIOFA competence zones. 2.Fisheries Act 2014 - PART II - MANAGEMENT OF FISHERIES Sub-Part 1- Management plans and management measures - Article 7 7.(1) The Authority shall collect and analyse statistical data and other information on fisheries, fishing related activities and aquaculture, including fishermen engaged in fishing activities. (5) The Minister may enter into arrangements or agreements with other States or territories, either directly or through an international organisation, providing for the exchange, in a standardised format, and in a manner consistent with applicable confidentiality requirements, of fisheries information, including evidentiary information relating to breaches of national fisheries legislations and international fisheries conservation and management measures.	Non-Compliant	To be transposed in new regulations under new Fisheries act (2025)
Chinese Taipei	24 a. Each CCP with a vessel flying its flag that receives fishery resources at sea from more than one unloading vessel shall ensure that such receiving vessel...stores the fishery resources and related documentation from each unloading vessel separately, allowing to distinguish from which unloading vessel each part of the fishery resources on board comes, including through the use of canvas or nets to separate fishery resources on board and/or appropriate labelling for boxes;	New Obligation	Non-Compliant	Obligation not assessed in previous compliance assessment. Chinese Taipei to provide relevant measures related to the implementation of this obligation	The Fisheries Agency had amended article 49-1 of "Regulations for Tuna Longline Fishing Vessels Proceeding to the Indian Ocean for Fishing Operation" so as to transform this obligation into our domestic regulation. However, due to administrative procedures, the process of amendment is still on-going. Therefore, our preliminary self assessment is non-compliant.	Non-Compliant	CC noted the ongoing process to domesticate this provision by the Chinese Taipei

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
Chinese Taipei	24 b. Each CCP with a vessel flying its flag that receives fishery resources at sea from more than one unloading vessel shall ensure that such receiving vessel...maintains an up-to-date stowage plan and other documents showing the location and quantities of species received from each unloading vessel and retains these on board until the vessel has been unloaded completely;	New Obligation	Non-Compliant	Obligation not assessed in previous compliance assessment. Chinese Taipei to provide relevant measures related to the implementation of this obligation	The Fisheries Agency had amended article 49-1 of "Regulations for Tuna Longline Fishing Vessels Proceeding to the Indian Ocean for Fishing Operation" so as to transform this obligation into our domestic regulation. But due to administrative procedures, the process of amendment is still on-going. Therefore, our preliminary self assessment is non-compliant.	Non-Compliant	CC noted the ongoing process to domesticate this provision by the Chinese Taipei
Chinese Taipei	24 c. Each CCP with a vessel flying its flag that receives fishery resources at sea from more than one unloading vessel shall ensure that such receiving vessel...makes available the information referred to in sub-paragraph b. to its competent authority and to the relevant port State when required.	New Obligation	Non-Compliant	Obligation not assessed in previous compliance assessment. Chinese Taipei to provide relevant measures related to the implementation of this obligation	The Fisheries Agency had amended article 49-1 of "Regulations for Tuna Longline Fishing Vessels Proceeding to the Indian Ocean for Fishing Operation" so as to transform this obligation into our domestic regulation. But due to administrative procedures, the process of amendment is still on-going. Therefore, our preliminary self assessment is non-compliant.	Non-Compliant	CC noted the ongoing process to domesticate this provision by the Chinese Taipei
Comoros	21. Each CCP shall ensure, for each vessel flying its flag undertaking an at sea transfer operation of fuel, crew, gear or any other supplies, either as an unloading or receiving vessel, where one or both vessels has been involved or intends to undertake fishing for fishery resources in the Agreement Area during that trip, that: a. the vessel notifies its competent authority at least 24 hours in advance of the planned transfer. b. the notifications include the relevant information available regarding the	Not Applicable	Compliant	Comoros to elaborate on national binding measures in the "fisheries code" related to this obligation Sec: Measure provided related to transshipments at sea, Obligation relates to transfers at sea.	The Fisheries code of the Union of Comoros prohibits transshipments at sea	Non-Compliant	Comoros to provide further information on binding measures for future assessment

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
	transfer in accordance with Transfer Notification Annex V. c. the competent authority transmits the notification to the Secretariat without delay. d. the vessel notifies all of the operational details to its competent authority, as specified in Transfer Declaration Annex VI, within 24 hours following the transfer.						
Comoros	23. Each CCP with a vessel flying its flag involved in a transshipment or transfer at sea shall take the appropriate measures to verify the accuracy of the information received in accordance with paragraphs 20 and 21.	Not Applicable	Compliant	Comoros to elaborate on national binding measures in the "fisheries code" related to this obligation Sec: Measure provided related to transshipments at sea, Obligation relates to transfers at sea.	The Fisheries code of the Union of Comoros prohibits transshipments at sea	Non-Compliant	Comoros to provide further information on binding measures for future assessment
Comoros	27. Each CCP shall ensure that vessels flying its flag do not undertake transshipments in port of fishery resources with vessels included in the IUU vessel lists established by CCAMLR or any regional fisheries management organization.	New Obligation	Compliant	Comoros to elaborate on national binding measures in the "fisheries code" related to this obligation Sec: Measure provided related to transshipments at sea, Obligation relates to transshipments in port	The Fisheries code of the Union of Comoros prohibits transshipments at sea	Non-Compliant	Comoros to provide further information on binding measures for future assessment
Comoros	28. For each transshipment of fishery resources in port, the competent authority of the CCP of the unloading vessel shall notify, at least 24 hours in advance, the [information contained in paragraph 28 of this CMM] to the competent authority of the port State and to the competent authority of the receiving vessel.	New Obligation	Compliant	Comoros to elaborate on national binding measures in the "fisheries code" related to this obligation Sec: Measure provided related to transshipments at sea, Obligation relates to transshipments in port	The Fisheries code of the Union of Comoros prohibits transshipments at sea	Non-Compliant	Comoros to provide further information on binding measures for future assessment

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
Comoros	30. The CCP of the unloading vessel shall require that the vessel submits a Transshipment Declaration in accordance with the format set out in Annex IV to its competent authority, and that of the port State within 24 hours of the transshipment, and also provides a copy to the receiving vessel.	Not Applicable	Compliant	Comoros to elaborate on national binding measures in the "fisheries code" related to this obligation Sec: Measure provided related to transshipments at sea, Obligation relates to transshipments in port	The Fisheries code of the Union of Comoros prohibits transshipments at sea	Non-Compliant	Comoros to provide further information on binding measures for future assessment
Comoros	32. Each CCP with a vessel flying its flag involved in the transshipment in port shall take the appropriate measures to verify the accuracy of the information received in accordance with paragraphs 28 to 31 and take appropriate follow-up action in the event of discrepancies in the data reported by the masters of the unloading or receiving vessels or in the event of possible noncompliance with SIOFA CMMs.	New Obligation	Compliant	Comoros to elaborate on national binding measures in the "fisheries code" related to this obligation Sec: Measure provided related to transshipments at sea, Obligation relates to transshipments in port	The Fisheries code of the Union of Comoros prohibits transshipments at sea	Non-Compliant	Comoros to provide further information on binding measures for future assessment

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken

Table 11 Implementation of CMM 11 (2020) (Compliance Monitoring Scheme)

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
Cook Islands	12. Each CCP shall prepare a CCP Compliance Report on the basis of the template referred to in paragraph 10 which shall include a preliminary self-assessment of its compliance status for each assessed obligation, using Annex I as a reference, and return it to the Secretariat no later than 60 days before the commencement of the next ordinary Meeting of the Parties. Each CCP shall ensure their CCR includes information relevant to the implementation of each obligation assessed for compliance.	Compliant	Non-Compliant	Submission made for CCR submitted in 2025. The Assessment Period relates to submissions made in 2024. The CCR submitted in 2024 did not include information (or a summary) on how some obligations are being implemented. The Cook Islands resubmitted an updated CCR on the 8th May 2024. No Further action required.	If the updated re-submission of the CCR on 8th May 2024 required no further action, The cooks request a compliant assessment.	Compliant	No follow up actions required

Table 12 Implementation of CMM 12 (2024) and CMM 12 (2023) (Sharks)

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
No Potential Compliance Issue Identified							

Table 13 Implementation of CMM 13 (2022) (Mitigation of Seabirds Bycatch)

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
No Potential Compliance Issue Identified							

Table 14 **Implementation of CMM 14
(2021) (High Seas Boarding
and Inspection Procedures)**

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
No Potential Compliance Issue Identified							

Table 15 **Implementation of CMM 15 (2024) and CMM 15 (2023) (Management of Demersal Stocks)**

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
No Potential Compliance Issue Identified							

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken

Table 16 Implementation of CMM 17 (2024) (New and Exploratory Fisheries)

CCP	Obligation (include paragraph number, summary description)	Compliance Status for the 2023 Assessment Period	CCP Preliminary Self Assessment (2024 Assessment Period)	Secretariat Comments (including any Potential Compliance Issue)	Feedback from CCP	Final Compliance Status (2024 Assessment Period)	Follow up responsive or corrective action proposed to be undertaken
Mauritius	15. CCPs shall not permit fishing vessels flying their flag to participate in new and exploratory fisheries without prior approval from the Meeting of the Parties.	New CMM	Compliant			Not Assessed	SC [and CC] requested advice on interpretation of this CMM [by] the MoP

Update of Workplan & Progress Toward Operationalization of SIOFA VMS

Introduction

The 11th Meeting of the Parties to SIOFA (MoP11) endorsed a project roadmap towards the entry into operation of the SIOFA VMS ([MoP-11-21 Rev1](#)), as foreseen by CMM 16 (2023) on a SIOFA Vessel Monitoring System³. The key activities and outcomes of the project roadmap are:

- 1. Definition of standards, specifications and procedures (SSPs) for, among others, data formats and transmission, data confidentiality and security requirements.**

Indicator: SSPs adopted by the Meeting of the Parties

- 2. Building up SIOFA's capacity to implement the SIOFA VMS**

Indicators: Cost-effective hosting option identified

Key Secretariat staff trained in the use of the SIOFA VMS.

Secretariat Headquarters adapted to host SIOFA VMS.

- 3. Establishment of the SIOFA VMS (acquisition, testing and entry into operation)**

Indicators: SIOFA VMS operational

Entry into operation of the SIOFA VMS

Progress since MoP11

To achieve the aforementioned milestones, the SIOFA VMS WG undertook the following tasks in the intersessional period between MoP11 and MoP12:⁴

- Determining a cost-effective and efficient hosting model for the SIOFA VMS and other operational and infrastructure considerations; and
- Drafting terms of reference (ToR) for the procurement of the VMS system.

In addition, the VMS WG recognised the need to align the provisions of CMM 03 (2016) on Data Confidentiality and CMM 07(2024) on Vessel Authorization, with those of CMM 16 (2023) (Vessel Monitoring System) and the SIOFA VMS SSPs to ensure compatibility between those instruments and ensuring a smooth implementation of the SIOFA VMS once it enters into operation.

Three meetings of the Working Group were held during the intersessional period with participation from the majority of Contracting Parties and participating fishing entities which enabled the make substantial progress on the work plan, and the additional matters outlined above, notably:

- Options Paper for the Hosting of the SIOFA VMS;
- Draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the procurement of the SIOFA VMS, based on the recommendation from the VMS WG that the SaaS will be chosen as the hosting option;
- Potential amendments to CMMs and the SIOFA SSPs to support the entry into operation of the SIOFA VMS.

³ CMM 16 (2023) for the Establishment of a SIOFA Vessel Monitoring System ([Vessel Monitoring System](#))

⁴ See adopted VMS Workplan

Updated work plan

Annex 1 presents an updated VMS WG work plan that outlines the implementation status of planned activities and proposes new activities and tasks necessary to achieve entry into the operation of the SIOFA VMS.

Based on discussions in the VMS WG, future work – outlined in Work Package 3 (WP3) would include:

- providing support to the Secretariat and CCPs for the procurement process of the SIOFA VMS, in accordance with the directives of the MoP;
- providing support to the Secretariat and CCPs for the testing phase, as appropriate;
- reviewing paragraph 15 of CMM 10 (2023) (Monitoring) as regards automated entry/exit notifications via the SIOFA VMS;
- recommending adjustments to other SIOFA CMMs, the SSPs, and SIOFA policies as may be necessary following the testing phase.

Recommendations / Note

- CC09 is requested to review the updated work plan, provide guidance as appropriate, and recommend its adoption by MoP12.
- MoP12 is invited to consider the updated work plan and adopt it.

Annex 1 - Timeline for the main tasks and activities

SIOFA VMS**WP 2 - Assessments / Analysis**

Name	Timeline	Priority	Progress
Establish Standards, Specifications and Procedures (SSP)	2023-11-01 - 2024-05-16	Critical 	Completed
Data confidentiality and security for SIOFA VMS	2024-01-15 - 2024-07-05	Critical 	Completed
Definition of Term UVI	2024-01-15 - 2024-07-05	High	Completed
Determining cost-effective and efficient hosting model for the SIOFA VMS and other operational and infrastructure considerations	2024-11-01 - 2025-07-04	Critical 	Completed
Potential amendments to CMMs and the SIOFA SSPs	2025-03-16 - 2025-07-04	Critical 	Ongoing (Amendments to be considered by CC09/ MoP12 & MoP13)
Scoping Missions	2024-07-08 - 2025-12-18	Low	Ongoing

Legend:

Completed = Green

Ongoing = Orange

Not yet started = Grey

Delayed =Red

WP 3 - Setup and Entry into Operation of SIOFA VMS

Name	Timeline (Indicative)	Priority	Progress
Procurement of SIOFA VMS ⁵	2025-08-01 - 2025-12-31	Critical 	ToR Drafted (to be considered by CC09 / MoP12)
Call for bids issued	01-Aug-25	Critical 	Not Started
Deadline for submission of bids and proposals	31-Oct-25	Critical 	Not Started
Examination and evaluation of proposal	2025-11-01 - 2025-11-30	Critical 	Not Started
Notification to successful bidder	2025-12-01 - 2025-12-01	Critical 	Not Started
Contract signing	2025-12-31 - 2025-12-31	Critical 	Not Started
Start of Services	2026-01-01 - 2026-01-01	Critical 	Not Started
Testing phase of SIOFA VMS	2026-01-01 - 2026-06-24	High	Not Started
Entry into operation of SIOFA	2026-07-10 or end of MoP13	Critical 	Not Started

Legend:

Completed = Green

Ongoing = Orange

Not yet started = Grey

Delayed =Red

⁵ The Procurement of the SIOFA VMS will be followed by the setting up of the SIOFA VMS, including the Secretariat's Infrastructure and training f SIOF Staffs to deploy the SIOFA VMS.



SIOFA IUU vessel list

Dates	Update
04-07-2025	List adopted by the 12 th Meeting of the Parties

Note that the list is divided into two parts:

PART 1 –Current SIOFA IUU vessels list

PART 2 –Cross-listed IUU vessels from other RFMOs and CCAMLR

PART 1: Current SIOFA IUU vessels list

Vessel Name	Previous Names	Flag	Previous Flags	Callsign	IMO no	Beneficial Owner	Date	Suspected Activity	ref documentation	restricted file
ABISHAK PUTHA 3		not known		4SFXXXX	417000878		2020-08-14	Engaged in fishing for fishery resources in the Agreement Area and are not on the SIOFA Record of Authorized Vessels	apsoi.org/meetings/cc4	Draft SIOFA IUU vessel - Abishak Putha 3.pdf

Annex I- SIOFA IUU Vessel List

PART 2: Cross-listed IUU vessels from other RFMOs

No	Name	Previous Names	Flag	Previous Flags	Callsign	IMO no	Beneficial Owner	Operator	Activities	Cross Listing Date	Listing RFMOs (For additional information, kindly refer to the website of the listing RFMO in Bold)
1	ABISHAK PUTHA 3		not known		4SFXXX	417000878		2020-08-14	Engaged in fishing for fishery resources in the Agreement Area and are not on the SIOFA Record of Authorized Vessels	apsoi.org/meetings/cc4	SIOFA
2	ABUNDANT 1	YI HONG 06	UNK/INC		CPA 226	UNK/INC	Huang Jia Yi,C/O Room 18-E Tze Wei Commercial Building, No.8 6 Th Road Lin Ya District, Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei	Mr. Hatto Daroi,UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2021-04-05	IOTC -ICCAT
3	ABUNDANT 12	YI HONG 106	UNK/INC		CPA 202	UNK/INC	Huang Jia Yi,C/O Room 18-E Tze Wei Commercial Building, No.8 6 Th Road Lin Ya District, Kaohsiung,Chinese Taipei	Mr. Mendez FranciscoDelos Reyes,UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2021-04-05	IOTC -ICCAT
4	ABUNDANT 3	YI HONG 16	UNK/INC		CPA 201	UNK/INC	Huang Jia Yi,C/O Room 18-E Tze Wei Commercial Building, No.8 6 Th Road Lin Ya District, Kaohsiung,Chinese Taipei	Mr. Huang WenHsin,UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2021-04-05	IOTC -ICCAT
5	ABUNDANT 6	YI HONG 86	UNK/INC		CPA 221	UNK/INC	Huang Jia Yi,C/O Room 18-E Tze Wei Commercial Building, No.8 6 Th Road Lin Ya District, Kaohsiung,Chinese Taipei	Mr. Huang WenHsin,UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2021-04-05	IOTC -ICCAT
6	ABUNDANT 9	YI HONG 116	UNK/INC		CPA 222	UNK/INC	Huang Jia Yi,C/O Room 18-E Tze Wei Commercial Building, No.8 6 Th Road Lin Ya District, Kaohsiung,Chinese Taipei	Mr. Pan Chao Mao,UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2021-04-05	IOTC -ICCAT
7	ACROS NO 2		Unknown	Honduras						2006	ICCAT GFCM IOTC

Annex I- SIOFA IUU Vessel List

No	Name	Previous Names	Flag	Previous Flags	Callsign	IMO no	Beneficial Owner	Operator	Activities	Cross Listing Date	Listing RFMOs (For additional information, kindly refer to the website of the listing RFMO in Bold)
8	ACROS NO 3		Unknown	Honduras						2006	ICCAT GFCM IOTC
9	AKASH		India				WILLIAM S/O MANUVELPI LLAI (10/4, Stage Vilagam, Thoothor. Aadhaar (UID), India)		Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in closed area. Fishing in coastal state waters without authorization. Incorrect markings. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. VMS) Ref: IOTC-2023-CoC20-09	2023-07-11	IOTC
10	AL AMIR MUHAMMAD		Egypt							2018-10	GFCM IOTC
11	ALBORAN II	White enterprise [NAFO/NEAFC] / White, Enterprise, Enxembre, Atalaya, Reda IV, Atalaya Del Sur [SEAFO]	Unknown	Panama, St. Kitts & Nevis	Unknown	7306570		Unknown	Last known location: Gibraltar Port(31 March 2009)	2014-05	GFCM ICCAT IOTC NAFO-NEAFC SEAFO
12	AMORINN	Iceberg II, Noemi, Lome	Unknown	Togo, Belize	SVAN9	7036345	Unknown	Unknown (Infitco Ltd Ocean Star Maritime CO,(Seric Business S.A.)	Sighted 58.5.1 (11 Oct 2003), Sighted 58.4.2 (23 Jan 2004)		CCAMLR GFCM ICCAT IOTCSEAFO
13	ANEKA 228		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de larésolution dela CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC - ICCAT
14	ANEKA 228; KM.		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC - ICCAT
15	ANNAI VELAMKANNI		India				D. WILSON (48/36 Karaunyapuram Poothura, India)		Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in coastal state waters without authorization. Incorrect markings. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. VMS) Ref: IOTC-2023-CoC20-09	2023-07-11	IOTC

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No	Name	Previous Names	Flag	Previous Flags	Callsign	IMO no	Beneficial Owner	Operator	Activities	Cross Listing Date	Listing RFMOs (For additional information, kindly refer to the website of the listing RFMO in Bold)
16	ANTONY	Urgora, Atlantic Oji Maru No. 33 -Oji Maru No. 33	Unknown	Venezuela, Honduras, Panama, Belize, Indonesia	PQMG	7236634		Atlanti Pez, (Urgora S deRL), (World Ocean Fishing SL)	Supporting IUU-listed vessel (3March 2016)	2020-08-12	CCAMLR ICCAT IOTC SEAFO
17	ARPUTHA MATHA		India				SALBIN S/O CLEETUS (2-5/89. Near the Church, Thoothoor, Chinnathurai)		Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in coastal state waters without authorization. Incorrect markings. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. VMS) Ref: IOTC-2023-CoC20-09	2023-07-11	IOTC
18	ASIAN WARRIOR	Kunlun, Taishan, Chang Bai, Hongshui, Huang He 22, Sima Qian Baru 22, Corvus, Galaxy, Ina Maka, Black Moon, Red Moon, Eolo, Thule, Magnus, Dorita [CCAMLR/IOTC]	Unknown	Indonesia, Tanzania, Korea DPRK, Panama, Sierra Leone, Equatorial Guinea, Uruguay	J8B5336, 3CAG	7322897	Stanley Management Inc,UNK/INC	High Mountain OverseasS.A., (Navalmar S.A.), (Meteora Development Inc), (Vidal Armadores S.A.), (Rajan Corporation), (Rep Line Ventures S.A.), (Stanley	Sighted 58.5.2 (31 Jan 2004), Sighted 58.5.1 (10 May 2006), Sighted 58.4.1 (21 Jan 2010), Sighted 58.4.1 (13 Feb 2011), Towing Balyangdian 57 (01 Apr 2012), Sighted 58.6 (01 Jul 2012), Sighted 58.4.2 (28 Jan 2013),	2020-08-11	IOTC – CCAMLR (2003)
19	ATLANTIC WIND	Zemour 2, Luampa, Yongding, Jiangfeng, Chengdu, Shaanxi Henan 33, Xiong Nu Baru 33, Draco I, Liberty, Chilbo San 33, Hammer, Seo Yang No. 88, Carran [CCAMLR]	Unknown	Tanzania, Equatorial Guinea, Indonesia, Cambodia, Panama, Sierra Leone, Korea (DPRK), Togo, Uruguay	5IM813, 3CAE	9042001	High Mountain Overseas SA (Viarsa Fishing Company/Navalmar S.A., Global Intercontinental Services, Rajan Corporation, Redlines Ventures S.A.)	High Mountain Overseas S.A.,UNK/INC	Undocumented landing Malaysia (01 Aug 2004), Fishing 58.4.3a (22 Feb 2005), Fishing 58.4.3a (28 Apr 2005), Fishing 58.4.3b (16 Dec 2005), Fishing 58.4.3b (01 Jul 2009), Fishing 58.4.2 (27 Jan 2010), Fishing 58.4.3b (04 Apr 2010),	2020-08-11	IOTC – CCAMLR (2004)
20	AVEMARIYA		INDIA		UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	vessel marked with vessel name only. IOTC license: no record found under vessel name; no fishing gear marked. illegal fishing; without a license; IOTC species caught: swordfish (Xiphias gladius)	2022	IOTC
21	BAROON	Lana, Zeus, Triton-1 [CCAMLR], Kinsho Maru No.18 (GISIS)	Unknown	Tanzania, Nigeria, Mongolia, Togo, Sierra Leone, Japan	5IM376	9037537	Vero Shipping Corporation (Punta BravaFishing S.A.)		Fishing 58.4.1 (19 Mar 2007), Sighted 88.1 (15 Jan 2008), Sighted 57 (19 Dec 2010), Sighted 57 (05 Oct 2012), Sighted 57 (24 Mar 2013), Sighted 57 (03 Sep 2013), Sighted 57 (19 Nov 2013), Sighted 57 (14 Feb 2014)	2007-11	CCAMLR GFCM ICCAT IOTCSEAFO
22	BENEDICTA		India				PAUL SURGEN J (S/O Jesinthappan, 205- 111-10- 28, Near the government hospital, Thuthoor, Vilavancode, Kanniyakumari, Tamil Nadu 629176)		Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in coastal state waters without authorization. Incorrect makings. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. VMS) Ref: IOTC-2023-CoC20-09	2023-07-11	IOTC
23	BHASKARA NO 10		Unknown							2020-12-04	IATTC ICCAT IOTC GFCM

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24	BHASKARA NO 9		Unknown							2020-12-04	IATTC ICCAT IOTC GFCM
25	BIGEYE		Unknown							2006	ICCAT IOTC- GFCM
26	BRAVO		Unknown							2004	ICCAT GFCM ICCAT IOTC
27	CAMELOT		Unknown							2005-06-28	GFCM IATTC ICCAT IOTC
28	CHALLENGE	Mila, Perserverance [CCAMLR] / Mila, Isla, Montana Clara, Perseverance [SEAFO]	Unknown	Panama, Equatorial Guinea, United Kingdom	HO5381	6622642	Advantage Company S.A.(rion Ltd, (Vidal Armadores S.A., Mar de Neptuno S.A., Argibay Perez J.A.		Sighted 58.4.3b (14 Feb 2006), Sighted 58.4.3b (22 May 2006), Sighted 58.4.3b (10 Dec 2006), Sighted 58.4.3b (08 Feb 2008)	2008-11	CCAMLR GFCM ICCAT IOTCSEAFO
29	CHI TONG		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC
30	CHOTCHAINAVEE 35	CARRAN	UNK/INC	DJIBOUTI	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	GREEN LAUREL INTERNATIONAL SARL,UNK/INC	MASTER/PATRON: Mr PRAWIT KERDSUWAN,UNK/INC	Engaged in fishing or fishing related activities in waters of a coastal State without permission or authorisation./S'est engagé dans la pêche ou des activités liées à la pêche dans des eaux d'un État côtier sans la permission ou	2019-06-17	IOTC
31	COBIJA	Cape Flower, Cape Wrath II	Unknown	Bolivia 04/2014, Sao Tome and Principe 01/2014, Unknown 06/2013, South Africa04/1998, Canada 11/1973	CPB3000	7330399		Unknown, Express Financial Ventures GroupInc	Fishing inside FAO Area 47 in 2016. Investigation initiated by Ecuadorian Fisheries Authority Boarded in the High Seas of Indians Ocean (15°05'1.20"S and 088°28'24.66"E) by Australia on 18 February to June 2020 (01 Jun 2020), Fishing without authorization (Division 58.4.3b) December 2017 to March 2018 (01 Dec 2017)	2020-08-12 _ (2017)	IOTC (SEAFO)

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No	Name	Previous Names	Flag	Previous Flags	Callsign	IMO no	Beneficial Owner	Operator	Activities	Cross Listing Date	Listing RFMOs (For additional information, kindly refer to the website of the listing RFMO in Bold)
32	DANIAA	Carlos	Unknown								ICCAT IOTC GFCM
33	DRAGON III		Unknown								IATTC ICCAT GFCM IOTC
34	EASRON		India				MR JELASTIN (S/O ANTHONY PILLAI, 17/17, St.Alphonsa Street, Thoothoor. Post.Kanniyakumari 629176 Tamil Nadu)		Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in coastal state waters without authorization. Incorrect markings. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. VMS) Ref: IOTC-2023-CoC20-09	2023-07-11	IOTC
35	EL SHADAI		India				REJIKUMAR S/O SILUVAIYAN (Rejikumar S/O, Siluvaian. 4/173, Kovilvilagam, Thoothoor, Chinnathurai)		Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in coastal state waters without authorization.Incorrect makings. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. VMS) Ref: IOTC-2023-CoC20-09	2023-07-11	IOTC
36	EMMANUEL		India				SASIKUMAR (10/220A, NEW HOSPITAL, VILAGAM, THOOTHOR)		Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in coastal state waters without authorization.Incorrect makings. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. VMS) Ref: IOTC-2023-CoC20-09	2023-07-11	IOTC
37	FREEDOM 7	ZHI MING, NO 101 GLORIA, GOLDEN LAKE	Cameroun	Mongolia, Panama	JVAW7	7302548	INTERA COMPANY SA (IMO Company No. 5942421)	INTERA COMPANY SA	Vessel suspected to have carriedout IUU fishing activities in the Convention area, observed near the port of Shidao (CNSHD)	2006-10-16	ICCAT
38	FU HSIANG FA		Unknown							2020-08-11	GFCM IOTC
39	FU HSIANG FA 18		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC –ICCAT
40	FU HSIANG FA NO. 01		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC –ICCAT

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41	FU HSIANG FA NO. 02		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC –ICCAT
42	FU HSIANG FA NO. 06		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC –ICCAT
43	FU HSIANG FA NO. 08		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC –ICCAT
44	FU HSIANG FA NO. 09		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC –ICCAT
45	FU HSIANG FA NO. 11		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC –ICCAT
46	FU HSIANG FA NO. 13		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC –ICCAT
47	FU HSIANG FA NO. 17		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC –ICCAT
48	FU HSIANG FA NO. 20		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC –ICCAT
49	FU HSIANG FA NO. 21A		UNK/INC		OTS 024 or OTS 089	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution07/02/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 07/02	2020-08-12	IOTC –ICCAT

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50	FU HSIANG FA NO. 21B		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC –ICCAT
51	FU HSIANG FA NO. 23		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC –ICCAT
52	FU HSIANG FA NO. 26		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC –ICCAT
53	FU HSIANG FA NO. 30		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC –ICCAT
54	FU LIEN NO 1		Unknown			7355662				2020-08-11	WCPFC -GFCM ICCAT IOTC
55	FULL RICH		Unknown	BELIZE	HMEK3		Noel International LTD(Noel International LTD),UNK/INC		Contravention of IOTC Resolution 07/02/Violation de la résolution dela CTOI 07/02	2020-08-11	IOTC –ICCAT
56	GALA I	Manara II/Roagan	Unknown							2020-08-11	ICCAT
57	GIFT OF GOD		India				ANTHONY ROBERT T (3-9-110, Kovilvilakam, Thuthoor, Viancancode, Kanniyakumari)		Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in coastal state waters without authorization. Incorrect makings. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. VMS) Ref: IOTC-2023-CoC20-09	2023-07-11	IOTC
58	GOIDAU RUEY NO 1		Unknown							2020-08-11	GFCM IATTC ICCAT IOTC

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59	GOOD HOPE	Toto, Sea Ranger V	Nigeria		5NMU	7020126	Port Plus Ltd (Sharks Investments AVV)		Resupplying IUU vessels Area 51(09 Feb 2007)	2020-08-11	CCAMLR GFCM ICCAT IOTCSEAFO
60	GORILERO	Gran Sol	Unknown	Sierra Leone, Panama [NAFO/NEAFC]	Unknown (9LYF36, H03738)	6719419		Unknown	Last known location: La Coruna,Spain (September 2007)	2020-08-11	GFCM ICCAT IOTC NAFO NEAFC SEAFO
61	GUNUAR MELYN 21		Unknown						Contravention of IOTC Resolution07/02/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 07/02	2020-08-11	IOTC GFCM ICCAT
62	HAI DA 705		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	Communications between Japanese Patrol vessel and HAIDA705 at 43 10.4'N, 153 38.6'E on 11 Sep 2016 indicated they caught squid withdrift net in the high sea. (Port displayed on the vessel: 沈家们;	2017-08-29	NPFC
63	HAN	SHUN HANG VILA MOOSUN	UNK/INC	Panama, Tuvalu	V4BK5	8214645	SHUNHANG INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING CO., LIMITED	HOWLADER MDNAJIR	This vessel was observed actively engaged in transshipment activities in the Convention Area on September 17 th and a review showed it had not transmitted required VMS positional data to the NPFC Secretariat between September 16th and September 21st, 2022.	2023-07-26	NPFC, IOTC
64	HE LI 1 HAO		UNK/INC	Panama, Indonesia			Ginsil Holding Singapore Pte		Interruption in the transmitting of VMS data during the indicated period, carried out operations within the Exclusive Economic Zone of Oman on November 20, 2018 and maintained operations at coordinates 17°39'10.8 N and 61°33'32.	2023-07-11	IOTC
65	HEAVY SEA	Duero, Julius, Keta, Sherpa Uno	Unknown	Panama, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Belize	3ENF8	7322926		C&S Fisheries S.A. (Muner S.A., MeterorosShipping, Meteora Shipping Inc., Barroso Fish S.A.)	Sighted 58.5.1 (03 Feb 2004), Fishing 57 (29 Jul 2005)	2020-08-11	CCAMLR GFCM ICCAT IOTCSEAFO
66	HOOM XIANG 101		UNK/INC	MALAYSIA	UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC - ICCAT
67	HOOM XIANG 103		UNK/INC	MALAYSIA	UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC - ICCAT

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68	HOOM XIANG 105		UNK/INC	MALAYSIA	UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC - ICCAT
69	HOOM XIANG II		Unknown	MALAYSIA	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Bhd),UNK/INC (MALAYSIAN INTERNATIONAL TUNAPORT, 11960 BATU MAUNG PULAU, PINANG)		Contravention of IOTC Resolution09/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 09/03	2020-08-11	IOTC - ICCAT
70	IANNIS I	Moana Mar, Canos De Meca	Unknown	Panama	HO3374	7332218		Unknown	Last known location: Indian Ocean(2007)	2020-08-11	GFCM ICCAT IOTC NAFO NEAFC SEAFO
71	IMULA 0730KLT/LAKPRIYA 14	UNK/INC	SRI LANKA	UNK/INC	4SF4482	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	unmarked gear; not on the iotc authorised fishing vessel list (15/04 para 1)./engin non-marqué ; ne figure pas sur la liste ctoi des navires de pêche autorisés (rés. 15/04 paragraphe 1).	2023-05-25	IOTC
72	IMULA 0846 KLT/GOD BLESS	UNK/INC	SRI LANKA	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	unmarked gear in water; not on AFV list; believed to have been fishing in BIOT waters for 10 days./engin non-marqué dans l'eau ; ne figure pas sur la liste des navires autorisés ; supposé avoir pêché dans les eaux du TBOI pendant 10 jours	2023-05-25	IOTC
73	IMUL-A-1028-TLE/DEWLI FISHING KUDAWELLA	UNK/INC	SRI LANKA	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	not on iotc AFV list./ne figure pas sur la liste CTOI des navires de pêche autorisés.	2023-05-25	IOTC
74	ARARAT/RESH MITHA (REG # IND-TN-15-MM8297)	UNK/INC	INDIA	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	vessel was not on the IOTC list of authorised fishing vessels. The vessel had not submitted a transit reporting form to the BIOT authorities. The vessel had gear (longlines) in the water.	2022-03-04	IOTC
75	ISRAR 1	MARCO n°21 MEGA n°2 TERANG SURYA TUNA INDAH N°3	Unknown/ Unclassified	OMAN, SENEGAL, BELIZE	A4BB5	8004076	Almuran	Almuran International LCC	Harvest tunas and tuna-like species in the Convention area and are not registered on the relevant ICCAT list of vessels authorized to fish for tuna and tuna-like species in the ICCAT Convention area	2022-02-18	ICCAT
76	ISRAR 2	RICOS n° 6 MARIO n° 6 YUH PAO n° 6	Unknown/ Unclassified	OMAN SAINT-VINCENT ET GRENADINE TANZANIE VANUATU	A4BA3	8568694	Almuran	Almuran International LCC	Harvest tunas and tuna-like species in the Convention area and are not registered on the relevant ICCAT list of vessels authorized to fish for tuna and tuna-like species in the ICCAT Convention area	2022-02-18	ICCAT

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77	ISRAR 3	RICOS N° 3 MARIO N° 3 YUH PAO n° 3	Unknown/ Unclassified	OMAN SAINT-VINCENT ET GRENADINE TANZANIE VANUATU	A4BA5	8568682	Almuran	Almuran International LCC	Harvest tunas and tuna-like species in the Convention area and are not registered on the relevant ICCAT list of vessels authorized to fish for tuna and tuna-like species in the ICCAT Convention area	2022-02-18	ICCAT
78	JINZHANG	Hai Lung, Yele, Ray, Kily, Constant, Tropic, Isla Graciosa	Unknown	Belize, Mongolia, Equatorial Guinea, South Africa [CCAMLR] / Belize [SEAFO]	PQ8T	6607666		Arniston Fish Processors(Pty) Ltd, (Vidal Armadores S.A.), (Nalanza S.A.), (Argibay Perez J.A.), (Belfast Global S.A.), (Etterna Ship Management)	Fishing inside Division A (2012),Fishing 58.4.3b (23 May 2006), Fishing 58.4.2 (18 Feb 2007), Fishing 58.4.3b (24 Mar 2007), Fishing 58.4.3b (12 Jan 2008), Fishing 58.4.3b (09 Jan 2009), Fishing 58.4.3b (20 Jan 2009)	2021-04-05	CCAMLR GFCM SEAFO
79	JYI LIH 88		Unknown							2020-08-11	GFCM IATTC ICCAT IOTC
80	KIKI	LISBOA	GAMBIA	SENEGAL	6WMP (PREVIOUS C5J130)	7929176	"UNKNOWN" OR "HSIN FEI TRADING INVESTMENT COMPANY DITE NATIC SARL"	"UNKNOWN" OR "HSIN FEI TRADING INVESTMENT COMPANY DITE NATIC SARL"	Engage in fishing or fishing related activities contrary to any other ICCAT conservation and management measures	2022	ICCAT , IOTC
81	KIM SENG DENG 3		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC - ICCAT
82	KOOSHA 4	Eguzkia	Iran, Islamic Republic of		9BQK	7905443		Pars Paya Seyd IndustrialFish	Inside Division 58.4.1 (15 Feb 2011)	2020-11	CCAMLR GFCM ICCAT IOTCSEAFO
83	KUANG HSING 127		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC - ICCAT
84	KUANG HSING 196		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	IOTC - ICCAT
85	LABIKO	Maine, Claude Monier, Chevalier d'Assas[SEAFO]	Unknown	Guinea Conakry	3XL2	7325746			Last known location: NEAFC RA (29oct 2007)	2020-08-11	GFCM ICCAT IOTC NAFO NEAFC

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86	LIAO YUAN YU 071		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	It was seen at 42 15.4'N, 153 22.8'E on 23 Aug 2016. When the Japanese patrol vessel approached, a vessel crew tried to hide the vessel name. Communication between the Japanese patrol vessel and LIAO YUAN YU 071	2017-08-29	NPFC
87	LIAO YUAN YU 072		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	It was seen at 42 18.7'N, 153 27.9'E on 23 Aug and at 42 9.2'N, 151 16.4'E on 11 Oct 2016. Vessel name was hidden by paint. (Port displayed on the vessel: Shidao; Vessel type; Lighted lift net vessel; Tonnage: 800t)	2017-08-29	NPFC
88	LIAO YUAN YU 9		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	It was seen at 42 3.0'N, 153 0.8'E on 23 Aug and at 42 10.0'N, 151 16.8'E on 11 Oct 2016. Vessel name was hidden by paint. (Port displayed on the vessel: Shidao; Vessel type; Lighted lift net vessel; Tonnage: 800t)	2017-08-29	NPFC
89	LILA NO 10		Unknown	Panama					EU- Vessel greater than 24m not included in ICCAT Record of vessels. Seen fishing in the MED during closed season	2014-05	GFCM ICCAT IOTC
90	LIMPOPO	Ross, Alos, Lena, Cap George, Conbaroya, Tercero [SEAFO] / Lena, Alos, Ross [CCAMLR]	Unknown	Togo, Ghana, Seychelles, France	Unknown	7388267		Grupo Oya Perez (Kang Brothers, Lena Enterprises Ltd, Alos Company Ghana Ltd)	Fishing 58.5.2 (21 Sep 2003), Sighted 58.5.1 (03 Dec 2003), Fishing 58.4.3b (23 Feb 2005), Fishing 58.4.3b (14 Dec 2005), Sighted 58.4.3b (25 Jan 2007)	2003	CCAMLR GFCM ICCAT IOTCSEAFO
91	LITTLESHA		INDIA		unknown	IND.TN.15.M M.106	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	Illegal fishing; without a license. IOTC license: no record found under vessel name – unauthorised fishing in IOTC waters.	2022	IOTC
92	LU RONG SHUI 158 (鲁荣水158)		Unknown		Not known	Not known		Not known	A Japanese patrol vessel sighted this fishing vessel in the Convention area at 39°59.2'N, 147°39.7'E on July 7, 2018. There is no vessel registration of this vessel on the NPFC vessel register. MMSI 4126888540	2020-08-11	NPFC
93	LU RONG YU 1189		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	It was seen at 41 24.9'N, 140 32.7'E (Japan EEZ) on 14 Jun 2016. (Port displayed on the vessel: Shidao; Vessel type: Carrier vessel; Tonnage: 100t) MMSI: 412321992	2020-08-11	NPFC IOTC
94	LU RONG YU 612		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	A Japanese patrol vessel sighted this fishing vessel was drifting in the Convention area at 39 50.00'N, 147 1.8'E on July 21. The port of registry is Shidao and AIS information showed that the vessel name is "Lu Long Yuan Yu	2020-08-11	NPFC IOTC

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No	Name	Previous Names	Flag	Previous Flags	Callsign	IMO no	Beneficial Owner	Operator	Activities	Cross Listing Date	Listing RFMOs (For additional information, kindly refer to the website of the listing RFMO in Bold)
95	LU RONG YUAN YU 101		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	While LU RONG YUAN YU 101 is registered as a light PS vessel in the NPFC list, the identical name with different vessel types were seen. LU RONG YUAN YU 101 withlift net type was seen at 49 9.2'N, 149 19.5'E on 17 May 2016. LU	2020-08-11	NPFC IOTC
96	LU RONG YUAN YU 102		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	While LU RONG YUAN YU 102 is registered as one light PS vessel in the NPFC list, the identical name with different vessel types were seen. LU RONG YUAN YU 102 with lift net type was seen at 42° 21.3'N, 151° 55.5'E on 11 Oct 2016. LU	2020-08-11	NPFC IOTC
97	LU RONG YUAN YU 103		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	While LU RONG YUAN YU 103 is registered as one light PS vessel in the NPFC list, the identical name with different vessel types were seen. LU RONG YUAN YU 103 withlift net type was seen at 40 25.9'N, 150 9.9'E on 1 June	2020-08-11	NPFC IOTC
98	LU RONG YUAN YU 105		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	While LU RONG YUAN YU 105 is registered as one light PS vessel in the NPFC list, the identical name with different vessel types were seen. LU RONG YUAN YU 105 withlift net type was seen at 42° 27'N, 152° 5.8'E on 11 Oct 2016. LU	2020-08-11	NPFC IOTC
99	LU RONG YUAN YU 106		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	While LU RONG YUAN YU 106 is registered as one light PS vessel in the NPFC list, the identical name with different vessel types were seen. LU RONG YUAN YU 106 withlift net type was seen at 40 30.4'N, 149	2020-08-11	NPFC IOTC
100	LU RONG YUAN YU 108		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	While LU RONG YUAN YU 108 is registered as one light PS vessel in the NPFC list, the identical name with different vessel types were seen. LU RONG YUAN YU 108 withlift net type was seen at 40 28.4'N, 149 28.1'E on 29 May	2020-08-11	NPFC IOTC
101	LU RONG YUAN YU 109		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	While LU RONG YUAN YU 109 is registered as one light PS vessel in the NPFC list, the identical name with different vessel types were seen. LU RONG YUAN YU 109 withlift net type was seen at 40 25.1'N, 149 25 'E on 29 May	2020-08-11	NPFC IOTC
102	LU RONG YUAN YU 787		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	A Japanese patrol vessel sighted this fishing vessel was drifting in the Convention area at 39 49.7'N, 147 2.8'E on July 21 2017, and Japanese patrol aircraft sighted the same vessel anchored at 41 3.3'N, 150 22.1'E on August 2 2017. The	2020-08-11	NPFC IOTC
103	LU RONG YUAN YU 797		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	A Japanese patrol aircraft sighted this fishing vessel in the Convention area was operating at 42 7.1'N, 151 40.9'E on July 7 2017. China flag was raised and "CHINA" was painted on the vessel	2020-08-11	NPFC IOTC

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104	LU RONG YUAN YU YUN958		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	A Japanese patrol fishing vessel sighted this fishing vessel wasdrifting in the Convention area at 39 50.9'N, 147 4.3'E on July 21. The vessel raised China flag and the port of registry was Shidao.	2020-08-11	NPFC IOTC
105	LUCAS	MAXIMUS	GAMBIA	SENEGAL	C5J128	9038402	"UNKNOWN" OR "HSIN FEI TRADING INVESTMENT COMPANY DITE NATIC SARL"	"UNKNOWN" OR "HSIN FEI TRADING INVESTMENT COMPANY DITE NATIC SARL"	tranship with, or participate in other joint operations, such as re-supplying or re-fueling, with vessels included in the iuu vessels list	2022	ICCAT , IOTC
106	MAAN YIH HSING		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
107	MADURA 2		Unknown							2004-11-16	GFCM ICCAT IOTC
108	MADURA 3		Unknown							2004-11-16	GFCM ICCAT IOTC
109	MANGALA		SRI LANKA			IMULA 0195 TCO	PMMN CHATHURANGA	WAR FERNANDO	The vessel entered into the French EEZ but did not give proper notice of entry and did not report the quantity of fish on-board. the vessel was caught having catches taken inside French waters	2022	IOTC
110	MARIA		Unknown							2006-10-23	GFCM ICCAT IOTC
111	MARWAN 1	AL WESAM 4,CHAICHANACHOKE 8	SOMALIA	DJIBOUTI, THAILAND/THAILAND ANDE	UNK/INC (HSN5721)	UNK/INC	SOMLINK FISHERIES INVESTMENT (MARINE RENOWN SARL),UNK/INC		Contravention of IOTC Resolution17/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 17/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
112	MELILLA NO 101		Unknown	Panama						2020-08-11	GFCM ICCAT IOTC

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113	MELILLA NO 103		Unknown	Panama						2020-08-11	GFCM ICCAT IOTC
114	MURTOSA	Unknown	Unknown	Togo [NAFO/NEAFC]	Unknown (ZDBLI)	7385174		Aveiro, Portugal (since2005)	Last known location: Aveiro,Portugal	2020-08-11	GFCM ICCAT IOTC NAFO NEAFC SEAFO
115	NEPTUNE		Unknown	Georgia						2010-12	WCPFC -GFCM IATTC ICCAT IOTC
116	NEW BAI I NO. 168	Tai Yuan No. 227	Liberia							2016-11	GFCM ICCAT IOTC
117	NIKA		Unknown		HP6686	8808654	Jiho Shipping Ltd		Fishing without authorisation (08 Jun 2019)	2020-05	CCAMLR
118	NO 2 CHOYU		Unknown	Honduras						2006-10	GFCM ICCAT IOTC
119	NO 3 CHOYU		Unknown	Honduras						2006-10	GFCM ICCAT IOTC
120	NORTHERN WARRIOR	Millennium, Sip 3	Angola	Curacao, Netherlands Antilles, South Africa,Belize, Morocco	PISA	8808903		SIP (Areapesca S.A., Southern Trading Group,Snoek Wholesalers, South Atlantic Fishing NV, World Ocean FishingSL, Orkiz Agro-Pecuaría - Pescas Transportes E	Supporting IUU-listed vessels (03Mar 2016)	2020-08-12	CCAMLR ICCAT IOTC SEAFO
121	NOVA		INDIA		UNKNOWN	IND.TN.15.M M.4569	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	illegal fishing; without a license. IOTC license: no record found under vessel name – unauthorised fishing in IOTC waters.	2022	IOTC

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122	NPFC 29 UNKNOWN 2021-01		Unknown		Unknown		Unknown	Unknown	A Japanese trawl vessel sighted this fishing vessel indicating its vessel name "ZHOU YU 808" MMSI 412671880, in the Koko seamount area of Convention area at 36°44'N, 171°27'E on August 29, 2018, allegedly conducted fishing	2020-08-11	NPFC
123	NPFC 30 UNKNOWN 2021-02		Unknown		Unknown		Unknown	Unknown	A Japanese trawl vessel sighted this fishing vessel indicating its vessel name "ZHOU YU 809" MMSI 412401260, in the Koko seamount area of Convention area at 36°44'N, 171°27'E on August 29, 2018, allegedly conducted fishing	2020-08-11	NPFC
124	NPFC 34-UNKNOWN 2021-3								Violation of CMM2019-01(para5).A Japanese patrol vessel sighted this fishing vessel displaying the name LU RONGYUAN YU 581鲁荣远渔581 in the Convention area at 41°11.6'N, 174°17.7'W on July 15, 2020.	2021-05-03	NPFC
125	NPFC-35 UNKNOWN 2021-4								Violation of CMM2019-01(para5). A Japanese patrol vessel sightedthis fishing vessel displaying the name LU RONG YUAN YU 582鲁荣远渔582 in the Convention area at 41°11.4'N, 174°22.9'W on July 15, 2020. This	2021-05-03	NPFC
126	NPFC-36 UNKNOWN 2021-5								Violation of CMM2019-01(para5).A Japanese patrol vessel sighted this fishing vessel displaying the name LU RONG YUAN YU 197鲁荣远渔197 in the Convention area at 41°11.3'N, 174°20.3'W on July 15, 2020.	2021-05-03	NPFC
127	OCEAN DIAMOND		Unknown							2020-08-11	GFCM ICCAT IOTC
128	OCEAN STAR NO 2		Unknown		YJRU6		Ming Shun Fishery Co LTD, Port Vila, Vanuatu	Ming Shun Fishery CoLTD	(Vanuatu (2016) / Bolivia (2012))(former ICCAT Register Number: AT000VUT00017). USA: sighting of tuna longline vessel in the Convention Area; not on ICCATRecord of Vessels; No valid Flag. Communicated via radio, vessel	2021-04-05	ICCAT
129	OKAPI MARTA	SUMMER REFER	Unknown			7816472				2020-08-11	GFCM
130	ORCA		Unknown	Belize						2005-06-28	IATTC GFCM ICCAT IOTC

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131	ORIENTE NO 7		Unknown	Honduras						2020-08-11	GFCM ICCAT IOTC
132	PERLON	Cherne, Sargo, Hoking, Bigaro, Lugalpesca	Unknown	Mongolia, Togo, Uruguay	5NTV21	5062479		Vakin S.A. (Jose LorenzoSL, Americagalaica S.A.)	Sighted 58.5.1 (03 Dec 2002), Sighted 58.5.1 (04 Jun 2003), Sighted 58.4.2 (22 Jan 2004), Sighted 58.4.3b (11 Dec 2005), Fishing 58.4.1 (26 Jan 2006), Sighted 58.4.3b (07 Dec 2006), Sighted 58.4.1 (30 Dec 2006),	2020-08-11	CCAMLR GFCM ICCAT IOTCSEAFO
133	PESCACISNE 1, PESCACISNE 2	Zemour 1, Kadei, Songhua, Yunnan, Nihewan, Huiquan, Wutaishan Anhui 44, Yangzi Hua 44, Trosky, Paloma V [CCAMLR]	Unknown	Mauritania, Equatorial Guinea, Indonesia, Tanzania, Mongolia, Cambodia, Namibia, Uruguay	9LU2119	9319856	Eastern Holdings, UNK/INC	Mabenal S.A. (Vidal Armadores S.A., Omunkete Fishing Pty Ltd, Gongola Fishing JV(Pty) Ltd, Eastern Holdings)	Supporting activities of IUU vessels51 (16 May 2008), Sighted 58.4.3b (22 Apr 2009), Sighted 57 (07 Dec 2009), Fishing 58.4.1 (07 Apr 2010), Sighted 58.4.1 (29 Jan 2012), Sighted 58.4.1 (30 Jan 2012), Sighted 58.4.1 (31 Jan	2008-11	IOTC – CCAMLR ICCAT SEAFO
134	PROGRESO	AL WESAM 5 CHAINAVEE 54	Unknown	CAMEROON, DJIBOUTI, THAILAND	UNK/INC (HSN5447)	UNK/INC	MR PORNCHEI VIRIYAJIT(MARINE RENOWN SARL)	MR PORNCHEI VIRIYAJIT(MARINE RENOWN SARL)	CONTRAVENTION OF IOTC RESOLUTION 17/03/ VIOLATION DE LA RESOLUTION DE LA CTOI 17/03	2018-05	IOTC
135	QIAN YUAN		Unknown	Panama	H3YK (5VEZ8)	8819691	GINSIL HOLDING GROUP LIMITED	PHAM HONG NAM	This vessel was observed conducting unauthorized transshipment activities in the NPFC Convention Area between June 23 and 26, 2022.	2023-07-26	NPFC , IOTC
136	REYMAR 6		Unknown	Belize						2005-06-28	GFCM IATTC ICCAT IOTC
137	RIWA	GLORIWAVE		Sierra Leone	5VIR8	9017666			This vessel was observed conducting unauthorized bunkering activities in the NPFC Convention Area on June 26, 2022. NOTE: TCC06 was informed that the vessel is understood to have flagged to Palau, and later Togo, and may also be using the name RIWA.	2023-07-26	NPFC , IOTC
138	SAGE	SHYANG CHYANG NO. 889, JETMARK NO.31, CHIA HAO No.66, CHI FUW NO. 6, FU YUAN NO. 31, FUKU MARU, FUKUTOKU MARU NO. 28, KOSHIN MARU NO. 38	Unknown	Gambia, Liberia, Tanzania, Seychelles, Philippines, Belize, Honduras, Cambodia, Japan	C5J82	7825215	Song Maw Fishery S.A., Calle 78E Casa No. 30 Loma alegre, San Francisco, Panamá	Song Maw Fishery S.A.	ref. IATTC	2021-04-05	IATTC

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139	SAMUDERA PASIFIK NO. 18		Indonesia						Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-11	GFCM ICCAT IOTC
140	SAMUDERA PERKASA 11		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
141	SAMUDRA PERKASA 12		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
142	SHARJI AMMA		India				LISTON S/O STEPHEN		Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in coastal state waters without authorization. Incorrect makings. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. VMS) Ref: IOTC-2023-CoC20-09	2023-07-11	IOTC
143	SEA URCHIN	Aldabra, Omoa I	Gambia	Tanzania, Honduras	5VAA2	7424891		Cecibell Securities(Farway Shipping)	Fishing inside Division 58.4.4b (10Nov 2006)	2020-08-11	CCAMLR GFCM ICCAT IOTCSEAFO
144	SEA VIEW	AL WESAM 2, CHAINAVEE 55	Unknown	CAMEROON, DJIBOUTI, THAILAND/THAIL ANDE	UNK/INC (HSB3852)	8692342	UNK/INC (MARINE RENOWN SARL),UNK/INC		Contravention of IOTC Resolution17/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 17/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
145	SEA WIND	AL WESAM 1, SUPPHERMNAVEE 21	Unknown	CAMEROON, DJIBOUTI, THAILAND/THAIL ANDE	UNK/INC (HSN5282)	8692354	UNK/INC (MARINE RENOWN SARL),UNK/INC		Contravention of IOTC Resolution17/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 17/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
146	SHARON 1	MANARA I/POSEIDON	Unknown	Libya						2020-08-11	GFCM ICCAT IOTC
147	SHENG JI QUN 3		UNK/INC		CPA 311	UNK/INC	Chang Lin, Pao-Chun,No.161, San Min Rd. Yufu Village, Kaohsiung City, Chinese Taipei	Mr. Chen, Chen-Tsai,UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC

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148	SHUEN SIANG		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
149	SHUN LAI	HSIN JYI WANG NO. 6	UNK/INC		CPA 514	UNK/INC	Lee Cheng Chung, No. 5Tze Wei Road, Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei	Mr. Sun Han Min, UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
150	SIN SHUN FA 6		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
151	SIN SHUN FA 67		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
152	SIN SHUN FA 8		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
153	SIN SHUN FA 9		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
154	SOUTHERN STAR 136	Hsiang Chang	Unknown	St. Vincent and the Grenadines						2020-08-11	GFCM ICCAT IOTC
155	SRI FU FA 168		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
156	SRI FU FA 18		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC

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157	SRI FU FA 188		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
158	SRI FU FA 189		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
159	SRI FU FA 286		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
160	SRI FU FA 67		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
161	SRI FU FA 888		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
162	STAR OF THE SEA		India				SHIBU S/O SILUVAIYAN (1/1/449b, Tsunami Colony, Thoothoor, Chinnathurai)		Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in coastal state waters without authorization. Incorrect makings. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. VMS) Ref: IOTC-2023-CoC20-09	2023-07-11	IOTC
163	STS-50	Ayda, Sea Breez 1, Andrey Dolgov, Std No. 2, Suntai No.2, Sun Tai No. 2, Shinsei Maru No. 2	unknown	Cambodia, Korea, Philippines, Japan, Namibia, Togo [CCAMLR]	SVDR2	8514772		Marine Fisheries Corp. Co. Ltd (Maruha Corporation Taiyo Namibia, Taiyo Susan, Taiyo A & F Co. Ltd, Sun Tai InternationalFishing Corp, STD Fisheries Co. Ltd, Red Star Co. Ltd, Poseidon	Landing IUU catch (25 May 2016), Sighting in Area 57 (06 Apr 2017)	2020-08-11	CCAMLR GFCM ICCAT IOTCSEAFO
164	TA FU 1		Unknown							2004-06-22	GFCM IATTC ICCAT IOTC
165	TCHING YE NO 6	El Diria I	Unknown	Belize						2009—06-08	GFCM IATTC ICCAT IOTC

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166	TIAN LUNG NO.12		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
167	TRINITY	Yucutan Basin, Enxembre, Fontenova, Jawhara [SEAFO /NAFO]	Unknown	Ghana, Panama, Morocco	Unknown (3EGV5, V3XB, H02933)	7321374			Last known location: Port in Tema,Ghana (Sep 2011)	2020-08-11	GFCM ICCAT IOTC NAFO NEAFC SEAFO, IOTC
168	AN TON	HUMBOLDY BAY WAN TONG ZHONG FU HAO 111	COMOROS	Panama, Liberia, Cameroon	TJM0159	8907888	FUWANTONG OCEAN SHIPPING CO., LIMITED.	Ke Benwen	This vessel was observed conducting unauthorized transshipment activities in the NPFC Convention Area on September 6, 2021	2023-07-26	NPFC , IOTC
169	WEN TENG NO 688	apparently changed to MAHKOIA ABADI No 196	Unknown	Belize						2020-08-11	GFCM IATTC ICCAT IOTC
170	XING HAI FENG	OCEAN LION	Unknown	PANAMA, EQUATORIAL GUINEA	3FHW5	7826233	Ocean Lion Shipping S.A.,Panama City, Panama	Ocean Lion Shipping S.A.,Panama City, Panama	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 02/04, 02/05, 03/05/ Violation dela résolution de la CTOI 02/04, 02/05, 03/05.	2021-04-05	ICCAT IOTC
171	YAHOVA NICY		India				NITHIN S/O SESADIMAI (1-1-127 St. Joseph Colony, Eraviputhenthurai)		Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in coastal state waters without authorization. Incorrect makings. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. VMS) Ref: IOTC-2023-CoC20-09	2023/07/11	IOTC
172	YI HONG 3		UNK/INC		UNK/INC	UNK/INC			Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
173	YONA		INDIA		UNKNOWN	IND.TN.15.M M.5707	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	illegal fishing; without a license. IOTC license: no record found under vessel name – unauthorised fishing in IOTC waters.	2022	IOTC
174	YU FONG 168		Unknown	Chinese Taipei	BJ4786		Chang Lin Pao-Chun, 161 Sanmin Rd., Liouciuo Township, Pingtung County 929, Chinese Taipei		Contravention of IOTC Resolution11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-11	GFCM ICCAT IOTC

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No	Name	Previous Names	Flag	Previous Flags	Callsign	IMO no	Beneficial Owner	Operator	Activities	Cross Listing Date	Listing RFMOs (For additional information, kindly refer to the website of the listing RFMO in Bold)
175	YU MAAN WON		Unknown	Georgia					Fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Republic of the Marshall Islands without permission and in contravention of Republic of the Marshall Islands's laws and regulations. (CMM 2007-03, para 3b). Contravention of	2020-08-11	IOTC
176	YUANDA 6		Unknown		Not known	412356488		Not known	A Japanese patrol vessel sighted this vessel conducting fishing operation in the Convention area at 25°45'9N, 147°07'06E on April 15, 2019. This nameless vessel (assumed "YUANDA6" from the vessel's MMSI 412356488) was	2020-08-11	NPFC
177	YUANDA 8		Unknown			412365486	Not known	Not known		2020-08-11	NPFC
178	YUTUNA 3	HUNG SHENG NO. 166	UNK/INC		CPA 212	UNK/INC	Yen Shih Hsiung, Room 11 E. No.3 Tze Wei Forth Road, Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei	Mr. Lee, Shih- Yuan, UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
179	YUTUNA NO. 1		UNK/INC		CPA 302	UNK/INC	Tseng Ming Tsai, Room 11-E, No. 3 Tze Wei Fort Road, Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei	Mr. Yen, Shih- Shiung, UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	2020-08-12	ICCAT IOTC
180	ZHE LING YU LENG 90055		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	It was seen at 40 25.3'N, 149 13.2'E on 29 May 2016. (Port displayed on the vessel: Wenling; Vessel type: Carrier vessel; Tonnage: 600t) MMSI: 412000000/413202046	2020-08-11	NPFC
181	ZHE LING YU LENG 905		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	It was seen at 42 45.6'N, 152 45.8'E on 24 Aug 2016. (Port displayed on the vessel: Wenling; Vessel type: Carrier vessel; Tonnage: 1000t) MMSI: 412000000/412000256	2020-08-11	NPFC
182	ZHEXIANG YU 23029		Unknown			412123526	Not known	Not known	A Japanese patrol vessel sighted this fishing vessel in the Convention area at 25°42'03N, 147°11'02E on April 15, 2019. This vessel apparently had just finished as the gear was wet. the vessel name, which was not registered on	2020-08-11	NPFC
183	ZHOU YU 651		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	It was seen at 42 30'2N, 152 05'4E on 29 Sep 2016. (Port displayed on the vessel: Fungcheng; Vessel type: Lighted lift net vessel; Tonnage: 850t)	2017-08-29	NPFC

Annex I- SIOFA IUU Vessel List

No	Name	Previous Names	Flag	Previous Flags	Callsign	IMO no	Beneficial Owner	Operator	Activities	Cross Listing Date	Listing RFMOs (For additional information, kindly refer to the website of the listing RFMO in Bold)
184	ZHOU YU 652		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	It was seen at 42 48.9'N, 152 48.2'E on 7 Sep 2016. Port of registry was hidden by paint. (Vessel type: Lighted lift net vessel; Tonnage: 820t) MMSI: 42569986	2017-08-29	NPFC
185	ZHOU YU 653		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	It was seen with LU RONG YU YUN56219 and ZHOU YU 656 at 42 11.9'N, 151 14.6'E on 30 Sep 2016. (Port displayed on the vessel: Fungcheng; Vessel type: Lighted lift net vessel; Tonnage: 850t)	2017-08-29	NPFC
186	ZHOU YU 656		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	It was seen with LU RONG YU YUN56219 and ZHOU YU 656 at 42 11.9'N, 151 14.6'E on 30 Sep 2016. (Port displayed on the vessel: Fungcheng; Vessel type: Lighted lift net vessel; Tonnage: 850t)	2017-08-29	NPFC
187	ZHOU YU 657		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	It was seen at 42 35.5'N, 152 6.7'E on 12 Sep 2016. (Port displayed on the vessel: Zhoushan; Vessel type: Lighted lift net vessel; Tonnage: 600t)	2017-08-29	NPFC
188	ZHOU YU 658		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	It was seen at 40 12.3'N, 148 40.5'E on 29 May 2016 and at 42 46.7'N, 152 41.2'E on 7 Sep 2016. (Port displayed on the vessel: Zhoushan; Vessel type: Lighted lift net vessel; Tonnage: 600t)	2017-08-29	NPFC
189	ZHOU YU 659		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	It was seen in the NPFC area on 2, 4, 13, 17 Jun and 7 Sep 2016. On 4 Jun the vessel name on the right side was hidden by paint. (Port displayed on the vessel: Zhoushan; Vessel type: Lighted lift net vessel; Tonnage: 600t)	2017-08-29	NPFC
190	ZHOU YU 660		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	It was seen in the Japanese EEZ on 10 May 2016 and in NPFC area multiple times from May to Sep 2016. On 10 May the vessel showed Korean flag but changed the Korean to Japanese flag when the Japanese patrol vessel	2017-08-29	NPFC
191	ZHOU YU 661		Unknown		Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	It was seen in the Japanese EEZ on 10 and 13 May 2016 and in NPFC area on 15, 29 May and 7 Sep 2016. The vessel names on the left and right side changed frequently (see the photos). The vessel showed Japanese flag in May. But	2017-08-29	NPFC
192	HAMBANTOTA EXPRESS		Sri Lanka		4SF5385	Not known	Not Known	MOHAMMAD MILHAN	Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in a coastal State's waters without authorization	2024-06-27	IOTC – ICCAT, NAFO

Annex I- SIOFA IUU Vessel List

No	Name	Previous Names	Flag	Previous Flags	Callsign	IMO no	Beneficial Owner	Operator	Activities	Cross Listing Date	Listing RFMOs (For additional information, kindly refer to the website of the listing RFMO in Bold)
193	AVE MARIA		India		Not Known	Not Known	Not Known	Xaviour S/O Theouns	Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in closed area. Fishing in coastal State's waters without authorization. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. VMS)	2024-06-27	IOTC – ICCAT, NAFO
194	ST ANNES		India		Not Known	Not Known	Not Known	Mariya Manoj S/O Swamynathan	Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in closed area. Fishing in coastal State's waters without authorization. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. VMS).	2024-06-27	IOTC – ICCAT, NAFO
195	ST MARYS		India		Not Known	Not Known	Not Known	REJIN	Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in closed area. Fishing in coastal State's waters without authorization. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. VMS).	2024-06-27	IOTC – ICCAT, NAFO
196	SEA ANGEL 2		India		Not Known	Not Known	Not Known	Anthony Raj S/O Micheal Nayagam	Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in closed area. Fishing in coastal State's waters without authorization. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. VMS)	2024-06-27	IOTC – ICCAT, NAFO
197	ST ANTONY		India		Not Known	Not Known	Not Known	Jagantho and Arokya Dhasan	Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in a coastal State's waters without authorization. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g.VMS)	2024-06-27	IOTC – ICCAT, NAFO
198	MOTHER OF JESUS		India		Not Known	Not Known	Not Known	Robert Bruce	Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in a coastal State's waters without authorization. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g.VMS)	2024-06-27	IOTC – ICCAT, NAFO
299	MARIYAL		India		Not Known	Not Known	Not Known	B.Varghese Raj S/O Babians	Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in a coastal State's waters without authorization. Vessel markings deliberately defaced. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. no logbook).	2024-06-27	IOTC – ICCAT, NAFO
200	MANJUMATHA		India		Not Known	Not Known	Not Known	V. Sunil	Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in a coastal State's waters without authorization. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. VMS & logbook).	2024-06-27	IOTC – ICCAT, NAFO
201	MANJU MATHA		India		Not Known	Not Known	Not Known	Rajesn Kumarc	Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in a coastal State's waters without authorization. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. no logbook)	2024-06-27	IOTC – ICCAT, NAFO

Annex I- SIOFA IUU Vessel List

No	Name	Previous Names	Flag	Previous Flags	Callsign	IMO no	Beneficial Owner	Operator	Activities	Cross Listing Date	Listing RFMOs (For additional information, kindly refer to the website of the listing RFMO in Bold)
202	GODS GIFT		India		Not Known	Not Known	Not Known	Darvin S/O Deniston	Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in a coastal State's waters without authorization. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. VMS & logbook)	2024-06-27	IOTC – ICCAT, NAFO
203	IMULA2159CHW & SANJANA PUTHA		Sri Lanka		Not Known	Not Known	Not Known	W.R.R. Fernando	Fishing in a coastal State's waters without authorization. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. VMS)	2024-06-27	IOTC – ICCAT, NAFO
204	IMULA0867KLT & SAMPATH		Sri Lanka		Not Known	Not Known	Not Known	T. Madan	Not on Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV). Fishing in a coastal State's waters without authorization. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. logbook).	2024-06-27	IOTC – ICCAT, NAFO
205	Kuda Laut 03		Philippines		DUM4015	Not Known		Tuna Explorers Incorporated	Fishing on the high seas of the WCPFC Convention Area (High Seas Pocket One) without being on the WCPFC Record of Fishing Vessels (CMM 2019-07-para 3a)	2025-02-13	WCPFC - ICCAT, NAFO, IOTC
206	IMUL-A-0168-PTM		Sri Lanka		Unknown	Unknown	HSM FERNANDO	HSM FERNANDO and/et W.A.M. FERNANDO	Fishing in a coastal States waters without authorisation. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. Vessel registration and valid authorisation to fish/tranship and licence not presented, vessel not carrying documents detailing International callsign, marker buoys/floats not correctly marked and VMS not fully operational)	04/07/2025	IOTC
207	IMUL-A-0833-KLT		Sri Lanka		Unknown	Unknown	MN UBEWARDHANA	MN UBEWARDHANA and E. MOHAN	Fishing in a coastal State without authorisation. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. Marker buoys/floats not correctly marked and VMS not fully operational)	04/07/2025	IOTC
208	IMUL-A-0892-KLT		Sri Lanka		4SF5790	Unknown	BTTP JAYASOORIYA	BTTP JAYASOORIYA and MAHALINGAM MANOHARAN	Fishing in coastal state waters without authorization. Contravention of IOTC CMMs (e.g. Documents detailing vessel horsepower, vessel registration and valid authorisation to fish/tranship and licence not presented, permit or authorisation to fish with terms and conditions attached not presented).	04/07/2025	IOTC

Terms of Reference (ToR) for the provision of a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) for the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA)

Project title: Establishment of a SIOFA Vessel Monitoring System

Project Code: SIOFA-VMS

1) Invitation to Bid

The Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) is inviting qualified international companies to submit bids for the provision of a Software as a Service (SaaS) based Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) to the SIOFA Secretariat. The bids should include proposals for a SaaS-based VMS that complies with all the mandatory requirements of these terms of reference.

Bids are to be submitted to the SIOFA Executive Secretary, Mr Thierry Clot, at thierry.clot@siofa.org by 31 October 2025.

Key dates of the invitation to bid:

Activity	Date
Call for bids issued:	1 August 2025
Deadline for any request for clarifications from potential bidders:	15 October 2025
Deadline for submission of bids and proposals:	31 October 2025
Examination and evaluation of bids	1-30 November 2025
Notification to successful bidder:	1 December 2025
Contract signing:	December 2025
Start of Services:	1 January 2026

2) Background

The Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement ([SIOFA](#)) is a Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO) established following the adoption of its Agreement in 2006 and its entry into force in 2012. Its mandate is to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fishery resources in the Agreement Area through cooperation among the Contracting Parties, cooperating Non-Contracting Parties and Participating Fishing Entities (collectively CCPs) and to promote the sustainable development of fisheries in the Agreement Area, taking into account the needs of developing States bordering the Agreement Area that are Contracting Parties to the Agreement, and in particular the least-developed among them and small island developing States. To date, the SIOFA is composed of 13 CCPs.¹

There are currently 103 vessels on the SIOFA Record of Authorized Vessels (RAV) flagged to the 13 SIOFA CCPs, of which approximately 74 vessels are actively fishing in the Agreement Area. These active vessels spend around 10,000 days (between 232,000-239,000 hours) per year in the Agreement Area. Article 6(1)(h) of the Agreement requires SIOFA to develop rules and procedures for the monitoring, control and surveillance of fishing activities in order to ensure compliance with SIOFA

¹ 10 Contracting Parties, 2 Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, and 1 Participating Fishing Entity.



conservation and management measures (CMM), including a system of verification incorporating vessel monitoring and observation of vessels operating in the SIOFA Agreement Area. While flag States are required to track and monitor their vessels' activities in the Agreement Area using a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS), SIOFA currently does not itself operate a VMS.

To address this, in 2023 SIOFA adopted CMM 16 (2023) on the SIOFA Vessel Monitoring System² setting out the framework of the SIOFA VMS covering all key aspects, including the scope of application, definitions, nature and specifications of the VMS, prevention of tampering and actions in case of suspected breach, use and release of VMS data and VMS Position Reports, as applicable requiring / not requiring the consent of CCPs, closed and interim protected areas, as well as data security and confidentiality. This framework was further complemented in 2024 by the adoption of Standards, Specifications, and Procedures (SSPs) for the SIOFA VMS which are available in Appendix 2.

In July 2025, SIOFA decided that the SIOFA Secretariat should subscribe to a SaaS VMS to provide SIOFA with an operational VMS.

3) Summary of Services

The SIOFA Secretariat is required to subscribe to an end-to-end SaaS VMS service to enable it and the CCPs to fulfil their obligations established under the Agreement, CMM 16 (2023) and other relevant conservation and management measures, also taking into consideration the requirements established by the SIOFA VMS SSPs. The service will include a test phase between the Secretariat and the CCPs before the entry into operation of the SIOFA VMS and the building of the Secretariat's capacity to operate and maintain the SIOFA VMS.

Procured services are expected to run for **36 months**, with the possibility of extension as determined by SIOFA. It will also include system maintenance and after-sales technical services required for the system's proper functioning, as determined by these terms of reference, including the technical specifications, and as agreed in a Service Contract.

4) General Description of Services

The desired system must provide a SaaS-deployed VMS to the SIOFA Secretariat on a subscription basis while respecting the technical specifications set out in these terms of reference, CMM 16 (2023), and the SIOFA VMS SSPs. The system must be capable of providing the following services, as laid down in more detail in the technical specifications in Appendix 1 and in accordance with SIOFA VMS SSPs in Appendix 2:

- Enable the SIOFA Secretariat to monitor in an automatic, continuous and cost-effective manner the movements and activity of fishing vessels operating in the Agreement Area to ensure compliance with SIOFA CMM. The deployment shall include the installation of the VMS solution, training of Secretariat staff, and provision of documents and user manuals in the working language of SIOFA (English).
- Include a GIS (Geographic Information System) component to visually display VMS data and VMS Position Reports immediately after being received. The VMS must be able to determine a vessel's course (direction) and speed automatically and independently.

² Conservation and Management Measure 16 (2023) for the establishment of a SIOFA Vessel Monitoring System ([Vessel Monitoring System](#)).



- Storing and processing of VMS Data and dissemination of VMS Position Reports consistent with the provisions and data format of CMM 02(2023)³ on Data Standards and CMM 03(2016) on Data Confidentiality⁴, and the SIOFA Information System Security Policy (ISSP) once adopted by the Meeting of the Parties.
- Ability for the VMS solution to receive, store, process, and disseminate VMS Position Reports in North Atlantic Format (NAF) messages, described in Annex 1 of Appendix 2, using one of the following application layers (secured connection):
 - Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS)
 - File Transfer Protocol (FTP) with Transport Layer Security (TLS) (FTPS)
 - Email.
- Availability, as part of the service, of a Fisheries Language for Universal Exchange (FLUX) node and ability to receive, store and process VMS Data, and disseminate VMS Position Reports over FLUX, described in Annex 2 of Appendix 2.
- Ability to receive, store, and process VMS Data, and disseminate VMS position reports received directly from fishing vessels' Automatic Locator Communicator (ALC)⁵.
- A web interface for multiple users with customisable profiles and access privileges affecting both features and data made available, fully compliant with the Data Confidentiality and Security Provisions of the SIOFA VMS SSPs.
- A standard reporting system that allows user-defined queries of vessel movements and fishing activities, e.g. transshipments, entering a managed area. The queries should be possible for (but not limited to) a single vessel or groups of vessels (groups definable by users) and be definable by area, dates, trip length, flag state, fishing gear and alerts.
- Participation in and provision of necessary technical support during a testing phase with CCPs for a period of six (6) months.
- Ability to track user activities subject to security and confidentiality concerns, thus allowing the SIOFA Secretariat to run audit reports, as required by the SIOFA VMS SSPs.
- Features to import, manage and apply modifications to closed areas, fully compliant with the technical specifications provided in Appendix 1.
- Provision of necessary aftersales support services for the duration of the contract, including but not limited to system maintenance, fault finding and rectifications in Appendix 1.
- The option to manually input reports and messages. Such data should be stored and displayed in a manner that distinguishes them from VMS data and VMS Position Reports received through

³ Conservation and Management Measure 02 (2023) for the Collection, Reporting, Verification and Exchange of Data relating to fishing activities in the Agreement Area ([Data Standards](#))

⁴ Conservation and Management Measure 03 (2016) for Data Confidentiality and Procedures for access and use of data ([Data Confidentiality](#))

⁵ SIOFA may in the future adopt a list of approved ALCs to be used by vessels entered onto the SIOFA Record of Authorized Vessels (RAV), taking into account lists approved by existing regional and subregional VMS programs and by CCPs.



automatic transmission, and it should be possible to add a reference to the archived source of the manually added information.

- Features to allow conditional alerts against incoming position reports.
- [configuration option for display of GPS coordinates, bearing and bearing marks demarking vessel path and trails.
- option to generate reports, track maps summarising the status and activities of vessels with printing and screen capture options.]
- Inbuilt fleet register data covering any vessel whose VMS data and VMS Position Reports is received by the system, with the possibility to integrate with existing and future SIOFA databases.
- Training of SIOFA Secretariat staff in the use of the VMS and relevant technical support to CCPs to enable the exchange of data with the SIOFA VMS (use and technical repairs).

Close cooperation with the SIOFA Secretariat during all phases of the VMS solution development, deployment and operations is expected.

5) Required service availability

The SIOFA VMS must be operational 24/7 with 99% uptime minus any planned downtime, e.g. scheduled maintenance or deployment of new features. SIOFA must be informed of any planned downtime no less than five (5) days prior.

Support services are expected to be available within the working hours of the SIOFA Secretariat⁶, with the following contractual responses and resolution times:

- Critical severity issues (Total Service outage or with severe performance impact) <= 4 hours resolution;
- Medium severity issues (Degraded performance, incidents yet affecting pivotal activities for the work plan of the SIOFA Secretariat and the CCPs: <= 20 hours resolution;
- Low severity issues (Minor bug fix/patch to intermittent issues, Questions, Info, How-to): <= 3 business days.

These resolution times are subject to negotiation with the chosen service provider.

6) Duration

Procured services are expected to run for **36 months**, with the possibility of extension as determined by SIOFA.

7) Schedule of Contract performance and deliverables

The bidder shall propose, with its submission, a schedule of contract performance in accordance with the services determined in these terms of reference. The schedule shall include, at a minimum, the following deliverables/outputs;

- Signing of Contract

⁶ 04:00hrs GMT-13:00hrs GMT, Monday to Friday, [excluding applicable statutory holidays](#).



- Training of Secretariat Staff
- Completion of Fabric Acceptance Test (FAT)
- Deployment of VMS System at SIOFA Secretariat
- Client Acceptance Test (CAT)
- Test phase of SIOFA VMS (about 6 months)
- Entry into Operation of the SIOFA VMS (to be determined by SIOFA)

8) Submission of Bids

Bids submitted should demonstrate compliance of their proposed solution with these terms of reference, including the mandatory technical specifications in Appendix 1 and the SIOFA VMS SSPs. Bidders should also demonstrate experience deploying VMS solutions in other RFMOs or similar settings.

Bids are to be submitted to the Executive Secretary, Mr Thierry Clot (thierry.clot@siofa.org) containing the following items:

- i. Description of the proposed system, with clear indications of its compliance with these terms of reference and all technical specifications appended thereto;
- ii. Description of the development phase of the SIOFA VMS as applicable and its subsequent deployment at the SIOFA premises, with detailed timeframes for the completion of each phase;
- iii. Provision for acceptance tests to be performed off-premises before deployment and on-premises after deployment at the SIOFA Secretariat;
- iv. Provisions for user and maintenance manuals in the working language of the organization (English)
- v. Detailed training proposal for SIOFA staff in the use and essential maintenance and technical support of the SIOFA VMS;
- vi. **A financial offer for the services required, including itemised pricing for the services required, including all core and after-sales support specified in Appendix 1, in Euros and exclusive of taxes.** The itemised pricing should include third-party licenses (if any), e.g. database licenses, map layers, data extraction software etc. The financial offer should also include any other unforeseen expenses associated with the deployment and operation of the system, including maintenance and technical support of the system;

The deadline for submission of bids is 31 October 2025.

9) Evaluation Criteria for the Selection of Bidders

The bids received will be evaluated against these terms of reference. Failure to comply with any of the mandatory requirements may result in disqualification of the bid. The SIOFA Secretariat further reserves the right to consider and disqualify firms based on documented prior poor performance, including but not limited to poor quality of goods or services provided, late delivery and unsatisfactory performance. The contract will be awarded to the [most competitive] bid that complies with the technical specifications laid out in these terms of reference. Bids will only be considered if they contain adequate documentation to allow the Secretariat to assess them against the mandatory requirements of these terms of reference.



10) Contacts

Bidders may direct any questions and clarifications to the SIOFA Compliance Officer (Mr Johnny Louys, johnny.louys@siofa.org).

The deadline for any request for clarifications is 15 October 2025

11) Additional information to bidders

1. All bids must be received in English and in a format compatible with Microsoft Office (e.g. Microsoft word, excel) and/or Adobe Reader (e.g. .pdf files).
2. All bids must identify a designated Contact Point (including a name, phone number and email address).
3. SIOFA is not obliged to accept any bids that do not meet these submission requirements.
4. Bidders should identify in their bid any information which should be protected as confidential information under any contract between the bidder and SIOFA, including the reason for its confidentiality. If the bidder fails to identify any information in the bid, SIOFA will consider that the respondent has no information which should be protected as confidential under the contract. SIOFA reserves the right, at its discretion, to refuse the request to treat information as confidential. In this case, SIOFA will notify the respondent in writing.
5. Bidders must disclose in their bid any potential or actual conflict of interest in the course of delivering this service and must specify how the bidder proposes to address this conflict of interest. This will not automatically exclude the bidder from consideration; however, SIOFA reserves the right to consider the potential or actual conflict in relation to the bid before the final decision is made.
6. Bids received by email after the deadline of 31 October 2025 will be neither considered nor acknowledged by SIOFA.
7. If a bidder wishes to revise or modify any aspect of its submitted bid, revisions must be in writing from the Contact Point, clearly identified and accompanied by a clear statement from the respondent about the action that the bidder wishes SIOFA to take with the original submission. All revisions must be submitted before the deadline for the submission of bids. If a revision is received after the deadline, the revision will be disregarded.
8. The successful bidder can expect to be notified by 1 December 2025.

12) Disclaimer

1. Bidders are responsible for ensuring that:
 - a. They have examined these terms of reference, and the requirements specified within.
 - b. They have examined any information made available to bidders for the purpose of their bid, including the relevant conservation and management measures referred to by these terms of reference.
 - c. The bid submitted is complete, accurate and realistic in terms of its delivery and cost.
2. Bidders are responsible for all costs incurred in the preparation and lodgement of any bids; and in respect of any discussions, negotiations, enquiries or any work undertaken by them after the bid has been submitted. SIOFA is not liable for any costs or compensation in relation to these matters, regardless of whether SIOFA terminates, varies or suspends the invitation to bid process; or takes any other option under this invitation to bid.
3. SIOFA will not accept responsibility for any misunderstanding arising from the failure of a respondent to comply with the requirements set out in these terms of reference or arising from any ambiguity, discrepancy, inconsistency, error or omission contained in a bid.
4. Nothing in these terms of reference or any bid submitted by a bidder gives rise to contractual obligations between SIOFA and the bidder.



5. Any bid submitted becomes the property of SIOFA for the purpose of the bidding process and will be made available for use by SIOFA and its CCPs for any purpose connected with the bidding process.
6. SIOFA reserves the right to enter into negotiations or discussions with one or more bidders.

Appendix 1 - Detailed Technical Specifications

General Specifications		
1.	The system shall be web-based, hosted, configured and maintained by the service provider with remote secured access and consulted by multiple users through an Internet connection and various login (user/password) combinations. The system shall allow users to access VMS data and VMS Position Reports, including VMS position reports and vessel details. No on-site hardware, except computers connected to the Internet, or network configuration, shall be required to access it. Similarly, no specific software shall be required to access and consult the system except for modern web browsers.	Mandatory
2.	The system shall be deployed as a “software-as-a-service” (SaaS). The provider shall undertake the deployment, configuration, and maintenance of the system and all its components, including databases and data storage.	Mandatory
3.	The system must provide for procedures for services failure and technical issue resolution including timeframes and escalation processes.	Mandatory
4.	The system shall allow for scalability, thus enabling the allocation of additional resources as required by SIOFA, based on the potential future needs of the organisation. The bid shall include reasonably detailed specifications describing the kind of hosting setup supporting the software-as-a-service.	Mandatory
5.	The system in its entirety shall comply with all relevant CMMs governing the use and treatment of VMS Data and VMS Position Reports including CMM 02 (2023) on Data Standards, CMM 03 (2016) on Data Confidentiality, and CMM 16 (2023) on VMS.	Mandatory
6.	The system must be highly fault tolerant and be supported by back-up and redundancy systems and processes.	Mandatory
7.	The system must be supported by a comprehensive backup and disaster recovery plan that ensure no VMS data and VMS Position Reports is lost in the event of a system failure, or where services are no longer required.	Mandatory
8.	The system must receive and store VMS data and VMS Position Reports from at least 200 vessels: • in data formats specified in NAF and UN/Flux, as described in Annex 1 and Annex 2 of the SIOFA VMS SSPs, respectively. • Using the application layers specified in the SIOFA SSPs (i.e. HTTPS, FTPS, and Email). • Directly from ALCs transmitted in their respective proprietary formats. • [From FMC of CCPs transmitted in their respective proprietary formats] The service must be flexible to support modification to these standards on the potential future needs of SIOFA.	Mandatory
9.	The system must process and store for each VMS position report, at minimum, the following data i. the fishing vessel’s unique vessel identifier (UVI); ii. the current geographical position (latitude and longitude) of the vessel; iii. the date and time (UTC) of the fixing of the position of the vessel; iv. the vessel’s speed; and	Mandatory



General Specifications

	v. the vessel's course.	
10.	The system shall support the manual import of VMS Position Reports and record the manual import in the metadata. It shall identify data imported manually, distinguishing them from data received automatically.	Mandatory
11.	The system shall include the due features to import (either routinely or on-demand on a case-by-case-basis) additional datasets relevant to its role including but not limited to: i. Mandatory information of vessels entered onto the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV); ii. Shape Files relating to the Agreement Area, SIOFA sub-areas, Areas with specific management measures and Interim Protected Areas (IPAs). Data formats envisaged for this purpose may vary according to the type of dataset.	Mandatory
12.	In addition to the data formats enlisted so far, the system shall be ready to handle emerging needs through additional means for receiving and sending data, as may be determined by SIOFA.	Highly desirable
13.	The system shall grant eligible user profiles the ability to export all database information pertaining VMS data and VMS Position Reports, and relevant ancillary information in CSV, TXT, or Excel format. Such operation shall accept parameters to narrow-down the export for specific time frames, vessel groups, flag States or defined regions.	Mandatory
14.	The system must support the establishment of vessel groups or vessel lists by defining criteria relating to vessels.	Mandatory

Data Confidentiality and Security Provisions

15.	The system shall have the following access control features: i. Stringent password and authentication system (three-factor authentication preferred), attributed to each designated user. The user shall only have access to functions and data that they are designated to have access to; ii. The system shall automatically record all events for analysis and detection of potential security breaches; iii. Time-based access control: Access to the system can be specified in terms of times-of-day and days of the week that each user is allowed to log into the system; iv. Terminal access control: the system shall specify for each workstation which user(s) are allowed to access it [through selected IPs].	Mandatory
16.	The system shall have the following security measures: i. System Access Control: the system shall be able to withstand break-in attempts from unauthorised persons. ii. Authenticity and data access control: the system shall be able to limit access of users only to the data necessary for them to carry out their tasks via a flexible user identification and password authentication mechanism.	Mandatory



Data Confidentiality and Security Provisions

	iii. Communication Security: VMS position reports shall be securely communicated. iv. Data Security: All VMS data and VMS Position Reports received by the Secretariat shall be securely stored for a predetermined time and shall not be tampered with. The system must prohibit the modification of VMS data and VMS Position Reports that are received automatically from FMCs or directly from vessels or received manually.	
17.	The data centre used to host the services must have effective controls for VMS data and VMS Position Report receipt, storage and dissemination including: • physical security; • personnel security; • communications security; • product security; • access control; and • network security.	Mandatory
18.	The service provider shall retain all VMS data and VMS Position Reports for the duration of the service contract period, including any extensions thereof.	Mandatory
19.	In case the service contract is terminated for any reason, the provider shall provide SIOFA with a copy of the full historical datasets and ancillary information collected through the system in accordance with the formats and standards specified by SIOFA at the time of the termination of the contract.	Mandatory
20.	The Service provider shall not retain any data collected through the system [beyond three (3)] months after the termination of the contract. The deletion of data shall be confirmed in writing by the service provider after the termination of the contract [no later than 3 months after the termination of the contract], and the satisfactory hand over of data referred to in points 19 and 20.	Mandatory

Monitoring, control and surveillance specifications

21.	Mapping tools and data display The system shall have a module intended to show the location of vessels on a geographical map while providing features commonly required by operators of Fishing Monitoring Centres. An indicative list is provided as follows: i. Map-specific features: • zoom and drag-to-scale; • pan map to a location; • pan map with cursor; • automatic zoom and pan to a specific vessel; • display or select all vessels within a specific area; • map layer selector; • visual elements, such as text and graphics, grids, boundaries etc. shall be organized in separate layers so to allow the end user to show or hide them as appropriate; • geographically display track lines of vessels and groups of vessels superimposed on the background features by accurately marking each position	Highly Desirable



Monitoring, control and surveillance specifications

	report for a vessel and joining each subsequent position report for that vessel with a line; - upon click on a given vessel position, show a popup window including at least summary information such as: - vessel identification data (vessel name /UVI/⁷ flag) - last location along with related timestamp; - speed and heading; - type of transmission device (VMS model), data source (NAF/FLUX) or manual input of position reports). - Controls such as menus, dialog windows, checklists and other relevant user controls in order to allow the end user to filter or query available information as necessary. This shall also apply to available details of position reports such as the source of VMS data and VMS Position Reports (FMC/ALC/Manual Input). - Load and display charts providing geographic coverage for the Agreement Area. - Display vector layers for themes and objects such as EEZ zone boundaries, closed areas, and IPAs.⁸ - Base maps relying on OpenStreetMap or equivalent while also supporting the use of third-party vector charts (preferably C-MAP) including information relevant to the work of SIOFA, such as bathymetries. - Allow the creation of user-defined zones by either using visual tools on the map or performing data entry for relevant dimensions. - Allow mobile units or vessels to be selected by name, ID, type, or user-defined group(s). - select and display a vessel group or vessel list both for graphical and tabular consultation. - Display vessel tracks differently (e.g. colour/line style) according to speed thresholds selected by the end-user. - Display vessel tracks differently (e.g. colour/line style) according to the source of VMS Position Reports or other information, such as the transmission means. - Allow current and historical position reports to be available for graphical and tabular consultation to authorized users, along with the possibility to replay vessel tracks on the map in chronological sequence. - Ability to define a geographical area as a circle by providing center and radius. - Possibility to measure the distance between two selected points. - Printing/exporting a selected portion of the map to a graphic file should be supported.	
22.	A section of the user interface shall allow the user to consult fleet data covering any vessel whose position data is received by the system. For this purpose it is required that, for each vessel, overlapping register information originated from different sources are automatically merged into a single record, thus providing end users with complete and coherent information. To this end, the system shall consider any of the vessels' potential UVIs.	Highly Desirable
23.	The system should allow eligible users to set up and customize alerts against incoming position reports in accordance with a set of conditions. Resulting alert events: Should be shown as items of a dynamic list, along with detailed information on the vessels involved in each alert, the conditions met, and a comprehensive history of previous alerts generated for a given vessel.	Highly Desirable

⁷ International Radio Call Sign (IRCS), the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Number or the ALC Unique Identifier.

⁸ To be made available by the SIOFA Secretariat during the configuration phase of the SIOFA VMS.



Monitoring, control and surveillance specifications

	ii. Shall be processed and shown in real-time. iii. Shall be graphically reflected on the VMS map interface by appropriately changing display attributes for the implied position report(s), such as using a different icon or colour to depict the concerned position report(s). iv. Shall include among available parameters: • Spatial and temporal conditions (e.g. crossing closed areas at specific fishing season end and within a speed range compatible with fishing activity); • Specific vessel identifiers (e.g. Authorized vessel or vessel with expired authorization); • Transmission anomalies such as unexpected delays in transmission reports; v. Shall allow the automated submission of notifications via email to relevant recipients.	
24.	[The system shall automatically identify and transmit notifications when a vessel is entering[/exiting] the Agreement Area, a closed area, a managed area, ⁹ or Interim Protected Area designated under CMM 01(2024) on Interim Management of Bottom Fishing, including any such future areas designated by the Meeting of the Parties.]	Mandatory
25.	The system shall provide a section including functions to generate thematic reports based on query parameters chosen by the end user (e.g. time frame, vessel or group of vessels, flag state). Factory settings applied to the reporting engine must include a set of predefined reports aimed at providing diagnostic, control and statistical reports for scientific purposes. Report outputs must be shown on the screen and made available for download as an Excel or CSV document.	Mandatory

Core and Aftersale Services

26.	The system shall be deployed, configured, and customized according to the terms of reference, these technical specifications and the SIOFA SSPs, and available to the SIOFA for the entire duration of the service contract.	Mandatory
27.	The system must be subject to a Fabric Acceptance Test (FAT) undertaken by the service provider.	Mandatory
28.	The system must be subject to a Client Acceptance Test (CAT) undertaken by the service provider at the SIOFA Secretariat premises.	Mandatory
29.	The system setup shall entail that the provider undertakes the necessary tasks to import all relevant datasets required to deliver the features outlined by the terms of reference and these technical specifications.	Mandatory
30.	The provider shall establish technical contacts with the relevant VMS Points of Contact to establish UN/FLUX and NAF-based data exchange based on the specifications of the SIOFA SSPs. The work shall be undertaken to ensure the functioning of this feature for the whole duration of the contract.	Mandatory
31.	The service provider shall configure the system to receive direct transmissions from ALCs installed on fishing vessels on the SIOFA RAV.	Mandatory

⁹ Subarea 2 (CMM 12 on Sharks), Del Cano Rise Area and Williams Ridge (CMM 15 on Management of Demersal Stocks), and any such future areas designated by the Meeting of the Parties.



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32.	The service provider shall provide complete technical material, including manuals and guides, to SIOFA in English, including any updates as needed.	Mandatory
33.	The provider is expected to deliver technical support services during the SIOFA Secretariat's office hours for the entire duration of the contract, including via phone and email or a dedicated online helpdesk.	Mandatory

Standards, Specifications and Procedures (SSPs) for the SIOFA VMS

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Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
Accord relatif aux Pêches dans le Sud de l'Océan Indien



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Background

Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) are satellite-based monitoring systems that enable flag States and regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs) to track and monitor the activities of fishing vessels in a defined geographical area through the transmission of position data by fishing vessels at regular intervals. They are a cornerstone of monitoring control and surveillance (MCS) programmes at national and international levels and a key instrument in the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

Article 6(1)(h) of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) requires SIOFA to develop rules and procedures for the monitoring, control and surveillance of fishing activities to ensure compliance with SIOFA conservation and management measures (CMM), including a system of verification incorporating vessel monitoring and observation of vessels operating in the SIOFA Area. [CMM 10 \(2023\) \(Monitoring\)](#) also requires SIOFA to develop specifications and propose rules and procedures for establishing a SIOFA VMS. While flag Contracting Parties, Participating Fishing Entities and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (collectively: CCPs) are required to track and monitor their vessels' activities using VMS, SIOFA does not currently operate a VMS system. In this respect, it is behind other RFMOs that have installed and operate a VMS.

To close this gap, the 10th Meeting of the Parties to the SIOFA (MoP10) adopted [CMM 16 \(2023\) \(Vessel Monitoring System\)](#) setting out the framework of the SIOFA VMS covering all critical aspects, including the scope of application, definitions, nature and specifications of the VMS, prevention of tampering and actions in case of suspected breach, use and release of VMS data requiring / not requiring the consent of CCPs, closed and interim protected areas, as well as data security and confidentiality. However, this framework needs to be further completed through the development of Standards, Specifications and Procedures (SSPs) as required by paragraph 9 of CMM 16 (2023) prior to the entry into operation of the SIOFA VMS.

Following intersessional work by the VMS-WG, the 11th Meeting of the Parties adopted these SSPs and the 12th Meeting of the Parties revised them.

The SSPs assume that Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CNCs) will be treated similarly as CPs and PFEs, recalling that CNCs do not currently contribute to the budget, which may be impacted by the implementation of the SIOFA VMS.

For the purpose of this document, all terms used shall have the same meaning as those in CMM 16 (2023) unless otherwise specified.

1. Purpose

1. The purpose of these Standards, Specifications and Procedures (SSPs) is to complement measures established under CMM 16 (2023) so as to achieve the objectives of the CMM, which are to monitor in an automatic, continuous and cost-effective manner the movements and activity of fishing vessels operating in the Agreement Area to ensure compliance with SIOFA Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs).

2. Application

2. These SSPs shall apply to all fishing vessels flying the flag of a Contracting Party, Participating Fishing Entity or Cooperating non-Contracting Party (collectively CCPs), that are entered onto the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels (RAV) and operating within the Agreement Area (Area), as defined in Article 3 of the Agreement.
3. These SSPs do not prejudice the right of CCPs to apply additional or more stringent measures to vessels flying their flag.

3. General Provisions

4. For the purposes of these SSPs, the term “VMS data” shall refer to all data associated with the SIOFA VMS, including VMS position reports and Automatic location communicator (ALC) details.
5. CCPs shall:
 - a. For vessels entered onto the SIOFA Record of Authorized Vessels (RAV) prior to the entry into force of CMM 16 (2023), provide ALC details specified in paragraph 6 for each vessel registered on the SIOFA RAV by 31 December 2025 at the latest.
 - b. For vessels to be entered onto the SIOFA RAV after the entry into operation of the SIOFA VMS, provide ALC details specified in paragraph 6 at the time of the submission of information required by [CMM 07 \(2024\) \(Vessel Authorization\)](#).¹
6. CCPs shall provide the following ALC details:
 - a. Model and Brand
 - b. ALC Unique Identifier
 - c. Service Provider (Inmarsat/Iridium/ARGOS etc.)
7. For the purposes of CMM 16 (2023), the term Unique Vessel Identifier (UVI) shall have the following meaning:
 - a) For CCPs transmitting VMS position reports pursuant to paragraph 6 a), of CMM 16 (2023) the UVI shall be the International Radio Call Sign (IRCS), the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Number or the ALC Unique Identifier.
 - b) For CCPs transmitting VMS position reports pursuant to paragraph 6 b) of CMM 16 (2023) the UVI shall be the ALC Unique Identifier.

¹ Conservation and Management Measure for Vessel Authorisation and Notification to Fish.

4. Methods to ensure ALCs comply with SIOFA Standards

Explanatory Notes

Paragraph 12 of CMM 16 (2023) sets out the general standards by which ALCs are expected to be installed and operated. Paragraphs 18 and 19 expand on the requirements to have tamper-proof ALCs while also prohibiting the tampering of ALCs. The minimum standards for ALCs are further described in Annex 1 of CMM 16 (2023).

This section of the SSPs provides for the possibility of the MoP adopting a list of approved ALCs and clarifies that it is the responsibility of flag CCPs to ensure that ALCs installed on their vessels comply with SIOFA specifications and standards.

8. The MoP may adopt a list of approved ALCs to be used by vessels entered onto the SIOFA Record of Authorized Vessels (RAV), taking into account lists approved by existing regional and subregional VMS programs and by CCPs.
9. CCPs shall be responsible for ensuring that the ALCs on board vessels flying their flag and entered onto the SIOFA RAV meet the specifications and standards set out in paragraph 12 and Annex 1 of CMM 16 (2023). To this end, CCPs are encouraged to conduct periodic audits of a representative sample of ALCs. Any findings shall be reported as part of CCPs' annual compliance assessment reporting under paragraph 12 of CMM 11 (2020) (Compliance Monitoring Scheme).

5. Rules for Polling and Programming for Vessels Reporting to the Secretariat in accordance with Paragraph 6 b)

Explanatory Notes

Paragraph 6 b) of CMM 16 (2023) allows for simultaneously reporting VMS position reports automatically to the Secretariat. In this regard, there may be a need to interact with the ALCs to program its automatic reporting and to change its reporting frequency based on location (programming) and also to "query" an unscheduled position report (polling). It should be noted that while CMM 16 (2023) does not provide for polling of ALCs, it may be required during diagnosis when the good reception of position reports cannot be achieved. Other cases may be to stop the reporting temporarily or indefinitely based on scenarios, such as the deletion of the vessels from the SIOFA RAV, repairs, flagging and decommissioning of fishing vessels.

As such, these SSPs suggest procedures for the same.

10. CCPs shall ensure that the ALCs on board of vessels flying their flag are configured to comply with paragraph 8 of CMM 16 (2023) and, where applicable, shall send programming commands.

11. CCPs which opt for simultaneous reporting under paragraph 6. b) of CMM 16 (2023) shall ensure that their ALC service provider is capable of providing simultaneous reporting to multiple destinations (receivers) and shall bear the cost for reporting to their FMC and to the Secretariat as well as for programming command sending. The Secretariat (SIOFA VMS) shall receive the "simultaneously reporting" in accordance with the protocol provided by the CCP's service provider.

6. Responsibilities of the Secretariat

Explanatory Notes

These SSPs set out the responsibilities of the Secretariat in administering the SIOFA VMS.

12. The Secretariat shall:

- a. ensure that data, once received by the SIOFA VMS, are not altered, manipulated, copied or interfered with in any way, and that the data is only used in accordance with CMM 03 (2016), and with any such additional data security and confidentiality rules adopted by the Meeting of Parties for the purposes of the SIOFA VMS.
- b. provide a stable, reliable, fully maintained and supported SIOFA VMS that is in compliance with CMM 03 (2016), and any additional data security and confidentiality rules adopted by the Meeting of Parties.
- c. utilise the SIOFA VMS in a manner consistent with the Agreement, CMMs and these SSPs.
- d. compile and report annually to the MoP, through the Compliance Committee, an overview of potential issues identified by vessel and flag with regard to their compliance with CMM 2016 (2023) and these SSPs.
- e. monitor and report annually to the Compliance Committee on the implementation and performance of the SIOFA VMS and its application and, as necessary, make recommendations for improvements or modifications to the system and these SSPs established to support it.

7. Data format for data transmission

Explanatory Notes

Paragraph 6 a) of CMM 16 (2023) allows CCPs to choose to report VMS positions automatically to the Secretariat via their FMC. However, these provisions do not provide for the data format and standards that will allow these transfers to take place.

There are at least two globally accepted data formats for data exchange of fisheries information. These are the North Atlantic Format (NAF) and the Fisheries Language for Universal Exchange (UN/FLUX). NAF is recognised as an older format with some limitations, therefore there are ongoing efforts to improve NAF or develop new standards for the exchange of fisheries information altogether.

UN/FLUX is one such proposed standard that has already gained recognition by the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT), with more states and regional organisations adopting its use for VMS data exchange, among others. The most significant advantage of UN/FLUX over NAF is its ability to cater to other data types, such as inspection reports, catch and effort reporting, etc. However, the uptake of UN/FLUX is still relatively low, and implementation may present challenges to the Secretariat and CCPs.

Noting the above, the SSPs recognise the two data formats and provide standards to enable CCPs to exchange data using those formats.

13. VMS position reports sent to the SIOFA VMS in accordance with paragraph 6 a) of CMM 16 (2023) shall be transferred using the following data formats;
 - a. The North Atlantic Format (NAF) (Annex 1)
 - or
 - b. Fisheries Language for Universal Exchange (UN/FLUX) (Annex 2)
14. VMS position reports sent using NAF shall follow the structure of NAF messages provided in Annex 1, and shall be transferred using one of the following application layers (secured connection):
 - a. Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS)
 - b. File Transfer Protocol (FTP) with Transport Layer Security (TLS) (FTPS)
 - c. Email
15. VMS position reports sent using FLUX shall adhere to the specifications of the Flux P1000-1 (General Principles) and Flux P1000-7 (Vessel Position Domain), as described in Annex 2.²

² <https://unece.org/trade/uncefact/unflux>

8. Data Confidentiality and Security Provisions

Explanatory Notes

These SSPs covers the Confidentiality and Security procedures required to ensure the secure and confidential treatment of VMS data being exchanged between CCPs and the Secretariat.

16. CCPs and the Secretariat shall only use VMS data for the purposes specified in CMM 16 (2023).
17. The Secretariat shall maintain a database of the ALC details attributed to all vessels entered onto the SIOFA RAV. ALC details shall be confidential data (i.e. non public domain data) but shall be provided to CCPs' VMS points of contact upon request pursuant to paragraphs 23 to 28 of CMM 16 (2023).
18. The Secretariat shall only provide VMS position reports to the contact point designated pursuant to Paragraph 11 of CMM 16 (2023).
19. CCPs shall immediately delete VMS position reports received for the purposes set out in paragraph 28 of CMM 16 (2023) once the VMS position reports have served their intended purpose, and confirm their deletion to the Secretariat in writing without delay.
20. CCPs, the Secretariat, the SIOFA Scientific Committee and its Working Groups, and any SIOFA VMS service provider shall take all necessary measures to protect VMS data against accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure or access, and against all unauthorised forms of processing.
21. The following security measures shall be mandatory for the SIOFA VMS:
 - a. System Access Control: The Secretariat shall ensure that the system can withstand break-in attempts from unauthorised persons.
 - b. Authenticity and data access control: The Secretariat shall ensure that the system is able to limit access of Secretariat staff only to the data necessary for them to carry out their tasks via a flexible user identification and password mechanism.
 - c. Communication Security: VMS position reports shall be securely communicated.
 - d. Data Security: All VMS data received by the Secretariat shall be securely stored for a predetermined time and shall not be tampered with.
 - e. Security Procedures: The Secretariat shall implement an Information System Security Policy adopted by the Meeting of the Parties to ensure proper access to the system (hardware and software), system administration and maintenance, backup and general usage of the system.
22. The system shall have the following mandatory access control features:
 - a. Stringent password and authentication system, attributed to each designated user. The user shall only have access to functions and data that they are designated to have access to;
 - b. All access to physical computer systems shall be controlled by the Secretariat;

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- c. The system shall automatically record all events for analysis and detection of potential security breaches;
 - d. Time-based access control: Access to the system can be specified in terms of times-of-day and days of the week that each user is allowed to log into the system;
 - e. Terminal access control: the system shall specify for each workstation which user(s) are allowed to access it.
23. Communication between CCPs, the SIOFA VMS Service Provider, and the Secretariat shall use secure internet protocols. The exchange of VMS position reports may also require the use of digital certificates that correctly identify and validate the party submitting the VMS position reports.
24. The Secretariat shall periodically review access to and the logs of the VMS software and ensure the proper maintenance of system security.

Annex 1: Description of the North Atlantic Format (NAF)³

Data Elements of NAF Messages

All NAF Messages sent to the SIOFA VMS shall contain, at minimum, the information required in paragraph 1. f) of CMM 16 (2023). The general structure and data elements are as below

Data Element	Field Code	Definition	Contents
Start Record	SR	Defines the start of the message structure.	No Data
Address	AD	Indicates the destination. Provider and Secretariat to define code for SIOFA VMS	3-Alpha code
From	FR	3-alpha code describing the country which FMC is submitting the report.	3-Alpha code
Sequence Number	SQ	Message Sequence Number	0-999999
Internal Reference Number*	IR	Unique Number attributed by the flag state	3-Alpha code. 0-999999999
Type of Message	TM	Letter code of the type of message	POS = position report, MAN = manual report, ENT = entry report, EXI = exit report
Radio Call Sign (IRCS)	RC	Vessel detail: international radio call sign of the vessel	IRCS
Latitude (decimal)	LT	Latitude expressed in degrees and decimals (WGS-84)	+(-)DD.ddd
Longitude (decimal)	LG	Longitude expressed in degrees and decimals (WGS-84)	+(-)DD.ddd
Vessel Speed	SP	Speed of the vessel	Knots * 10
Vessel Course	CO	Heading of the vessel in degrees	1-360
Flag State	FS	State of registration of the vessel.	3-Alpha code
Date	DA	Date of reported event	YYYYMMDD
Time	TI	Time of reported event	HHMM
End of Record	ER	Indicates the end of the message/report	No Data

Structure of the position report

Each data transmission shall be structured as follows:

- double slash (//) and the characters 'SR' indicate the start of a message,
- a double slash (//) and field code indicate the start of a data element,
- a single slash (/) separates the field code and the data,

³ <https://www.naf-format.org/index.htm>

* Submission of IR is optional

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- pairs of data are separated by space,
- the characters 'ER' and a double slash (//) indicate the end of a record.

Annex 2: Description of the Fisheries Language for Universal Exchange (UN/FLUX)

2 I: UN/FLUX format : mandatory data to be transmitted in position reports

Data	Mandatory/optional	Comments
Addressee	M	Message detail — Addressee Alpha-3 country code Note: Part of the FLUX TL envelope
From	M	Message detail — Sender Alpha-3 country code
Unique message identifier	M	UUID according to RFC 4122 defined by IETF
Date and time of transmission	M	Date and time when the message was created in UTC, using the format YYYY-MM-DDThh:mm:ss[.000000]Z ⁴
Flag State	M	Message detail – Flag of flag State, Alpha-3 country code
Type of message	M	Message detail – Type of message The following codes are to be used: ENTRY: first position recorded after entering the fishing zone) EXIT: first message recorded after leaving the fishing zone POS: positions transmitted while being in the fishing zone) MANUAL: position transmitted manually
Radio call sign	M	Vessel detail – Vessel international radio call sign (IRCS)
CCP internal reference number	O	Vessel detail – Unique CCP vessel identifier
Unique Vessel Identifier (UVI)	O	Vessel detail – IMO number

⁴ YYYY= year; MM= month, including leading 0 where month number is less than 10; DD= day of the month including leading 0 where day number is less than 10; T= the letter T to indicate the part of the time section; H24= hours of the day expressed with 2 digits using the 24-hour notation; MI=minutes expressed as 2 digits; SS=seconds expressed as 2 digits; [.000000]= optionally fractions of seconds may be included, not including the brackets; Z= time zone, which must be Z (i.e. UTC)

External registration number	O	Vessel detail – Number on side of vessel
Latitude	M	Vessel position detail – Position in degrees and decimal degrees DD.ddd (WGS-84) Positive coordinates for positions north of the Equator; Negative coordinates for positions south of the Equator.
Longitude	M	Vessel position detail – Position in degrees and decimals DD.ddd (WGS-84) Positive coordinates east of the Greenwich meridian; Negative coordinates west of the Greenwich meridian.
Course	M	Vessel course 360° scale
Speed	M	Vessel speed in knots
Date and time	M	Vessel position detail – date and time of recording of the position in UTC, using the format YYYY-MM-DDThh:mm:ss[.000000]Z ⁵

⁵ YYYY= year; MM= month, including leading 0 where month number is less than 10; DD= day of the month including leading 0 where day number is less than 10; T= the letter T to indicate the part of the time section; H24= hours of the day expressed with 2 digits using the 24-hour notation; MI=minutes expressed as 2 digits; SS=seconds expressed as 2 digits; [.000000]= optionally fractions of seconds may be included, not including the brackets; Z= time zone, which must be Z (ie. UTC)

2.II FLUX Vessel Position Implementation Document

1. INTRODUCTION

This document aims to describe the implementation of Vessel Position in the context of the SIOFA VMS. Submissions of reports will be done through the FLUX Transportation Layer.

2. REFERENCES

UN/CEFACT P1000 FLUX Standard v1.0 ²:

- FLUX BRS: P1000 – 1; General principles (version 2.1).
- FLUX BRS: P1000 – 7; Vessel Position domain (version 2.0).

UN/CEFACT FLUXVesselPositionMessage_4p0.xsd

3. SCOPE

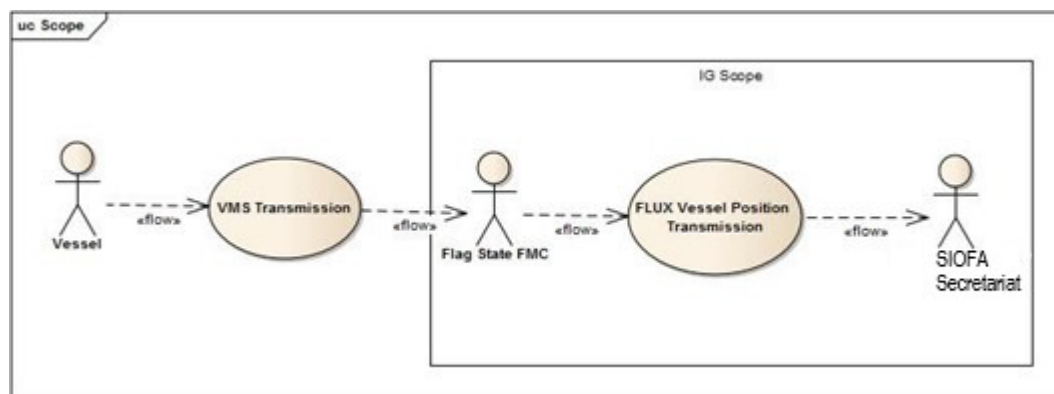


Figure 1: Implementing Guide Scope diagram

As shown on Figure 1, even if the message is provided by a Vessel, the scope of this document is limited to the transmission from a Flag CCP FMC, which has received the Vessel Position message, coming in most cases from aa ALC to the SIOFA Secretariat.

4. PROCEDURES

4.1. General principles

The following activity diagram describes the normal procedure defined for the submission of every Vessel Position Messages sent between the FMC of a Flag CCP to the SIOFA Secretariat:

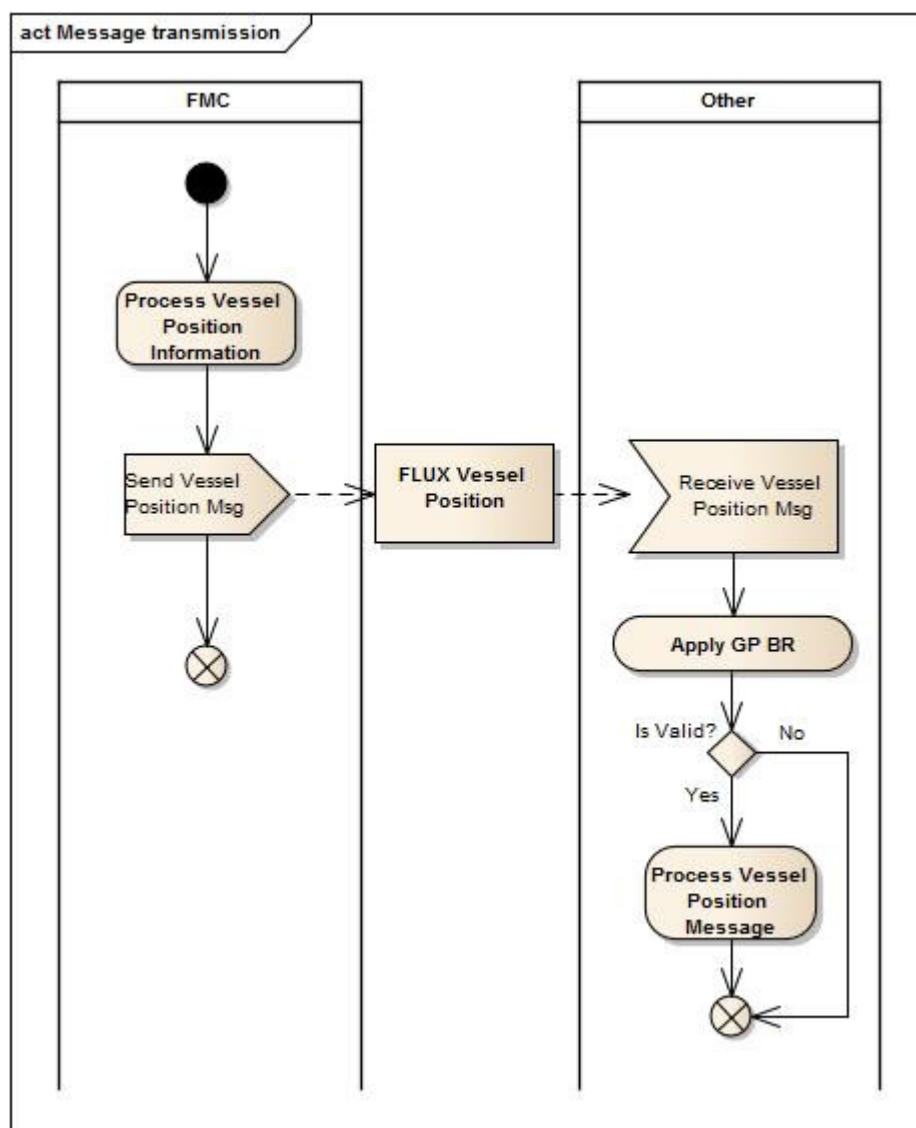


Figure 2: Message Transmission activity diagram

As shown in the diagram, Apply General Principles (GP) Business Rules (BR) is a validation process which does:

1. XML Validation level: Based on the definition in the XSD, the parser validates the structure and cardinality as well as compliance for mandatory elements of the XML provided.⁶

⁶ In general, only XSD element are defined as mandatory. Element attributes and facets remain optional.

Note: Comparing XML vs. XSD defined by the namespace can make the parser generating error having technical information when the basic information requested by General Principles is not correct.

2. Business Rules Validation level: a Business Rules Engine validates the content of XML according to the General Principles Business Rules definition.⁷

⁷ Some specific business rules of this domain can withdraw or overwrite the definition of FLUX General Principles

5. DATA MODEL (XSD) IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of the Vessel Position Data Model applies the following general constraints at the level of XSD Element attributes:

- (1) For Code & Identifier DataType: *listID* or *schemeID* attribute must be provided if it is not specifically defined in the definition of the element;
- (2) For DateTime DataType: only *udt:DateTime* (of type *xsd:dateTime*) choice is used. The date and time must be expressed in UTC, unless explicitly mentioned otherwise. The format shall be *YYYY-MM-DDThh:mm:ss[.000000]Z*,⁸

The following diagram describes the Vessel Position Data Model used for the implementation of transmission of *VesselPositionMessage*:

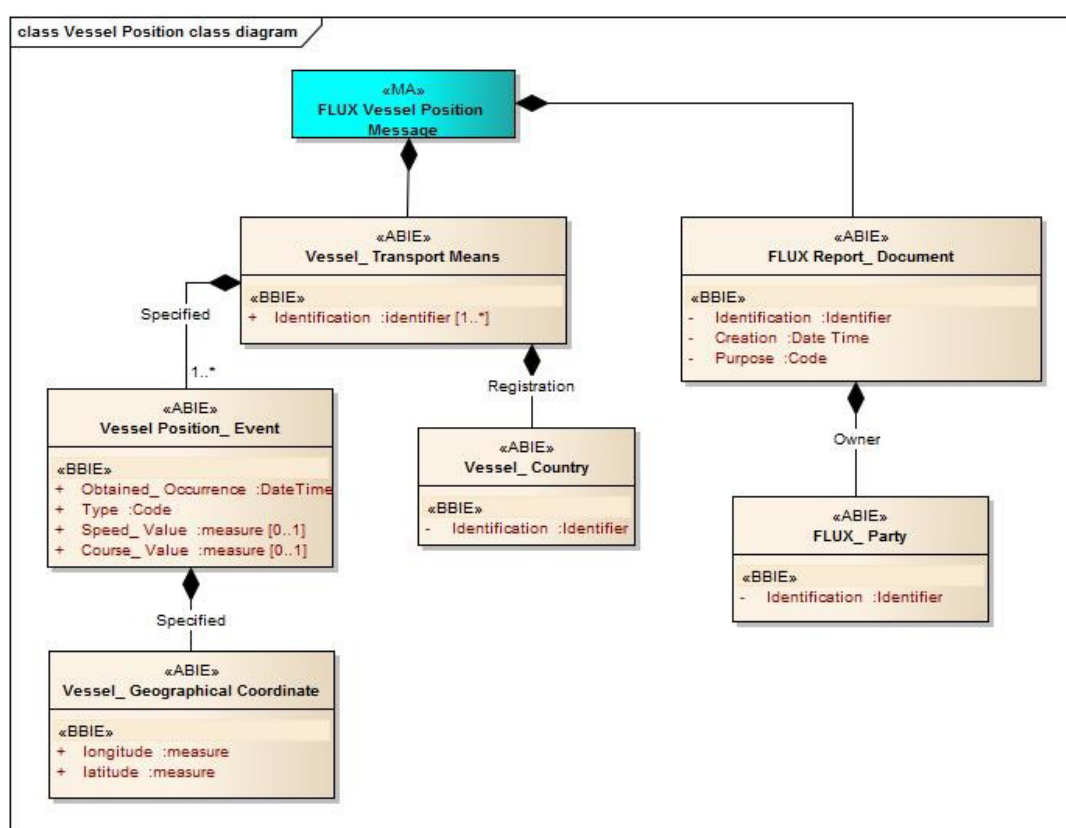


Figure 3: Vessel Position Message Data Model

⁸ YYYY= year; MM= month, including leading 0 where month number is less than 10; DD= day of the month including leading 0 where day number is less than 10; T= the letter T to indicate the part of the time section; H24= hours of the day expressed with 2 digits using the 24-hour notation; M=minutes expressed as 2 digits; SS=seconds expressed as 2 digits; [.000000]= optionally fractions of seconds may be included up to 6 digits, not including the brackets; Z= time zone, which must be Z (ie. UTC)

The table below describes for each fields defined in the Data Model (XSD) the values that can be used:

Entity/Field Name	DataType	Cardinality		Description	Remarks
		Min	Max		
FLUX Report_Document		1	1	The document details for this FLUX vessel position message.	FLUX General Principles Entity
Identification	Identifier	1	1	The unique identification of the FLUX vessel position message	A UUID as defined in the RFC 4122
Creation	DateTime	1	1	The date, time, date time of the creation of the FLUX vessel position message.	A UTC date time. Must be according to the definition provided in 6(2)
Purpose	Code	1	1	The code specifying the purpose of this FLUX report document, such as original, cancellation or replace.	Attribute <i>listID</i> = FLUX_GP_PURPOSE Reference: EDIFACT Code List 1225 (qDT UN02000125 - Message Function_Code). Restriction: only value 9 is used in this context.
Owner. FLUX_Party	Assoc.	1	1	Entity used to provide information on an individual, a group, or a body having a role in a Fisheries Language for Universal eXchange (FLUX) business function. Party has a legal connotation in a business transaction.	FLUX General Principles Entity
Identification	Identifier	1	1	An identifier of this FLUX party.	Attribute <i>listID</i> = TERRITORY alpha-3 code of the country owning this report. e.g.: SWE

Entity/Field Name	DataType	Cardinality		Description	Remarks
		Min	Max		
Vessel_ Transport Means		1	1	Entity used to provide the identification and characteristic information of a ship or boat.	
Identification	Identifier	1	*	An identifier for this transport means vessel UVI, as defined by the SIOFA VMS SSPs,	Attribute <i>schemeID</i> must be provided with a value from list = FLUX_VESSEL_ID_TY PE
Registration. Vessel_ Country	Assoc.	1	1	The country of registration of this transport means vessel.	
Identification	Identifier	1	1	The identifier for this vessel country.	Use Code Countries code list in MDR. <i>listID</i> = TERRITORY alpha-3 code of the country where the vessel is registered (flag state).
Specified. Vessel	Assoc.	1	*	The general information of the VMS message.	More than one position can be provided.

Entity/Field Name	DataType	Cardinality		Description	Remarks
		Min	Max		
Position_Event					
Obtained_Occurrence	DateTime	1	1	The date and time when the position of the vessel was taken by the vessel's navigation equipment.	The UTC date time when the position was obtained by the vessel navigation equipment, transmitted by the VMS system on-board of the vessel. Must be according to the definition provided in 6(2)
Type	Code	1	1	The code specifying the type of vessel position event.	Attribute <i>listID</i> must be provided with a value from <i>list</i> = FLUX_VESSEL_POSITION_TYPE Example of values are: "ENTRY", "EXIT", "POS", "MANUAL".
Speed_Value	Measure	0	1	The measure of speed of the vessel for this vessel position event.	Mandatory. In knots. Maximum 2 significant decimals. Optional in case the following conditions are all met: - TypeCode= EXIT - Message addressed to Third party or RFMO - The element is defined as optional in the agreement with the Third Party or RFMO
Course_Value	Measure	0	1	The measure of course of the vessel for this vessel position event.	Mandatory. In degrees and decimal degrees. Maximum 2 significant decimals.

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					Optional in case the following conditions are all met: - TypeCode= EXIT - Message addressed to

Entity/Field Name	DataType	Cardinality		Description	Remarks
		Min	Max		
					Third party or RFMO - The element is defined as optional in the agreement with the Third Party or RFMO
Specified. Vessel_Geographical Coordinate	Assoc.	1	1	The latitude and longitude of a specified place, by which a vessel's relative situation on the globe is known. The height above the sea level constitutes a third coordinate.	Geographical Coordinates Position of the vessel transmitted by the VMS system at Obtained DateTime. Altitude and System information are not used in context of this implementation.
Latitude	Measure	1	1	The measure of the latitude as an angular distance north or south from the Equator meridian to the meridian of a specific place for this vessel geographical coordinate.	Coordinate expressed in WGS84, decimal degree notation, using a precision of at least 3 and maximum 6 decimal positions. Positive coordinate refers to North of equator. Negative coordinate refers to South.
Longitude	Measure	1	1	The measure of the longitude as an angular distance east or west from the Greenwich meridian to the meridian of a specific place for this vessel geographical coordinate.	Coordinate expressed in WGS84, decimal degree notation, using a precision of at least 3 and maximum 6 decimal positions. Positive coordinate refers to East of Greenwich meridian. Negative coordinate refers to West.

6. XML EXAMPLES

```

<rsm:FLUXVesselPositionMessage
xsi:schemaLocation="urn:un:unece:unfact:data:standard:FLUXVesselPositionMessage:4
FLUXVesselPositionMessage_4p0.xsd" xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
xmlns:rsm="urn:un:unece:unfact:data:standard:FLUXVesselPositionMessage:4"
xmlns:ram="urn:un:unece:unfact:data:standard:ReusableAggregateBusinessInformationEntity:18"
xmlns:udt="urn:un:unece:unfact:data:standard:UnqualifiedDataType:18">
  <rsm:FLUXReportDocument>
    <ram:ID> c133b211-0b0e-4358-893c-7afb5437bd61</ram:ID>
    <ram:CreationDateTime>
      <udt:DateTime>2001-12-17T09:30:47.0Z</udt:DateTime>
    </ram:CreationDateTime>
    <ram:PurposeCode>9</ram:PurposeCode>
    <ram:OwnerFLUXParty>
      <ram:ID>SWE</ram:ID>
    </ram:OwnerFLUXParty>
  </rsm:FLUXReportDocument>

  <rsm:VesselTransportMeans>
    <ram:ID schemeID="CFR">SWE000007880</ram:ID>
    <ram:ID schemeID="EXT_MARKING">S-381</ram:ID>
    <ram:ID schemeID="IRCS">EI6207</ram:ID>
    <ram:RegistrationVesselCountry>
      <ram:ID>SWE</ram:ID>
    </ram:RegistrationVesselCountry>

    <ram:SpecifiedVesselPositionEvent>
      <ram:ObtainedOccurrenceDateTime>
        <udt:DateTime>2001-12-17T09:30:47.0Z</udt:DateTime>
      </ram:ObtainedOccurrenceDateTime>
      <ram:TypeCode>POS</ram:TypeCode>
      <ram:SpeedValueMeasure>8.3</ram:SpeedValueMeasure>
      <ram:CourseValueMeasure>50</ram:CourseValueMeasure>
      <ram:SpecifiedVesselGeographicalCoordinate>
        <ram:LatitudeMeasure>50.563</ram:LatitudeMeasure>
        <ram:LongitudeMeasure>009.252</ram:LongitudeMeasure>
      </ram:SpecifiedVesselGeographicalCoordinate>
    </ram:SpecifiedVesselPositionEvent>
  </rsm:VesselTransportMeans>
</rsm:FLUXVesselPositionMessage>

```

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```

<rsm:FLUXVesselPositionMessage
xsi:schemaLocation="urn:un:unece:unfact:data:standard:FLUXVesselPositionMessage:4
FLUXVesselPositionMessage_4p0.xsd" xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
xmlns:rsm="urn:un:unece:unfact:data:standard:FLUXVesselPositionMessage:4"
xmlns:ram="urn:un:unece:unfact:data:standard:ReusableAggregateBusinessInformationEntity:18"
xmlns:udt="urn:un:unece:unfact:data:standard:UnqualifiedDataType:18">
<rsm:FLUXReportDocument>
<ram:ID> c133b211-0b0e-4358-893c-7afb5437bd61</ram:ID>
<ram:CreationDateTime>
<udt:DateTime>2018-12-17T11:31:47.0Z</udt:DateTime>
</ram:CreationDateTime>
<ram:PurposeCode>9</ram:PurposeCode>
<ram:OwnerFLUXParty>
<ram:ID>SWE</ram:ID>
</ram:OwnerFLUXParty>
</rsm:FLUXReportDocument>

<rsm:VesselTransportMeans>
<ram:ID schemeID="CFR">SWE000007880</ram:ID>
<ram:ID schemeID="EXT_MARKING">S-381</ram:ID>
<ram:ID schemeID="IRCS">EI6207</ram:ID>
<ram:RegistrationVesselCountry>
<ram:ID>SWE</ram:ID>
</ram:RegistrationVesselCountry>

<ram:SpecifiedVesselPositionEvent>
<ram:ObtainedOccurrenceDateTime>
<udt:DateTime>2018-12-17T09:30:47.0Z</udt:DateTime>
</ram:ObtainedOccurrenceDateTime>
<ram:TypeCode>POS</ram:TypeCode>
<ram:SpeedValueMeasure>8.3</ram:SpeedValueMeasure>
<ram:CourseValueMeasure>50</ram:CourseValueMeasure>
<ram:SpecifiedVesselGeographicalCoordinate>
<ram:LatitudeMeasure>50.563</ram:LatitudeMeasure>
<ram:LongitudeMeasure>009.252</ram:LongitudeMeasure>
</ram:SpecifiedVesselGeographicalCoordinate>
</ram:SpecifiedVesselPositionEvent>

<ram:SpecifiedVesselPositionEvent>
<ram:ObtainedOccurrenceDateTime>
<udt:DateTime>2018-12-17T11:30:47.0Z</udt:DateTime>
</ram:ObtainedOccurrenceDateTime>
<ram:TypeCode>POS</ram:TypeCode>
<ram:SpeedValueMeasure>8.3</ram:SpeedValueMeasure>
<ram:CourseValueMeasure>50</ram:CourseValueMeasure>
<ram:SpecifiedVesselGeographicalCoordinate>
<ram:LatitudeMeasure>50.123456</ram:LatitudeMeasure>
<ram:LongitudeMeasure>009.132</ram:LongitudeMeasure>
</ram:SpecifiedVesselGeographicalCoordinate>

```


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```
</ram:SpecifiedVesselPositionEvent>  
  </rsm:VesselTransportMeans>  
</rsm:FLUXVesselPositionMessage>
```

7. CODE LISTS

Vessel Transport Means²

Description: the entity containing the details of the identification and characteristic information of a ship or boat.

Mult.	Business term	Rel.	Type	Description
0..n	Identification	Att	Identifier	An identifier for this transport means vessel, such as an identifier defined by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the radio call sign, or an external marking.
0..1	Registration	Ass	Vessel_ Country Entity	The country of registration of this transport means vessel.
0..n	Specified	Ass	Vessel Position_ Event Entity	A position event specified for this vessel transport means.

Vessel Country⁹

Description: the entity containing the details of a country associated to a vessel.

Mult.	Business term	Rel.	Type	Description
1	Identification	Att	Identifier	The identifier for this vessel country.

Vessel Position_ Event

Description: The entity containing information obtained related to the position of a vessel.

Mult.	Business term	Rel.	Type	Description
1	Obtained_ Occurrence	Att	DateTime	The date and time when the position of the vessel was taken by the vessel's navigation equipment.
1	Type	Att	Code	The code specifying the type of vessel position event.

⁹ For sake of clarity, the description of Vessel_ Transport Means; Vessel Country entities contains only the part that is necessary for this domain. The complete definition of such entities can be found in the Vessel domain document of the UN/FLUX standard.

0..1	Speed	Att	Measure	The measure of speed of the vessel for this vessel position event.
0..1	Activity_Type	Att	Code	The code specifying the type of activity, such as of the vessel or the crew, at this vessel position event.
1	Specified	Ass	Vessel_ Geographi cal Coordinates Entity	The set of geographical coordinates specified for this vessel position event.

Vessel Geographical Coordinates

Description: The latitude and longitude of a specified place, by which its relative situation on the globe is known. The height above the sea level constitutes a third coordinate.

Mult.	Business term	Rel.	Type	Description
1	Latitude	Att	Measure	The measure of the latitude as an angular distance north or south from the Equator meridian to the meridian of a specific place for this vessel geographical coordinate.
1	Longitude	Att	Measure	The measure of the longitude as an angular distance east or west from the Greenwich meridian to the meridian of a specific place for this vessel geographical coordinate.
0..1	Altitude	Att	Measure	The measure of the altitude that reflects the vertical elevation of an object above a surface for this vessel geographical coordinate.
0..1	System	Att	Identifier	The identifier of the system used for measuring this specified geographical coordinate.

8. FLUX TL ENVELOPE PARAMETERS

The following FLUX TL parameters must be used for transmission of Vessel Position Messages.

Common name	FLUX TL Envelope Tag name	Value	Remark
Dataflow name	DF	urn:un:unece:uncefact:data:standard:FLUXVesselPositionMessage:4	

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Timeout DateTim e	TODT	DateTime (in UTC) of creation of the envelope + 60 minutes.	Value expressed as XSD DateTime in UTC. Must be according to the definition provided in 6(2).
Acknowledg e Receipt	AR	False	Note: a non-delivery message is always sent when the recipient cannot be reached and timeout (TODT) time has expired.

Draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for a consultancy to develop the SIOFA Information System Security Policy (ISSP)

Consultancy for the Development of the SIOFA Information System Security Policy (ISSP)

Project code: SEC 2025-01

1. Background

The Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) is an international organization established to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of fishery resources in the Southern Indian Ocean.

The SIOFA Secretariat is a small structure based in Reunion Island, and its staff consists of 4 people, one Executive Secretary and 3 Officers. Since there is no staff specialized in information technologies or cyber security, all IT-related tasks are assured by the Data Officer.

The Secretariat is in contact with many people from the SIOFA contracting parties, cooperating non-contracting parties and participating fishing entities (CCPs) and rely a lot on email for information exchanges. SIOFA usually hold 3 meetings each year which take place outside of the Secretariat, usually hosted in one CCP country. The SIOFA website is the main tool for providing information and managing meeting documents.

For achieving its objective SIOFA and the Secretariat relies on information systems to store, manage, and exchange sensitive operational, scientific, and administrative data. With growing reliance on digital platforms, cyber threats and lacks of policies may increase risks to the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of sensitive data.

To address this, SIOFA requires a comprehensive Information System Security Policy (ISSP) to provide a structured framework for information security management across all its information systems and devices.

2. Objectives

The objective of this consultancy is to:

- Develop a comprehensive and context-specific Information System Security Policy (ISSP) for SIOFA.
- Ensure that the policy aligns with international best practices and is tailored to the operational environment and mandate of SIOFA. Attention must be paid to the small size of SIOFA and its Secretariat, where there is very limited possibility to increase its budget or staffing.

- Provide recommendations for implementation, including controls, roles and responsibilities, and monitoring mechanisms.

3. Scope of Work

The consultant will undertake the following tasks:

a. Situational Analysis

Review SIOFA's current information systems, infrastructure, workflows, and existing policies.

Assess security risks and vulnerabilities in existing systems and processes, with an emphasis on sensitive information and confidential data.

Identify key stakeholders and data custodians.

b. Policy Development

Develop a ISSP including (but not limited to) the following components:

Policy objectives and scope

Governance and roles/responsibilities

Information classification and handling

Access control policies

Network and system security

Data backup and recovery

Incident response and reporting, including cyber incident and hacking

Physical and environmental security

Training and awareness

Compliance and audit

c. Consultant Engagement

Conduct consultations with SIOFA Secretariat staff and CCP to validate findings and gather input.

Present the draft policy for feedback.

d. Finalization and Handover

Incorporate feedback and submit the final version of the ISSP.

Provide an executive summary and implementation roadmap.

Deliver a short training/implementation session and a presentation for key SIOFA staff.

4. Provision by the Secretariat

The Secretariat will provide the Consultant with the following materials:

- Reports of the Data and Security audits performed in 2021-2022 (ref project SEC 2021-06).
- Current policies and procedures in place
- Current Software and IT service subscriptions

5. Deliverables

- Inception Report – outlining methodology, timeline, and consultation plan (within 2 weeks of contract signing).
- Draft Information System Security Policy.
- Secretariat and CCPs consultation report.
- Final ISSP incorporating feedback.
- Implementation roadmap and training materials.

6. Duration and Location

Duration: Up to 2 months from the signing of the contract.

Location: Remote, with potential virtual meetings with SIOFA Secretariat and other parties.

Starting Date: January 2026

7. Qualifications and Experience

The consultant (individual or company) should possess the following qualifications:

- Advanced degree in Information Security, Computer Science, or related field.
- Minimum of 5 years' experience in developing IT security policies or cybersecurity frameworks
- Demonstrated knowledge of international standards (e.g., ISO/IEC 27001, NIST). Experience working with international or intergovernmental organizations is an advantage.
- Strong analytical, communication, and writing skills.

8. Reporting and Management

The consultant will report to the Executive Secretary of SIOFA.

The consultant will also liaise with the Data Officer and the Compliance Officer for technical aspects.

9. Confidentiality

The consultant shall not release non-public data, restricted or confidential information for conducting this study to any person or any organisation, other than SIOFA Secretariat. Such information will remain the property of the SIOFA Secretariat.

The consultant shall delete all the confidential or restricted information obtained as a part of the contract immediately after the conclusion of the contract.

10. Application Requirements

The applicant(s) should submit a proposal that contains the following items:

- A current CV that summarises the applicant(s) relevant educational background and professional experience.
- A brief proposal outlining the proposed methods and analyses, including a description of how the objectives of the ToR will be achieved.
- A competitive financial proposal, SIOFA budget limit for this work is €10,000.
- Any proposed exclusions to the intellectual property clause.
- Identification of any project risks and associated mitigation and management required to successfully complete the project.
- A statement that identifies any perceived, potential, or actual conflicts of interest of the applicant(s), including those described in paragraph 4 of the SIOFA recruitment procedure (see <https://siofa.org/science/sc-guidelines>);

The applications must be submitted to Thierry Clot, Executive Secretary, thierry.clot@siofa.org by [30 November 2025].

Fisheries Operation Plan Checklist for the Compliance Committee

SUCCINCT DESCRIPTION

Any CP or CNCP or PFE (CCP) seeking to permit a vessel that flies its flag to fish in an exploratory fishery, or to fish in an exploratory fishery with a gear type that has not been used in that fishery for the previous ten years to submit no less than 40 days prior to the next annual meeting of the Compliance Committee (CC) a detailed description of their intended Fisheries Operation Plan for evaluation by the CC.

CCP	
Area	
Target Species	
Proposed Methods of Fishing	
Proposed Maximum Catch / Effort Limit	
Expected Operation Period	
Submission date	

COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This checklist is for the Compliance Committee to assess a submitted Fisheries Operations Plan (FOP) and the Data Collection and Analysis Plan against requirements established under CMM 17 (2024) [...] To assist the Compliance Committee with their deliberations, please pre-fill the Rationale column with a brief justification of how your Fisheries Operation Plan and Data Collection and Analysis Plan address the Compliance Committee consideration. The Compliance Committee will complete the Assessment column.

When conducting its assessment, the Compliance Committee shall also consider advise of the Scientific Committee

The CC assigns a status of either Yes, No, or Partial when evaluating the proponent’s submission.

Fisheries Operation Plan checklist

The assessment by the CC will be categorised as:

1. **Meets the criteria** – all criteria met.
2. **Partially meets the criteria** - (proposed plan will meet the criteria if implemented, but no fishing data have been reported yet).
3. **May not be achieved** – Some elements are included but improvements are required.
4. **Does not meet the criteria**.
5. **Not applicable**

Fisheries Operation Plan Considerations	Response from proponent	Assessment by CC
Does your FOP adequately include the information below (to the extent it is available):		
a. a description of the proposed new and exploratory fishery, including the vessel to be used, area, target species, proposed methods of fishing, proposed maximum catch/effort limits and any distribution of that catch limit among areas or species		
b. an explicit target and limit and/or threshold reference points and a mechanism to adjust any proposed catch limit		
c. specification and full description of the types of fishing gear to be used, including any modifications to gear intended to mitigate the effects of the proposed fishing on non-target and associated or dependent species or the marine ecosystem in which the fishery occurs;		
d. the intended time period covered by the FOP, up to a maximum period of three years;		
e. any biological information on the target species from accepted research such as distribution, abundance, demographic data including genetics, longevity and maturity, and information on stock identity;		
f. details of potential interaction with non-target and associated or dependent species and the marine ecosystem in which the fishery occurs, the extent to which these would be likely to be affected by the proposed fishing activity and any measures that will be taken to mitigate these effects;		
g. the anticipated cumulative impacts of all fishing activity in the area of the proposed new and exploratory fishery if applicable;		

Fisheries Operation Plan Considerations	Response from proponent	Assessment by CC
h. information from other fisheries in the region or similar fisheries elsewhere that may assist in the evaluation of the proposed fishery's potential yield, to the extent that the CCP is able to provide this information		
i. if the proposed fishing activity is bottom fishing, as defined in paragraph [3.b.] of CMM 01(2024), the assessment of the impact of the proposed fishing activity, prepared pursuant to the SIOFA Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment Standard (BFIAS), as defined in paragraph 3.e. of CMM 01(2024); has been submitted and accepted by the SC.		
j. where the target species is also managed by an adjacent Regional Fisheries Management Organisation or similar organisation, a description of that neighbouring fishery sufficient to allow the Scientific Committee to formulate its advice and recommendations in accordance with paragraph 8. And assurance supplied that the correct reporting of these species is in place.		
Does your FOP include all elements included in Annex 2 of CMM 17 (2024)		

Data Collection and Analysis Plan checklist

Data Collection Plan considerations	Response from proponent	Assessment by CC
Is your FOP accompanied by a Data Collection and Analysis Plan (DCAP) for the proposed fishery ?		
<i>If yes, does your DCAP identify;</i>		
Commitments to the collection of data needed and any operational research actions needed to obtain data from the proposed fishery are included to enable an assessment of the stock.		
Demonstration of the feasibility of establishing a fishery and the impact of the proposed fishing activities on non-target, associated or dependent species and the marine ecosystem in which the fishery occurs.		

Data Collection Plan considerations	Response from proponent	Assessment by CC
<i>Does your DCAP require:</i>		
a. a description of the catch, effort and related biological, ecological and environmental data required to undertake the evaluations described in paragraph 20 of CMM 17 (2024)		
b. The dates by which the data must be provided to the Secretariat are included.		
c. a plan for directing fishing effort to allow for the acquisition of relevant data to evaluate the fishery potential and the ecological relationships among harvested, non-target, and associated and dependent populations and the likelihood of adverse impacts is included;		
d. a plan is included for the acquisition of any other research data obtained by fishing vessels, including activities that may require the cooperative activities of scientific observers and the vessel, as may be required by the Scientific Committee to evaluate the fishery potential and the ecological relationships among harvested, non-target, and associated and dependent populations and the likelihood of adverse impacts;		
e. an evaluation of the time scales involved in determining the responses of harvested, dependent and related populations to fishing activities;		
f. details on the analyses that will be used to evaluate population trends, key biological parameters, and to assess sustainability and the fishery impacts		

Scientific Committee Advice on FOP

[Insert SC's Advice on the FOP here]

Compliance Committee recommendations (CC to complete)

The CC discussed the [CCP] Fisheries Operational Plan and Data Collection and Analysis plan and **agreed** that the approach outlined in the Fisheries Operation Plan is [compliant|non-compliant] with the requirements of CMM 17 (2024).

The CC discussed the [CCP] Fisheries Operational Plan and Data Collection and Analysis plan and **agreed** that DCAP is [compliant|non-compliant] with and [likely | unlikely] to meet the requirements of CMM 02 (2023).

Process for the Designation of the Comoros' lobster fishery as a New and Exploratory Fisheries

The expected procedure is as follows;

From MoP12 to the beginning of MoP13 □

The Comoros' lobster fishery to be provisionally authorised under the conditions in Annex I. SC11 will review all documents and data, including FOP, DCAP, "vessel catch and effort data", "observer logbook data", reports required under the provisional monitoring measures (described in the section 2. Provisional Monitoring Measures), and other relevant documents/data required by relevant CMMs. Comoros are encouraged to prepare a draft of CMM stipulated in para 12 of CMM17 (2024) for SC's review or comment. The Comoros also follow revised or new conditions if SC11 recommends any.

After the MoP13 □

The Comoros' lobster fishery can be authorised provided MoP13 approves the review and the recommendations from SC11 and adopts them with a CMM stipulated in para 12 of CMM17 (2024), and formally approve to conduct this fishery as a New and Exploratory Fishery. The Comoros also follow revised or new conditions if MoP recommends any.

Annex XX.1 - Conditions for the Comoros' lobster fishery

- a The vessel shall be subject to a maximum Total Allowable Catch of 300 tonnes (all crustacean species combined) annually.
- b The vessel shall be subject to a maximum Total Allowable Effort of 150 days per calendar year and a maximum of 14 days fishing per seamount per trip.
- c When significant quantities of VME indicator taxa are found (SIOFA CMM 01 Annex 1) in or attached to traps more than 1% of the total lobster weight per trap or more than 0.2 kg, whichever is reached first, the vessel will move on to the next fishing ground one (1) nautical mile away.
- d Gear type shall be limited to single trap method only.

Annex XX.2 - Template for monthly catch reports of lobster fisheries.

Vessel name	
Vessel flag	
Month	
Catch live weight (Kg) (All crustacean species combined)	

Annex XX.3 - Template for daily lobster fisheries reporting to the Secretariat.

Reporting number	
Reporting date	
Vessel name	
Vessel flag	

Trap ID	Set date and time	Haul date and time	Set position (30 minutes resolution)	The total catch per species(kg)	
				<i>Jasus</i>	<i>Projasus</i>
1					
2					
3					
4					

*Alternative procedure when a daily report using Annex III is impossible due to internet disconnection

1. When an internet connection is not available due to unforeseen reason or force majeure, the master of the fishing vessel shall report to its Fisheries Monitoring Centre (FMC) the following;

1) occurrence of an internet disconnection and the reason therefor

2) if it is on the day the vessel sets the first trap in a certain sea mountain during the trip, the set position of the first trap in 30 minutes resolution.

3) if it is on the day the vessel hauls the last trap in a certain sea mountain during the trip, the haul position of that last trap in 30 minutes resolution.

2. FMC shall convey the information listed in 1 to the Secretariat without delay. The Secretariat shall circulate the received information as soon as possible during its business hours.

3. After the internet connection is revived, all the daily reports during the disconnection period shall, without delay, be submitted to the Secretariat using Annex III. The Secretariat shall circulate the received reports as soon as possible during its business hours.

Intervention by the Joint Management Area (JMA) Delegation**Agenda Item 8 – Interim Bottom Fishing Measures****12th Meeting of the Parties to SIOFA (MoP12)****Seychelles/Mauritius, July 2025**

Chair

On behalf of the **Joint Management Area (JMA) of the Mascarene Plateau Region**, jointly administered by the Republic of Mauritius and the Republic of Seychelles under Article 77 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and under the existing provisions of the Treaties signed between the two coastal states, we wish to address the Meeting on **Agenda Item 8 – Interim Bottom Fishing Measures**.

The JMA Delegation once again reaffirms its **serious concern over the continued consideration and potential authorisation of bottom trawling activities** in the JMA region. We have, year after year, reminded this Meeting of the **urgent need to apply the precautionary approach** in accordance with international obligations, particularly given the **fragile, largely unstudied, and potentially vulnerable benthic ecosystems** present in the JMA.

We recall the binding language of **United Nations General Assembly Resolution 61/105**, notably paragraph 83(a), which requires States to **conduct impact assessments consistent with the FAO International Guidelines for Deep-Sea Fisheries in the High Seas (2008)** prior to permitting any bottom fishing activity. **Resolution 64/72** and successive resolutions further reiterate the obligation of States and RFMOs to **ensure that vessels do not engage in such fishing activities until these assessments have been undertaken**. These provisions are not aspirational—they are foundational to responsible ocean governance.

In this context, we underscore that the JMA is **taking proactive steps to strictly adhere to these international commitments**. Before engaging in any commercial activities targeting **sedentary species**, the JMA is promoting **comprehensive scientific and ecological assessment through basin-wide scientific research**. Furthermore, **Exploratory fishery and subsequent Management Plan** are being envisaged prior to any commercial venture to

ensure sustainable and science-based use of these resources, with strong emphasis on precaution and protection of biodiversity.

However, we observe with concern that **neither a management plan exists nor an in situ field environmental assessment** for bottom trawling activities have these been conducted by within the JMA region. This absence of a management framework is deeply problematic and exposes the ecosystem to **significant and unquantified risks**, contrary to the spirit and intent of the UNGA resolutions.

We further draw attention to the recent findings of the **2022 Monaco Explorations** scientific mission in the JMA, which confirmed the **presence of new marine species** and pointed to the high probability of **indigenous, fragile deep-sea ecosystems**. Of particular importance, is the scientific publication titled “New Insights in benthic biodiversity of the Saya de Malha Bank” by Corbari and others in 2025 which clearly characterised its shallow waters habitats with extensive and dense meadow of marine phanerogram. These discoveries reaffirm the **biological and ecological sensitivity of the seabed** in the certain specific part of the JMA and underscore the **urgent need to halt all bottom trawling activities** until independent and peer-reviewed assessments including a proper benthic mapping are completed.

Therefore, the JMA calls upon this Meeting to:

1. **Immediately suspend all bottom trawling activities** within the JMA unless and until full environmental impact assessments are conducted, as required by UNGA Resolution 61/105 paragraph 83(a) and associated international guidelines;
2. Recognise the **absence of a coherent management plan** for these activities as a major governance gap that undermines the principles of the precautionary and ecosystem approaches;
3. Ensure that SIOFA’s actions remain consistent with the evolving standards of international law and scientific responsibility, especially in light of mounting global concern for deep-sea biodiversity and fragile marine ecosystems.

In conclusion, the JMA remains committed to working constructively within this forum to promote **science-based, precautionary, and responsible fisheries**

management, but it cannot condone practices that expose our shared seabed heritage to irreversible harm. We reiterate that the JMA lies within an area of **sovereign rights conferred to Seychelles and Mauritius under Article 77 of UNCLOS** in relation to the seabed and subsoil, and any activity inconsistent with this framework that risks **violating the jurisdictional rights** of the two states is **not in order**. We therefore call for **strict respect for the legal framework of the Law of the Sea** and the promotion of **peaceful, cooperative, and rules-based ocean governance** so that it continues to carry out its activities as mandated in this region.

We urge this Meeting to act with foresight, coherence, and respect for international legal obligations.

CMM 03(~~2016~~2025)³**Conservation and Management Measure for Data Confidentiality and Procedures for access and use of data (Data Confidentiality)****The Meeting of the Parties to the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement;**

RECOGNISING that Article 4(a) of the *Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement* (SIOFA or the Agreement) calls on the Contracting Parties, in giving effect to the duty to cooperate, to adopt measures on the basis of the best scientific evidence available to ensure the long-term conservation of fishery resources, taking into account the sustainable use of such resources and implementing an ecosystem approach to their management;

FURTHER RECOGNISING Article 11(3)(d) of the Agreement which provides that Contracting Parties shall collect and share in a timely manner, complete and accurate data concerning fishing activities by vessels flying its flag operating in the area, in particular on vessel position, retained catch, discarded catch and fishing effort, where appropriate maintaining confidentiality of data as it relates to the application of relevant national legislation; and

RECALLING Article 14 of the Agreement which calls on Contracting Parties to promote transparency in decision making processes and other activities carried out under the Agreement;

ADOPTS the following Conservation and Management Measure (CMM) in accordance with Article 6 of the Agreement:

1. This CMM establishes the policy and procedures on confidentiality of data that will apply to data collected from Contracting Parties, cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CNCs) and Participating Fishing Entities (PFES), collectively CCPs, in accordance with the Agreement and relevant SIOFA CMMs.

Data ~~S~~ubmitted to the Secretariat

2. The policy for releasing catch-and-effort, length-frequency and observer data will be as follows:

Public domain data

a) The following data shall be considered to be “public domain data”:

i) Data for vessels including current flag, name, registration number, international radio call sign, IHS-Fairplay (IMO) number, previous names, port of registry, previous flag, type of vessel, types of fishing methods, length, length type, gross tonnage (and/or gross registered tonnage), power of main engine(s), hold capacity, vessel authorisation start and end dates; and

ii) Observer data grouped by 5° longitude by 5° latitude, stratified by month and by flag State, provided that:

A. the catch of no individual vessel can be identified within a time/area stratum; and

B. the flag State that submitted the data provides its written authorisation that such data be considered to be “public domain data”.

b) The following data shall be considered to be “public domain catch and effort data”:

i) Catch-and-effort and length-frequency data grouped by 5° longitude by 5° latitude by

³ Obsolete references have been updated by 2023 technical edits.

month stratified by fishing method associated with catch and flag State, provided that the catch of no individual vessel can be identified within a time/area stratum. In cases when an individual vessel can be identified, the data will be aggregated to preclude such identification, and will then be “public domain catch and effort data”.

ii) Catch-and-effort and length-frequency data grouped by sub-area by year, stratified by fishing method associated with catch and flag State, in the strict frame of annual international cooperation on fishing data.

~~e) The Secretariat shall keep “public domain catch and effort data” confidential until the Meeting of the Parties has acted on the advice of the Scientific Committee in relation to a SIOFA Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment and SIOFA bottom fishing footprint as provided for under the Conservation and Management Measure for the Interim Management of Bottom Fishing in the SIOFA Agreement Area (CMM 01(2023)). This will not prevent observer data or finer scale catch and effort data being made available by the Secretariat to the Scientific Committee on a confidential basis where required.~~

~~edc) The Secretariat shall compile and disseminate “public domain data”, and “public domain catch and effort data” provided the conditions in paragraph 2(b) are satisfied provided the conditions in paragraph 2(c) are satisfied,~~
through appropriate mechanisms, including the SIOFA website, ~~once developed.~~

Finer level stratification

~~ed) Finer-scale data including catch and effort, length-frequency and observer data will be made available to the Scientific Committee and any of its working groups, on a confidential basis, to undertake its work:~~

i) on a restricted basis for catch-and-effort and length-frequency data grouped by 1° longitude by 1° latitude, provided that it does not identify a single fishing event;

ii) on a confidential basis for other finer-scale data.

~~fe) Catch and effort and length-frequency data grouped at a finer level of time-area stratification will only be released with written authorisation from the flag State that submitted the data. Each such data release will also require the specific permission of the Secretariat.~~

~~gf) Individuals requesting the data are required to provide a description of the research project, including the objectives, methodology and intentions for publication. Prior to publication, the manuscript should be cleared by the Secretariat. The data are released only for use in the specified research project and the data must be destroyed upon completion of the project. However, with written authorisation from the flag State that submitted the data, catch-and-effort and length-frequency data may be released for long-term usage for research purposes, and in such cases the data need not be destroyed. Those individuals requesting data shall adhere to the SIOFA standard operating procedure for data use and data requests (Annex L of MoP9 Report) available on the website.~~

~~hg) The identity of individual vessels will be hidden in finer-level data unless the individual requesting this information can justify its necessity and the flag State that submitted the data provides its written authorisation.~~

~~ih) Individuals requesting data shall provide a report of the results of the research project to the SIOFA Secretariat for subsequent forwarding to the sources of the data.~~

2 bis) VMS data shall be considered confidential data and shall be processed in accordance with the specific requirements of CMM 16([2025])(Vessel Monitoring System) whereby ‘processed’ refers to the collection, recording, organisation, structuring, storage, retrieval, consultation, use, disclosure by transmission, deletion, dissemination or otherwise making available of VMS data.

~~2 ter) Economic information such as catch landing value, vessel company turnover and crew wages will be considered:~~

~~a) "Public domain data" when it corresponds, at minimum, to the data of [three] vessels or aggregated at the country level;~~

~~b) Confidential when it doesn't meet the sufficient level of aggregation to be considered as public domain data.~~

Economic information:

3 Economic information such as catch landing value, vessel company turnover and crew wages will be considered :

a) "Public domain data" when it corresponds, at minimum, to the data of [three] vessels or aggregated at the country level;

b) Confidential when it doesn't meet the sufficient level of aggregation to be considered as public domain data.

Procedures for the safeguarding and securing of records

44. Procedures for safeguarding records and databases will be as follows:

a) Access to logbook-level information, VMS data or detailed observer data will be restricted to SIOFA staff members who require these records for their official duties. Each staff member having access to these records will be required to sign an attestation recognising the restrictions on the use and disclosure of the information.

b) Logbook and observer records will be kept locked, under the specific responsibility of the Data Officer/Manager. These sheets will only be released to authorised SIOFA staff members for the purpose of data input, editing or verification. Copies of these records will be authorised only for legitimate purposes and will be subjected to the same restrictions on access and storage as the originals.

c) Databases will be encrypted to preclude access by unauthorised persons. Full access to the database will be restricted to the Data Officer/Manager and to senior SIOFA staff members requiring access to these data for official purposes, under the authority of the SIOFA Executive Secretary. Staff entrusted with data input, editing and verification will be provided with access to those functions and data sets required for their work.

c bis) CCPs and the Secretariat shall take appropriate measures to protect all data against accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorized disclosure or access, and against all unauthorized forms of processing.

Data submitted to the Scientific Committee

45. Data submitted to the Scientific Committee and any of its working groups will be retained by the Secretariat or made available for other analyses only with the permission of the flag State that submitted the data.

46. The above rules of confidentiality will apply to all members of the Scientific Committee and any of its working groups.

⁴ Applicable in situations where economic information is voluntarily provided by CCPs.

6.14. The Secretariat shall inform the MoP of measures taken to implement these confidentiality and security provisions.

CMM 07(2024)³**Conservation and Management Measure for Vessel Authorisation and Notification to Fish (Vessel Authorisation)****The Meeting of the Parties to the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement;**

RECOGNISING that Article 6(1)(h) of the *Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement* (SIOFA or the Agreement) calls on the Meeting of the Parties to develop, *inter alia*, a system of verification to incorporate vessel monitoring and observation;

NOTING that Article 1(i) of the Agreement defines 'fishing vessel' as any vessel used or intended for fishing, including a mothership, any other vessel directly engaged in fishing operations, and any vessel engaged in transshipment;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the provisions of Article 11(2) of the Agreement which provides that no Contracting Party shall allow any fishing vessel entitled to fly its flag to be used for fishing in the SIOFA Area of Application (Agreement Area) unless it has been authorised to do so by the appropriate authority or authorities of that Contracting Party;

ADOPTS the following Conservation and Management Measure (CMM) in accordance with Article 6 of the Agreement:

1. The Meeting of the Parties shall establish a SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels for fishing vessels authorised to fish in the Agreement Area. For the purpose of this CMM, fishing vessels that are not entered onto the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels are deemed not to be authorised to fish for, retain on board, tranship or land fishery resources in the Agreement Area⁴.
2. Each Contracting Party, cooperating non-Contracting Party and Participating Fishing Entity (CCP) shall submit electronically to the Executive Secretary the following data for each of the vessels flying their flag that are authorised to operate in the Agreement Area. The vessels shall be entered onto the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels only if the following information has been submitted⁵:
 - a. name of vessel, registration number, previous names (if known), and port of registry;
 - b. previous flag (if any), using codes;
 - c. International Radio Call Sign (if any);
 - d. IMO Number (if required by IMO);
 - e. name and address of owner or owners;
 - f. type of vessel (using appropriate ISSCFV codes);

³ CMM 07(2024) Vessel Authorisation supersedes CMM 07(2022) Vessel Authorisation

⁴ Until such time as the Meeting of the Parties adopts a framework governing research cruises in the Agreement Area, the Meeting of the Parties may authorise research vessels from a non-CCP to conduct a research cruise which may include limited fishing for fishery resources without being included on the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels. The MoP may request any information it needs for considering the authorization of such research activities, and may apply any terms and conditions to authorized research activities it deems necessary.

⁵ The Secretariat shall provide advice to the relevant CCP within two business day after initially receiving information from the CCP, if the minimum information requirements have not been met. The relevant CCP shall promptly provide requested information or explanation to the Secretariat.

- g. length and length type (e.g. LOA, LBP);
 - h. name and address of operator (manager) or operators (managers) (if any);
 - i. type of fishing method or methods (using appropriate ISSCFG codes);
 - j. gross tonnage (GT);
 - k. power of main engine or engines (kW);
 - l. Fish hold capacity (cubic metres);
 - m. Freezer type (if applicable);
 - n. Number of freezing units (if applicable);
 - o. Freezing capacity (if applicable);
 - p. Vessel communication types and numbers (e.g. INMARSAT A, B and C, VSAT numbers);
 - q. certified drawings or description of all fish holds;
 - r. the following Automatic Location Communicator (ALC) details⁶:
 - i. Model and brand;
 - ii. ALC unique identifier;
 - iii. Service provider (e.g. INMARSAT/IRIDIUM/ARGOS); and
 - s. Good quality, high resolution digital images of the vessel of appropriate brightness and contrast, no older than 5 years old:
 - one digital image showing the starboard side of the vessel displaying its full overall length and complete structural features;
 - one digital image showing the port side of the vessel displaying its full overall length and complete structural features; and
 - one digital image of the stern taken directly from astern.
3. CCPs shall ensure that the data referred to in Paragraph 2 on the vessels flying their flag authorised to fish in the Agreement Area is kept up to date. CCPs shall inform the Executive Secretary of any modification regarding the vessel data, including authorisation status of current fishing vessels and any new vessels, within 15 days after such modification.
4. The Executive Secretary shall maintain the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels. A summary of the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels, except the information in paragraph 2. e, h, and p-r (inclusive), shall be made publicly available on the SIOFA website.
5. Each CCP shall:
- a. authorise the vessels flying their flag to operate in the Agreement Area only if they are able to fulfil in respect of these vessels the requirements and responsibilities under the Agreement, and all relevant SIOFA CMMs;

⁶ Following the conclusion of the 12th Meeting of the Parties (MoP12), the Executive Secretary shall identify vessels, if any, on the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels for which CCPs have not submitted all ALC details. Such vessels shall be marked as 'incomplete' in the Record until all required details have been submitted. By 31 July 2025, the Executive Secretary shall write to CCPs whose vessels have incomplete ALC details and request that these CCPs either provide the outstanding information or request the removal of such vessels from the Record by 31 December 2025 at the latest.

- b. take necessary measures to ensure that the vessels flying their flag comply with all relevant SIOFA CMMs;
 - c. take necessary measures to ensure that the vessels flying their flag that are on the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels keep on board valid certificates of vessel registration and valid authorisation to fish and/or to undertake fishing related activities;
 - d. ensure that the vessels flying their flag on the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels have no history of IUU fishing, or, if those vessels have such history, the new owners have provided sufficient evidence demonstrating that the previous owners and operators have no legal, beneficial or financial interest in, or control over those vessels, or that having taken into account all relevant facts, its vessels are not engaged in or associated with IUU fishing;
 - e. ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners and operators of its registered vessels on the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels are not engaged in or associated with fishing activities conducted in the Agreement Area by vessels not registered in the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels; and
 - f. take necessary measures to ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners and/or operators of the vessels on the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels are citizens, residents or legal entities within its jurisdiction so that any enforcement or punitive actions can be effectively taken against them.
6. Each CCP shall take measures, under their applicable legislation, to prohibit the fishing and fishing related activities on fishery resources covered by the Agreement by vessels which are not registered in the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels.
 7. Each CCP shall, as soon as practicable, notify the Secretariat of any evidence showing that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting vessels not registered on the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels are operating in the Agreement Area.

CMM 12(~~2024~~2025)³**Conservation and Management Measure for Sharks⁴ (Sharks)****The Meeting of the Parties to the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement:**

RECALLING the relevant provisions of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement, in particular Article 4;

FURTHER RECALLING Article 4(c) of the Agreement that the precautionary approach shall be applied in accordance with the Code of Conduct and the 1995 Agreement, whereby the absence of adequate scientific information shall not be used as a reason for postponing or failing to take conservation and management measures;

CONSIDERING that the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) International Plan of Action for Sharks calls on States to cooperate through regional fisheries organizations to ensure the sustainability of shark stocks;

RECOGNIZING the need to improve the collection of species-specific data on catch, effort, discards, and trade as a basis for improving the conservation and management of shark stocks;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the Scientific Committee have recommended the Meeting of the Parties to take urgent action to limit the mortality of deepwater sharks associated with the bottom longline fishery in Subareas 2, 4 and 5, consistent with previous advice from SC8 and SC9.

RECALLING that the FAO International Plan of Action for Sharks calls on States to encourage full use of dead sharks, to facilitate improved species-specific catch and landings data and monitoring of shark catches and the identification and reporting of species-specific biological and trade data;

FURTHER RECALLING that United Nations General Assembly, adopted consensus Resolutions every year since 2007 (62/177, 63/112, 64/72, 65/38, 66/68, 67/79, 68/71, 69/109, 70/75 and 71/123), calling upon States to take immediate and concerted action to improve the implementation of and compliance with existing regional fisheries management organization or arrangement measures that regulate shark fisheries and incidental catch of sharks, in particular those measures which prohibit or restrict fisheries conducted solely for the purpose of harvesting shark fins, and, where necessary, to consider taking other measures, as appropriate, such as requiring that all sharks be landed with each fin naturally attached;

ADOPTS the following Conservation and Management Measures (CMM) in accordance with Article 4 and 6 of the Agreement:

1. This CMM applies to all fishing vessels of Contracting Parties, cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CNCs) and participating fishing entities (PFEs) to the Agreement (collectively CCPs), engaged in fishing operations in the SIOFA Area of Application (the Agreement Area).
2. CCPs shall ensure that fishing vessels flying their flag do not target any deep-sea shark species listed in Annex 1 within the Agreement Area, until the Scientific Committee defines and the Meeting of the Parties agrees on possible appropriate fishing mortality and harvest levels for any of these species.
3. Fishing in subarea 2 shall be subjected to a bycatch limit for Portuguese dogfish (*Centroscymsus coelolepis*) of 767.6t, ~~starting from 1st January 2024~~. The fishing season for this catch limit is the calendar year.

³ CMM 12(~~2024~~2025) (Sharks) supersedes CMM 12(~~2023~~2024) (Sharks).

⁴ The term "sharks" refers to Chondrichthyes for the purposes of this CMM, as defined by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)

3bis. Bottom longline vessels fishing in subarea 4 shall move at least 5nm from any set where catch composition is comprised of more than 50% deepwater sharks. The vessel shall not set a line within 5nm from any area where catch composition was greater than 50% deepwater sharks for the remainder of the trip.

3ter. Bottom longline fishing shall be prohibited in subarea 5 until a Portuguese dogfish stock assessment for the SIOFA Area is presented and the Meeting of the Parties has endorsed the Scientific Committee's advice.

4. Subarea 2 is defined as ~~the area which~~:

- South border is 36° South,
- East border is 49° East,
- West border is 40° East,
- North border are EEZs.

4bis. Subarea 4 is defined as:

- South border is 36° South and EEZ.
- East border is 90° East.
- West border is 80° East and EEZ.
- North border is 20° South.

The southwest corner is cut at the edge by the Martin-de-Vivès/Saint-Paul EEZ.

4ter. Subarea 5 is defined as:

- South border is 36° South.
- East border is 105° East.
- West border is 90° East.
- North border is 25° South.

5. To facilitate the implementation of the catch limit in paragraph 3, CCPs that have caught Portuguese dogfish in subarea 2 shall provide monthly reports of Portuguese dogfish catches to the Secretariat by the twentieth day of the following month. Once 80% of the catch limit (614t) has been taken, the Secretariat shall notify all CCPs that weekly reporting is required. Upon receiving such a notification from the Secretariat, CCPs who have vessels fishing in subarea 2 shall provide weekly reports to the Secretariat by close of business Wednesday for the preceding seven days.
6. The Secretariat shall notify all CCPs once this catch limit is reached. On receiving a notification from the Secretariat that the catch limit has been reached, CCPs shall ensure that their flagged vessels fishing in subarea 2 do not retain any Portuguese dogfish for the remainder of the year⁵.
7. CCPs shall ensure that fishing vessels flying their flag record and submit all reporting requirements as per CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards) for all deep-sea sharks to the lowest taxonomical level possible when engaged in fishing for fishery resources.
8. By 2026~~9~~ the Scientific Committee shall advise the Meeting of the Parties on the need to adopt any appropriate by-catch limits and/or mitigation for relevant SIOFA deep sea shark species and fleets, including on scientific and data needs for underpinning the elaboration of such advice and on possible appropriate fishing mortality and harvest levels for any of these species (as per paragraph 2).
9. CCPs shall, where possible, undertake research to identify ways to make all relevant fishing gears more selective to minimise deep sea shark by-catch and shall provide relevant information to the Scientific Committee.

⁵ The retention prohibition shall apply to any gears in the water following notification of the catch limit being reached. Vessels with gears in the water at the time that the notification is received may retain Portuguese dogfish that are dead at time of haul and shall release all live Portuguese dogfish.

10. CCPs shall, where possible, conduct research to identify shark nursery areas in the Agreement Area and provide relevant information to the Scientific Committee.
11. This CMM shall be reviewed every second year by the Scientific Committee and the Compliance Committee, unless the Meeting of the Parties decides otherwise.

ANNEX 1: List of “**high risk**” and “of concern” deep sea shark species for the purpose of this CMM.⁶

FAO code	English common name	French common name	Scientific name
APD	Smallbelly catshark	Holbiche artouca	<i>Apristurus indicus</i>
BZL	Narrowhead catshark		<i>Bythaelurus tenuicephalus</i>
BZO	Bach’s catshark		<i>Bythaelurus bachi</i>
CYO	Portuguese dogfish	Pailona commun	<i>Centroscymnus coelolepis</i>
CYP	Longnose velvet dogfish	Pailona à long nez	<i>Centroselachus crepidater</i>
DCA	Birdbeak dogfish	Squale savate	<i>Deania calceus</i>
DWG	Cristina’s skate		<i>Bathyraja tunae</i>
ETP	Smooth lanternshark	Sagre nain	<i>Etmopterus pusillus</i>
EZT	Blue-eye lanternshark		<i>Etmopterus viator</i>
EZU	Whitecheek lanternshark		<i>Etmopterus alphas</i>
ETB	Blurred smooth lantern shark		<i>Etmopterus bigelowi</i>
GUP	Gulper shark	Squale-chagrin commun	<i>Centrophorus granulosus</i>
GUQ	Leafscale gulper shark	Squale-chagrin de l'Atlantique	<i>Centrophorus squamosus</i>
CPU	Little gulper shark	Petit squale-chagrin	<i>Centrophorus uyato</i>
HCR	Pacific longnose chimaera	Chimère à nez rigide	<i>Harriotta raleighana</i>
HXC	Frilled shark	Requin lézard	<i>Chlamydoselachus anguineus</i>
HXN	Bigeyed sixgill shark	Requin-vache	<i>Hexanchus nakamurai</i>
JBY	Dusky Snout catshark		Bythaelurus naylori
LMO	Goblin shark	Requin lutin	<i>Mitsukurina owstoni</i>
QUK	Shortspine spurdog	Aiguillat épinette	<i>Squalus mitsukurii</i>
RFI	Paddlenose chimaera		<i>Rhinochimaera africana</i>
SDQ	Longsnout dogfish	Squale-savate à long nez	<i>Deania quadrispinosa</i>
SDU	Arrowhead dogfish	Squale-savate lutin	<i>Deania profundorum</i>
SCK	Kitefin shark	Squale liche	<i>Dalatias licha</i>
SSQ	Velvet dogfish		<i>Zameus squamulosus</i>
RZZ	Southern sleeper shark		<i>Somniosus antarcticus</i>
YSM	Largespine velvet dogfish	Pailona austral	<i>Scymnodon macracanthus</i>
ZZC	Dark-mouth chimaera		<i>Chimaera buccanigella</i>
ZZD	Falkor chimaera		<i>Chimaera diderae</i>
ZZE	Seafarer’s ghost shark		<i>Chimaera willwatchi</i>

⁶ As modified by the SIOFA SC in Annex [N-D2](#) of the [SC9-SC10](#) report.

CMM 13(20252)³

Conservation and Management Measure on mitigation of seabirds bycatch in ~~demersal and pelagic longlines and other demersal~~ fishing gear fisheries within the SIOFA Agreement Area (Mitigation of Seabirds Bycatch)

The Meeting of the Parties to the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement:

RECALLING the relevant provisions of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement, in particular Article 4 and 6;

CONSIDERING that the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) International Plan of Action for Seabirds calls on States to cooperate through regional fisheries organizations to mitigate incidental by-catch of seabirds;

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

FURTHER TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the FAO Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries concerning best practices to reduce incidental catch of seabirds in capture fisheries;

NOTING the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) has established best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures for trawl and demersal and pelagic longline fisheries;

ALSO NOTING that the seabird interaction data show low interactions due to the low densities of seabirds in some fishing areas, but also that mitigation measures that are currently voluntary applied in some trawl fleets resulting in showing low levels of seabird vessel interaction records;

ADOPTS the following CMM in accordance with Article 4 and 6 of the Agreement:

Application and geographic scope

1. This CMM applies to all fishing vessels of Contracting Parties, cooperating non-Contracting Parties and participating fishing entities to the Agreement (collectively CCPs), engaged in fishing operations in the SIOFA Area of Application (Agreement Area) for fishery resources as defined in article 1(f) of the Agreement, south of 25°S.

General provisions for ~~demersal and pelagic longliners and Other demersal~~all fishing gears

2. ~~Until such time that the SIOFA Scientific Committee has developed advice for the Meeting of Parties on the most appropriate response to mitigate and minimise incidental bycatch of seabirds by demersal and pelagic fishing gears deployed in the Agreement Area,~~ CCPs shall require any vessel flying their flag ~~using demersal or~~

³ CMM 13(20252) (Mitigation of seabirds bycatch) supersedes CMM-2019/1313(2022) (Mitigation of seabirds bycatch).

~~pelagic longlines or other demersal fishing gears and~~ operating in the area south of 25°S to apply the following mitigation measures:

- a. ~~With the exception of squid jigging vessels that use lights as part of their normal fishing practice, the location and level of lighting shall be arranged so as to minimise illumination directed out from the vessel, consistent with the safe operation of the vessel and the safety of the crew;~~
- b. information about birds colliding with the vessel, or caught by its gears will be recorded in accordance with CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards); and
- c. every effort should be made to ensure that seabirds captured alive during fishing operations are released alive and, ~~for longlining,~~ that any hooks are removed without jeopardising the life of the bird concerned wherever possible.

2 bis. For longline vessels the provisions below apply, for non-longline vessels CCPs should encourage any vessels flying their flag to apply additional mitigation measures ~~in with reference to~~ ACAP best practices (e.g. Best Practice Advice for Reducing the Impact of Pelagic and Demersal Trawl Fisheries on Seabirds), other practices implemented in or around the Area, ~~or the guidelines outlined in Annex 4,~~ especially when/ where seabird interactions are relatively high.

Provisions applying to demersal longliners

3. ~~CCPs shall require any demersal longliner flying their flag and operating in the area south of 25°S to apply the following mitigation measures:~~

- a. ~~any vessel catching a total of three (3) seabirds in a single season shall immediately change to night setting only (i.e. setting only during the hours of darkness between the times of nautical twilight);~~
- b. ~~vessels are encouraged to use white colour lines, to increase visibility which decreases the bycatches of birds;~~
- c. ~~there shall be no discharging of offal or discards immediately prior to and during the deployment or retrieval of fishing gear; and~~
- d. ~~the location and level of lighting shall be arranged so as to minimise illumination directed out from the vessel, consistent with the safe operation of the vessel and the safety of the crew.~~

3. ~~For demersal longliners of 25 metres or more. CCPs shall require any demersal longliner flying their flag and operating in the area south of 25°S to apply the following mitigation measures: Until such time that the SIOFA Scientific Committee has developed advice for the Meeting of the Parties on the most appropriate response to mitigate and minimise incidental bycatch of seabirds by demersal fishing gears deployed in the Agreement Area, CCPs shall require any demersal longliners flying their flag and operating in the area south of 25°S to apply the following mitigation measures:~~

~~a. any vessel catching a total of three (3) seabirds in a single season shall immediately change to night setting only (i.e. setting only during the hours of darkness between the times of nautical twilight);~~

~~b. vessels are encouraged to use white colour lines, to increase visibility which decreases the bycatches of birds;~~

a. at least one bird scaring line (in accordance with Annex 1) shall be deployed when setting longlines and at least one bird exclusion device (BED, in accordance with Annex 2) shall be used to prevent birds entering the hauling area, to the extent allowed by prevailing weather;

~~c. there shall be no discharging of offal or discards immediately prior to and during the deployment or retrieval of fishing gear;~~

b. fishing vessels using autoline systems shall add weights to the hookline or use integrated weight (IW) hooklines while deploying longlines. IW longlines of a minimum of 50 g/m or attachment to non-IW longlines of 5 kg weights at 50 to 60 m intervals are recommended;

c. fishing vessels using the Spanish method of longline fishing shall release weights before line tension occurs; traditional weights (made of rocks or concrete) of at least 8.5 kg mass shall be used, spaced at intervals of no more than 40 m, or traditional weights of at least 6 kg mass shall be used, spaced at intervals of no more than 20 m, or solid steel weights of at least 5 kg mass shall be used, spaced at intervals of no more than 40 m;

d. fishing vessels using the trotline system exclusively (not a mix of trotlines and the Spanish system within the same longline) shall deploy weights only at the distal end of the droppers in the trotline. Weights shall be traditional weights of at least 6 kg or solid steel weights of at least 5 kg; and

e. fishing vessels alternating between the use of the Spanish system and trotline method shall use:

~~i. (i)~~ for the Spanish system: line weighting shall conform to the provisions in paragraph 3 f;

~~d. ii. (ii)~~ for the trotline method: line weighting shall be either 8.5 kg traditional weights or 5 kg steel weights attached on the hook-end of all droppers in the trotline at no more than 80 m intervals.

4. For demersal longliners of less than 25 m ~~CCPs shall require any demersal longliners flying their flag and operating in the area south of 25°S to apply at least one of the following mitigation measures; at least one of the following measures shall apply:~~

a. at least one bird scaring line (in accordance with Annex 1) shall be deployed when setting lines, and at least one bird exclusion device (BED, see specifications in Annex 2), shall be used to prevent birds entering the hauling area, to the extent allowed by prevailing weather;

b. fishing vessels using autoline systems shall add weights to the hookline or use integrated weight (IW) hooklines while deploying longlines. IW

longlines shall have a minimum of 50 g/m or a weight of a minimum of 5 kg attached to non-IW longlines at 50 to 60 m intervals; and

- c. lines shall be set only at night (i.e. during the hours of darkness between the times of nautical twilight). The exact times of nautical twilight are set forth in the Nautical almanac tables for the relevant latitude, local time and date.

Provisions applying to other demersal fishing gears

- 6. In addition to the provisions in paragraph 2, CCPs shall require any fishing vessel flying their flag and operating in the Agreement Area south of 25°S using demersal pots or traps to ensure the cleanliness of the traps and pots not to attract birds, and ensure that buoy lines shall not be left floating at the surface.

Provisions applying to pelagic longliners

- ~~7. Until such time that the SIOFA Scientific Committee has developed advice for the Meeting of the Parties on the most appropriate response to mitigate and minimise incidental bycatch of seabirds by pelagic fishing gears deployed in the Agreement Area, In addition to the provisions in paragraph 2, CCPs shall require any pelagic longliners flying their flag and engaged in fishing operations under this Agreement for fishery resources as defined in article 1(f) of the Agreement in the area south of 25°S to use at least two of the three mitigation measures outlined in Annex 3.~~

Reporting provisions

- ~~10.8. CCPs shall record all seabird bycatch as specified in CMM-02(2023⁴) and shall report these data annually, to the SC in the CCP's country report. [In addition, CCP's shall report to the Secretariat any applications of Paragraph 9, and the secretariat shall provide a summary of reporting under Paragraph 9 to the Scientific Committee.]~~

Final provisions

- ~~10.9. The Scientific Committee and the Compliance Committee will review this CMM every four years, unless the Meeting of the Parties decides otherwise.~~

⁴ Or any subsequent replacements.

ANNEX 1: Specification of bird scaring line for longliners

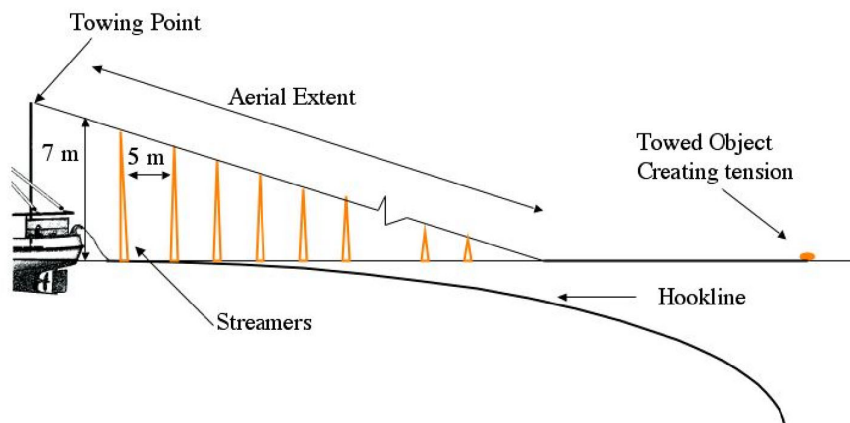


Figure A1-1: Specifications of the longline bird scaring lines.

1. The aerial extent of the bird scaring line, being that part of the line supporting the streamers, is the effective seabird deterrent component of a bird scaring line. Vessels are encouraged to optimise the aerial extent of the bird scaring line and ensure that it protects the hookline as far astern of the vessel as possible, even in crosswinds.
2. The bird scaring line shall be attached to either the port or starboard sides of the vessel.
3. The bird scaring line shall be a minimum of 150 m in length and include an object towed at the seaward end to create tension to maximise aerial coverage. The object towed should be maintained directly behind the attachment point to the vessel such that in crosswinds the aerial extent of the bird scaring line is over the hookline.
4. Branched streamers, each comprising two strands of a minimum of 3 mm diameter brightly coloured plastic tubing (or cord, shall be attached no more than 5 m apart commencing 5 m from the point of attachment of the bird scaring line to the vessel and thereafter along the aerial extent of the bird scaring line. Where tubing is used for the branched streamers, the tubing should be of a type that is manufactured to be protected from ultraviolet radiation.
5. Streamer length shall range between minimums of 6.5 m from the stern to 1 m for the seaward end. When a bird scaring line is fully deployed, the branched streamers shall be of sufficient length to reach the sea surface in the absence of wind and swell. Swivels or a similar device should be placed in the bird scaring line in such a way as to prevent streamers being twisted around the bird scaring line. Each branched streamer may also have a swivel or other device at its attachment point to the bird scaring line to prevent fouling of individual streamers.
6. A spare bird scaring line shall be carried and deployed in the event of loss or damage of a bird scaring line.

Longline Vessels $\geq 25\text{m}$ in length

7. Each bird scaring line shall be suspended from a point a minimum of 7 m above the water at the stern of the point where the hookline enters the water.

Longline Vessels < 25 m in length

8. The bird scaring line shall be suspended from a point a minimum of 6 m above the water at the stern of the point where the hookline enters the water.
9. Streamers may be modified over the first 15 m to prevent tangling.
10. The bird scaring line should achieve an aerial extent of at least 75 m when setting at ≥ 4 knots or 50 m is setting at speeds < 4 knots.

ANNEX 2: Specification of Bird Exclusion Devices (BEDs) for demersal longliners

BEDs shall have the following operational characteristics:

1. deterrence of birds from flying directly into the area where the line is being hauled;
and
2. prevention of birds that are sitting on the surface from swimming into the hauling bay area.

ANNEX 3 : Mitigation measures for pelagic longliners

Mitigation	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), in accordance with the specifications provided in Annex 1	Bird-scaring lines shall be deployed during the entire longline setting to deter birds from approaching the branch line.	For vessels greater than or equal to 35 m: • Deploy at least 1 bird-scaring line. Where practical, vessels are encouraged to use a second tori pole and bird scaring line at times of high bird abundance or activity; both tori lines should be deployed simultaneously, one on each side of the line being set. • Aerial extent of bird-scaring lines must be greater than or equal to 100 m. • Long streamers of sufficient length to reach the sea surface in calm conditions must be used. • Long streamers must be at intervals of no more than 5m. For vessels less than 35 m: • Deploy at least 1 bird-scaring line. • Aerial extent must be greater than or equal to 75m. • Long and/or short (but greater than 1 m in length) streamers must be used and placed at intervals as follows: - o Short: intervals of no more than 2 m. - o Long: intervals of no more than 5 m for the first 55 m of bird scaring line. Additional design and deployment guidelines for bird-scaring lines are provided in Annex I of this CMM.
Line weighting	Line weights to be deployed on the snood prior to setting.	Greater than a total of 45 g attached within 1 m of the hook or; Greater than a total of 60 g attached within 3.5 m of the hook or; Greater than a total of 98 g weight attached within 4 m of the hook.

Annex 4: Guidelines for trawl vessel seabird mitigation

1. In addition to the provisions in paragraph 2 of CMM13(2025), CCPs should encourage any fishing trawler flying their flag and operating in the SIOFA area south of 25°S to apply the following mitigation measures:

- a. Vessels should if feasible adopt shooting and hauling procedures that minimise the time that the net is lying on the surface of the water with the meshes slack. Net maintenance should, to the extent possible, not be carried out with the net in the water;
- b. Nets should be cleaned prior to shooting to remove residue of fish or other items that may attract seabirds;
- c. Offal or discards should not be discharged immediately prior to or during deployment or retrieval of fishing gear. The period of deployment is defined as the period from shooting the net until the doors are released, retrieval is the time between attachment of the doors at the stern till the net is on deck;
- d. Seabird mitigation, should if feasible be deployed during fishing operations to prevent seabird from flying around the stern of the vessel or prevent seabirds from interacting with the fishing gear;
 - i. If 'Bird Bafflers', are used they should be deployed prior to the fishing gear being deployed, and should remain in place until all fishing gear is removed from the water (see example specifications in Annex 4 Figure A4-1);
 - ii. If bird scaring lines are used (see example specifications in Annex 4 Figure A4-2) they should be deployed immediately after shooting and retrieved before hauling
- e. Vessels should carry materials for construction, replacement, and repair of bird scaring lines in the event of changes to seabird abundance or behaviour (par 1. b).

2. In the event that a vessel causes 3 or more threatened seabird mortalities in the same calendar year. In addition to the provisions in paragraphs 2, 3 and 8, the following additional seabird mitigation measures should be added for this vessel. The following additional measures should remain in place until the incidences have been reviewed by the CCP and appropriate mitigation actions have been implemented:

- a. There should be no discharging of offal or discards immediately prior to and during the deployment or retrieval of fishing. The period of deployment is defined as the period from shooting the net until the doors are released, retrieval is the time between attachment of the doors at the stern till the net is on deck;

- b. In the event that the seabird mortalities are from warp strikes, bird scaring streamer lines **should** be deployed immediately after shooting and retrieved before hauling, unless their deployment is in conflict with vessel safety priorities in poor sea conditions (see example specifications in Annex 4 Figure A4-2);
- c. Net monitor cables⁵ **should** not be used. Where this is impracticable:
 - i. a snatch block **should** be installed at the stern of a vessel to draw the net monitoring cable close to the water and thus reduce its aerial extent; and
 - ii. bird scaring lines **should** be deployed and specifically positioned to deter birds away from net monitoring cables while fishing.

After this **review process** has been completed the provisions of paragraph 1 **should** be reapplied.

Specification of Bird Bafflers

1. Exact design and placement will be contingent on vessel shape.
2. Each boom **should** extend outwards not less than four metres from the side or stern of the vessel (Figure A4-1).
3. Dropper lines **should** be attached to the booms and be no more than 2 metres apart.
4. Plastic cones, rods or other brightly coloured and durable material **should** be attached to the ends of the dropper lines, so that the bottom of the cone, rod or material is not more than 50 centimetres above the water, in the absence of wind and swell.
5. Lines or webbing should be attached between the dropper lines to prevent tangling.

⁵ A net monitoring cable (i.e. net-sonde cable or third wire) is defined as “a wire commonly suspended from the trawl gantry running to net monitoring equipment attached directly to the net” (CCAMLR).



Figure A4-1: Bird baffle deployed. Seabirds are impeded from flying round the stern of the vessel.

Specification of Bird Scaring Lines for Demersal and Mid-water Trawlers

6. The main line **should** be at least 50 metres in length.
7. Streamers **should** be attached no more than 5 metres apart and **must** be long enough to extend beyond the point at which warp and net monitoring cables reach the water's surface. It is recommended that for every metre of block height 5 metres of bird scaring line be deployed.
8. It is essential that streamers are made from semi-flexible tubing of high visibility. The recommended material is UV-protected fluorescent red polythene tubing. Alternative streamer materials such as fire hose; old waterproofs and dark coloured tubing are not acceptable.
9. To avoid deflection of bird scaring lines away from cables in strong cross winds, the bird scaring lines must tow an object attached to the seaward end of line to create tension and keep the line straight. It is recommended that for every metre of block height, 1.2 kg of terminal object drag weight be used. **The towed object can be linked to the warp with a vertical line using a shackle (Figure A4-2) for better coverage of the warp area.**
10. The lines **should** be mounted outboard of the trawl blocks on both the port and starboard sides.
11. Streamer lines **should** be deployed once the trawl doors are submerged **during setting** and **should be** retrieved as net hauling commences. It is important to retrieve the streamer lines before hauling as vessels often go astern during this

process. —This can suck the buoys underwater and lead to entanglement problems.

12. A spare streamer line **should** be carried and deployed in the event of loss or damage of a line.

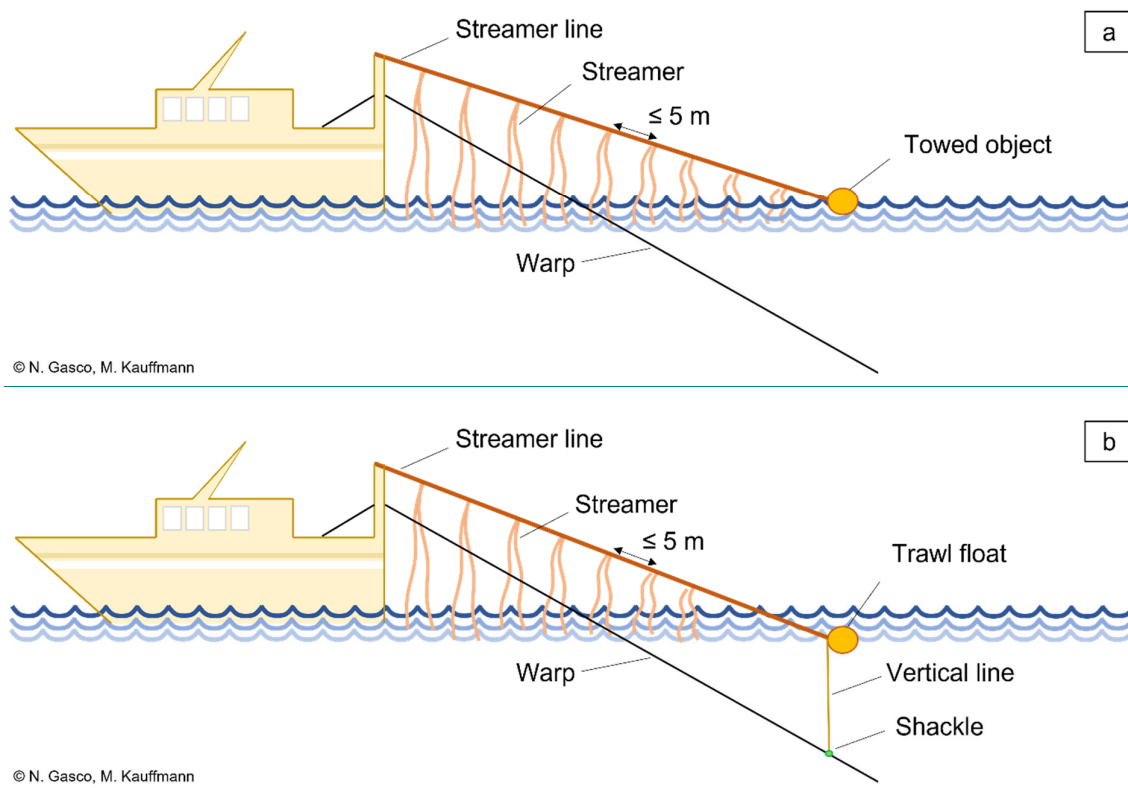


Figure A4-2: Examples of bird scaring lines either free from the warp (a) or linked to the warp with a shackle (b).

CMM 15(20254)³**Conservation and Management Measure for the Management of Demersal Stocks in the Agreement Area (Management of Demersal Stocks)****The Meeting of the Parties to the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement;**

RECOGNISING that Article 4(a) of the *Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement* (the Agreement) calls on the Contracting Parties, in giving effect to the duty to cooperate, to adopt measures on the basis of the best scientific evidence available to ensure the long-term conservation of fishery resources, taking into account the sustainable use of such resources and implementing an ecosystem approach to their management;

FURTHER RECOGNISING Articles 4(c), (e) and (f) of the Agreement which call on the Contracting Parties to apply the precautionary approach and the principles that fishing practices and management measures shall take due account of the need to minimise the harmful impact that fishing activities may have on the marine environment and that biodiversity in the marine environment shall be protected;

FURTHER RECOGNISING Articles 6(1)(d) and (e) of the Agreement which provide that the Meeting of the Parties shall adopt conservation and management measures (CMMs) necessary for ensuring the long-term sustainability of fishery resources, taking into account the need to protect marine biodiversity, based on the best scientific evidence available and adopt generally recommended international minimum standards for the responsible conduct of fishing operations;

MINDFUL of Article 16 of the Agreement that calls on Contracting Parties, acting jointly under the Agreement, to cooperate closely with other international fisheries and related organisations in matters of mutual interest;

COMMITTED to ensuring that bottom fishing undertaken in the SIOFA Area of Application (the Agreement Area) is consistent with the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks and the protection of the marine environment;

ADOPTS the following CMM in accordance with Article 6 of the Agreement:**Objective**

1. The objective of this CMM is to promote the sustainable management of deep-sea fisheries resources in the Agreement Area, including target fish stocks and non-target species.

General provisions

2. This CMM applies to all fishing vessels flying the flag of a Contracting Party, cooperating non-Contracting Party, participating fishing entity or cooperating non-participating fishing entity (collectively CCPs) to the Agreement engaging or intending to engage in bottom fishing in the Agreement Area.

Status of Stocks

3. The Scientific Committee shall provide annual reports, based on the best available science, on the status of the demersal fisheries resources targeted in the Agreement Area, relative to available and/or relevant reference points. The reports shall include, where possible, projections of stock status over a period no less than 20 years, with 5 years steps, relative to a

³ CMM 15(20254) (Management of Demersal Stocks) supersedes CMM 15(20243) (Management of Demersal Stocks).

range of fishing mortality. In addition to the annual report on stock status, the Scientific Committee will provide management advice relative to available and/or relevant reference points.

Orange Roughy:

Fishing season

4. For the purposes of this CMM, the fishing season for *Hoplostethus atlanticus* in the Agreement area shall be defined as the period from 1st January to 31 December both dates inclusive.

Stock assessment

5. The orange roughy stocks shall be the subject of a full stock assessment to be assessed every three to five years. In the interim period available information on ORY stocks shall be presented annually.
6. The SC shall provide a summary of future data needs to improve assessment accuracy, as well as provide a summary to MoP-7 on progress against the ORY workplan.

Toothfish:

7. For the purpose of this fishery, the target species are *Dissostichus mawsoni* and *Dissostichus eleginoides*, defined as *Dissostichus* spp. The Toothfish management areas are defined in Annex VIII.

The objectives of this section are to:

- a. ensure collaborative and complementary arrangements are in place for *Dissostichus* spp. between SIOFA and the Commission for the Conservation of the Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR); and
 - b. ensure that fishing mortality of *Dissostichus* spp. on William's Ridge in the Agreement Area⁴, and Del Cano Rise do not cause biologically sustainable catch levels to be exceeded, taking into account population links.
8. The catch limit for *Dissostichus* spp. on Del Cano Rise, and research catch limit for *Dissostichus* spp. on William's Ridge as specified in paragraphs 16 and 33 shall apply until:
 - a. the Meeting of the Parties has adopted a biologically appropriate catch limit for the populations of *Dissostichus* spp. occurring in the SIOFA portion of Williams Ridge and Del Cano Rise and other appropriate management measures which are comparable in effectiveness to those in force in CCAMLR taking into account the advice and recommendations of the SIOFA Scientific Committee and
 - b. the Meeting of the Parties has adopted appropriate bycatch mitigation measures, including measures to minimize the incidental catch of seabirds which are comparable in effectiveness to those in force in CCAMLR consistent with the advice provided by the Scientific Committee.
 9. The Scientific Committee shall ~~continue, by no later than the close of its 7th ordinary meeting in 2022,~~ provide advice and recommendations on:
 - a. a biologically appropriate catch limit for the populations of *Dissostichus* spp. occurring in the SIOFA portion of Williams Ridge and Del Cano Rise;

⁴ The portion of Williams Ridge in the Agreement Area is bounded by the area 80E to 85E and 52S to 55S.

- b. appropriate bycatch mitigation measures, including for benthic bycatch and seabirds; and
 - c. any other matter that the Scientific Committee determines as relevant or necessary for the sustainable management of the *Dissostichus* spp. populations.
10. In formulating its advice and recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties in respect of this CMM, the SIOFA Scientific Committee shall take full account of relevant CCAMLR Scientific Committee material.
11. CCPs with an interest in this stock shall cooperate to ensure scientific collaboration between CCAMLR and SIOFA to ensure long-term sustainable management for *Dissostichus* spp. stocks which takes due account of relevant rights and responsibilities under international law, and which does not undermine the conservation status of the stock.

General Provisions

12. Fishing with demersal longlines shall be prohibited in depths shallower than 500m. in order to protect benthic communities and juvenile *Dissostichus* spp.
13. Each vessel participating in the fishery shall have at least one scientific observer on board throughout all fishing activities within the fishing period. The observer shall have a target of observing 25% of hooks hauled per line over the duration of the fishing deployment.
14. CCPs shall require their flagged vessels to tag and release *Dissostichus* spp. specimens at a rate of at least 5 fish per tonne of green weight caught. A minimum overlap statistic of at least 60% shall apply for tag release, once 30 or more *Dissostichus* spp. specimens have been caught.

15bis. CCPs shall require their flagged vessels fishing for *Dissostichus* spp. to report VMS data automatically to their FMC at least every hour.

~~14.~~15. For toothfish fisheries, the season is defined as the period from 1 December to 30 November (both dates inclusive).

Management measures for toothfish in the Del Cano Area

Effort/catch and operational limits

16. CCPs shall ensure that the total annual catches of *Dissostichus* spp. in the Del Cano Rise area do not exceed 44 tonnes. Without prejudice to any future sharing arrangement of the catch opportunities, this catch shall be equally shared between those CCPs which have historical catches declared to SIOFA up to 2016 in the Del Cano Rise area. Any excess overcatch by a given CCP in a given year shall be deducted from its following year catch share.

16bis. A CCP may transfer to another CCP all or part of its annual catch limit established under paragraphs 16, provided that the total catch of the two CCPs concerned does not exceed their combined limits. All such transfers shall be notified to the Secretariat within one week and communicated by the Secretariat to all CCPs.

~~15.~~17. CCPs shall send monthly reports of their *Dissostichus* spp. catches to the Secretariat, using the template at Annex I. As soon as 90% of the catch limit is reached, the Secretariat shall notify the CCPs of the closure of the fishery.

~~16.~~18. CCPs shall ensure that their fishing vessels inform the Secretariat daily on start and end points of set longlines, using the template at Annex II.

~~17.19.~~ Longlines shall not exceed 3000 hooks per line and shall be set at minimum 3 nautical miles from each other.⁵

By-catch limits

~~18.20.~~ Toothfish caught by vessels not targeting *Dissostichus* spp. ~~may shall~~ not exceed 0.5 t per season of *Dissostichus* spp.

~~19.21.~~ Should a vessel fishing for species other than *Dissostichus* spp. reach the *Dissostichus* spp. limit of 0.5 tonnes, the Del Cano area shall be closed for this vessel for that season.

Mitigation of depredation

~~20.22.~~ To reduce likelihood of depredation, vessels are encouraged to not haul longlines in the presence of killer whales (*Orcinus orca*) and are discouraged from hauling longlines in presence of any odontocete (toothed) whales.

~~21.23.~~ Should killer whales arrive during hauling operations, the vessels are encouraged to cease hauling, tie off the longline with a buoy, and move on. The vessel may only retrieve the tied-off line once the killer whales are no longer near the line.

~~22.24.~~ To further reduce potential for depredation, vessels are encouraged to set lines at depths exceeding 1000 m.

VMS polling

~~23.~~ ~~CCPs shall require their flagged vessels fishing for *Dissostichus* spp. in this area to report VMS data automatically to their FMC at least every hour when they are present in the Del Cano and South Indian Ridge areas.~~

Scientific committee

~~24.25.~~ In 2020 the SC shall make recommendations in order to build an area wide habitat model, a spatial and temporal CPUE analysis, an estimate and map of local abundancies and a local population assessment. It shall further advise on any necessary improvements to data collection in order to reduce future assessment uncertainty.

~~25.26.~~ The SC shall also address the issues related to depredation.

~~26.~~ ~~At its ordinary meeting in 2024 the Scientific Committee will recommend an appropriate catch limit for the extended Del Cano Rise area.~~

Review

27. The provisions above shall be reviewed annually until a collaborative approach involving SIOFA and CCAMLR is established. This shall include sharing of relevant data, undertaking collaboratively the stock assessments and agreeing in coherent, fair and scientifically sound conservation and management measures for the *Dissostichus* spp. that are shared by the two organisations.

Management & research measures for toothfish in Williams Ridge [FAO Subarea 57.4]

Area and purpose

28. For the purpose of this fishery, Williams Ridge is defined as the area set out in Annex VIII, and divided into a 15'x15' grid for spatial management. This grid is in place to address the risk of

⁵ For the purpose of this measure lines by the same vessel on the same trip must be 3nm from each other.

localised depletion and ensure representative data collection throughout the SIOFA part of Williams Ridge.

Data collection for fisheries research

29. Representative data and samples of length, weight, sex, maturity stage, gonad weight and otoliths shall be collected to contribute to the work ~~of the 5th meeting~~ of the Scientific Committee, and in particular to contribute to assessing the risk to localised depletion.

Effort/catch and operational limits

30. Total annual research catches in this area shall not exceed 140 tonnes. Any excess in a given year shall be deducted from that CCP from the following year.

31. CCPs shall ensure their vessels send daily reports of their *Dissostichus* spp. catches to the Secretariat using the template at Annex III and inform the Secretariat daily on start and end points of set longlines, using the template at Annex IV. As soon as 90% of the catch limit is reached, the Secretariat shall notify all CCPs and CCPs shall ensure there is no further fishing effort by their fishing vessels for the remainder of the season.

32. Only one fishing vessel at a time can fish for *Dissostichus* spp. in a given grid cell. A grid cell shall be closed to fishing by other vessels while a line is being set or hauled by a vessel, and while a line has been set by a vessel and has not been hauled.⁶

32bis. CCPs shall ensure that their fishing vessels inform the Secretariat at least 72hrs prior to entering the Williams Ridge area with information on the intended grid cells the vessel intends to fish using the entry notification at Annex V. The Secretariat will inform the vessel within 60 hours of the notification whether the nominated grid cells have already been fished.

32ter. CCPs shall ensure that their fishing vessels shall not fish in a grid cell before having received confirmation from the Secretariat that two lines have not already been set in that grid cell during that season.

32quart. Where two or more fishing vessels notify that they are entering Williams Ridge, the Secretariat shall immediately notify these fishing vessels that daily reporting requirements in paragraphs 33 and 34 apply.

32-33. CCPs shall ensure that their fishing vessels inform the Secretariat as soon as they enter a grid cell to fish for *Dissostichus* spp., using the entry notification template at Annex V. Outside Secretariat business hours, an advance notification process will apply. The Secretariat shall inform the vessel as soon as possible⁷ of the number of lines that have been set in that grid cell during that season and whether it is currently being fished by another vessel, using the template at Annex VI. Where the Secretariat receives notifications from multiple fishing vessels for a given grid cell, the Secretariat will respond to the notifications in the order that they were received.

33-34. CCPs shall ensure that their fishing vessels shall not fish in a grid cell before having received confirmation from the Secretariat that two lines have not already been set in that grid cell during that season and that it is not currently being fished by another fishing vessel,

⁶ For the avoidance of doubt, a vessel that ceases hauling a line in a grid cell in order to mitigate depredation in accordance with paragraphs 45 and 46 is still fishing in that grid cell until it hauls the line.

⁷ In accordance with any arrangements agreed ahead of each fishing season between the CCPs with fishing vessels fishing for *Dissostichus* spp. in Williams Ridge and the Chair of the MoP in consultation with the Secretariat. The arrangements could include procedures and expected timeframes for the Secretariat's response to prevent unreasonable operational disruption to fishing outside Secretariat business hours. Once agreed, the Secretariat should circulate the arrangements to all CCPs before the beginning of the season.

however a fishing vessel entering a grid cell to haul a line and to set a second line may haul the first line (but not set the second line) before receiving the confirmation.

~~34.35.~~ CCPs shall ensure that their fishing vessels inform the Secretariat as soon as they exit the grid cell specified in paragraph ~~32 bis or 3436~~ and that they inform the Secretariat of the number of lines they have set and/or hauled in that grid cell, if any, using the exit notification template at Annex VII.

~~35.36.~~ Longlines shall not exceed 6250 hooks per line and shall not be set across grid cells.

~~36.37.~~ CCPs shall ensure that no more than two lines in total are set per grid for the duration of the fishing season of *Dissostichus* spp.

~~37.~~ Once two lines have been set in a given grid cell, it shall be closed to fishing for the remainder of that fishing season.

~~38.~~ CCPs shall require their flagged vessels fishing for *Dissostichus* spp. in Williams Ridge to apply a break of a minimum of 30 days between consecutive fishing trips to Williams Ridge.

By-catch limits

~~38.39.~~ Toothfish caught by vessels not targeting *Dissostichus* spp. ~~shall may~~ not exceed 0.5 tonnes per season.

~~39.40.~~ Should a vessel fishing for species other than *Dissostichus* spp. reach the *Dissostichus* spp. limit of 0.5 tonnes, the Williams Ridge area shall be closed for this vessel for that season.

Mitigation of depredation

~~40.41.~~ To reduce likelihood of depredation, vessels are encouraged not to haul longlines in the presence of sperm whales (*Physetes catodon*) and are discouraged from hauling longlines in presence of any odontocete (toothed) whales.

~~41.42.~~ Should sperm whales arrive during hauling operations, the vessels are encouraged to cease hauling, tie off the longline with a buoy, and move on. The vessel may only retrieve the tied-off line once the sperm whales are no longer near the line.

Review

~~42.43.~~ The level of fishing on Williams Ridge shall be reviewed annually. This CMM may be reviewed annually until a collaborative approach involving SIOFA and CCAMLR is established. This shall include sharing of relevant data, undertaking collaboratively the stock assessments and agreeing in coherent, fair and scientifically sound conservation and management measures for the *Dissostichus* spp. that are shared by the two organisations.

Management plan for Alfonsino:

Season

~~43.44.~~ For the purpose of fishery for *Beryx splendens* in SIOFA area the season is defined as the period from 1 January to 31 December both dates inclusive.

Stock assessment

~~44.45.~~ The MoP requests that the SC assess the *Beryx splendens* stocks in 202~~72~~ at the ordinary meeting of the Scientific Committee (if the SC, in 202~~64~~, determines that suitable data exist to undertake that assessment). In addition, the SC is requested to provide advice on a regular assessment schedule for future years.

~~45.46.~~ The Scientific Committee shall provide clear advice and guidance on any necessary changes to data collection in order to reduce future assessment uncertainty.

Application

~~46.47.~~ The catch limit provided for in paragraph 16 of this CMM shall apply from 1 December 2024.

Annex I - Template for CCPs to use for [monthly catch reports to the Secretariat when fishing on the Del Cano Rise area (paragraph 17)].

CCPs shall send monthly reports of their *Dissostichus* spp. catches to the Secretariat. This report shall be sent to SIOFA Secretariat (mcs@siofa.org).

Vessel name		Vessel flag				
Area (circle or underline correct area)	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">DEL CANO RISE</td> <td style="width: 33%;">WILLIAMS RIDGE</td> <td style="width: 33%;">OTHER</td> </tr> </table>			DEL CANO RISE	WILLIAMS RIDGE	OTHER
DEL CANO RISE	WILLIAMS RIDGE	OTHER				
Year		Month				
Catch live weight (Kg)		Catch Pieces				

Annex II - Template for CCPs to use for daily longline reporting to the Secretariat when fishing on the Del Cano Rise area (paragraph 18).

CCPs shall ensure that their fishing vessels inform the Secretariat (mcs@siofa.org) daily on start and end point of set longlines, and shall use the following template:

Vessel name		Vessel flag	
Set Start Date		Set Start Time	
Set Start Longitude		Set Start Latitude	
Set Start Depth			
Set End Date		Set End Time	
Set End Longitude		Set End Latitude	
Set End Depth			
Number of hooks set			

Annex III - Template for CCPs to use for daily catch reports to the Secretariat when fishing on the Williams Ridge area (paragraph 33).

CCPs shall send daily catch reports of their *Dissostichus* spp. catches to the Secretariat (mcs@siofa.org).

Vessel name		Vessel flag				
Area (circle or underline correct area)	<table><tr><td>DEL CANO RISE</td><td>WILLIAMS RIDGE</td><td>OTHER</td></tr></table>			DEL CANO RISE	WILLIAMS RIDGE	OTHER
DEL CANO RISE	WILLIAMS RIDGE	OTHER				
Month		Day				
Catch live weight (Kg)		Catch Pieces				

Annex IV - Template for CCPs to use for daily longline reporting to the Secretariat when fishing on the Williams Ridge area (paragraph 33).

CCPs shall ensure that their fishing vessels inform the Secretariat (mcs@siofa.org) daily on start and end point of set longlines, and shall use the following template:

Vessel name		Vessel flag	
Set Start Date		Set Start Time	
Set Start Longitude		Set Start Latitude	
Set Start Depth			
Set End Date		Set End Time	
Set End Longitude		Set End Latitude	
Set End Depth			
Grid Cell* (e.g. C8)			
Number of hooks set			

*Williams Ridge Area grid cells:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	lat.
1																					
2																					
3																					53 S
4																					
5																					
6																					
7																					54 S
8																					
9																					
10																					55 S
long.	80 E			81 E				82 E				83 E				84 E				85 E	

Annex V – Template for vessel entry notification when fishing on the Williams Ridge area (paragraph 35).

[Vessel name] hereby notifies its entry into grid cell [Number] at [Date: Time (UTC)] to fish for toothfish.

I [Name of Captain] confirm that the [vessel name] will not commence fishing until receipt of confirmation from the Secretariat that two lines have not already been set in this cell during this fishing season and that the cell is not currently being fished by another vessel.

Annex VI – Template for Secretariat confirmation in response to vessel entry notifications when fishing on the Williams Ridge area (paragraph 35).

The Secretariat acknowledges receipt of your notification of entry into [grid cell number] to fish for toothfish and advises that:

1. [number of lines] have been set in this cell during this fishing season, and
2. this cell [is/is not] currently being fished by another vessel.

Annex VII – Template for vessel exit notification when fishing on the Williams Ridge area (paragraph 37).

[Vessel name] hereby notifies its exit from grid cell [Number] at [Date:Time (UTC)]. I [Name of Captain] inform you that the [vessel name] has (choose 1 option from the list below):

1. set 1 line
2. set 2 lines
3. hauled 1 line
4. hauled 2 lines
5. hauled 1 line and set 1 line

Annex VIII – Toothfish Management Areas

The Management areas for Toothfish are defined as follow;

Del Cano Rise

The Del Cano area is;

- (i) north of 45°00' S, and
- (ii) south of 44°00' S when west of 44°09' E, and
- (iii) south of 43°30' S when east of 44°09' E, and
- (iv) between the adjacent EEZs to the east and west

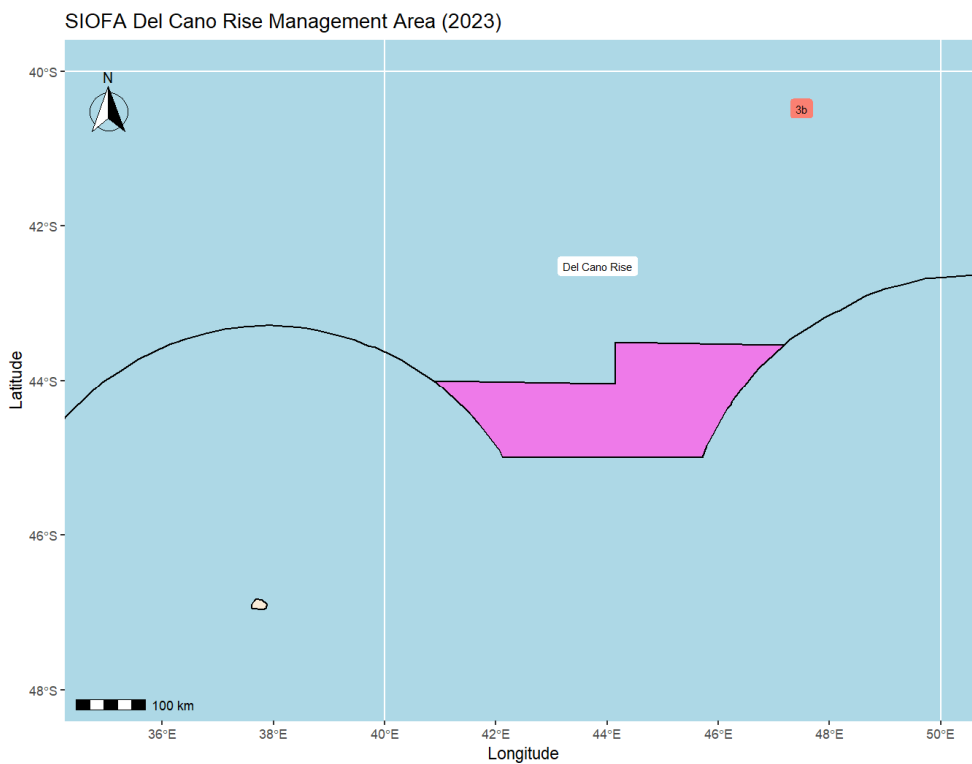


Figure A: Boundaries of the extended Del Cano Rise management area.

Williams Ridge

The Williams Ridge is defined as within the box bounded by the following points:

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	-52.5	80.0
2	-55	80.0
3	-55	85.0
4	-52.5	85.0

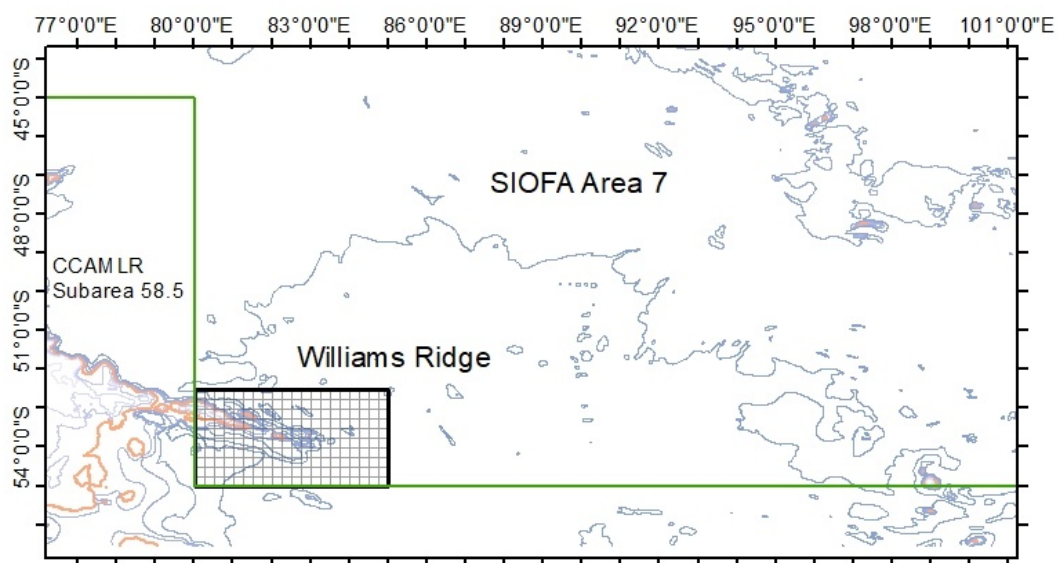


Figure B The boundary of Williams ridge and the 15' cells.

CMM 16(2023)³**Conservation and Management Measure for the establishment of a SIOFA Vessel Monitoring System (Vessel Monitoring System)****The Meeting of the Parties to the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement:**

RECALLING Article 6(1)(h) of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) which requires the Meeting of the Parties to develop rules and procedures for the monitoring, control and surveillance of fishing activities in order to ensure compliance with conservation and management measures adopted by the Meeting of the Parties including, where appropriate, a system of verification incorporating vessel monitoring and observation of vessels operating in the Agreement Area;

MINDFUL of Article 18(3) of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (UNFSA) which outlines the duties of the flag State, including to take measures to ensure recording and timely reporting of vessel position, catch of target and non-target species, fishing effort and other relevant fisheries data, and to ensure the monitoring, control and surveillance of vessels, their fishing operations and related activities by, inter alia, the development and implementation of vessel monitoring systems;

FURTHER MINDFUL of the importance of international cooperation in the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, in particular through the exchange of information and effective monitoring, control and surveillance;

RECALLING paragraph 14 of the SIOFA Conservation and management measure for the Monitoring of Fisheries in the Agreement Area (CMM 10(2023)) to develop specifications and propose rules and procedures for the establishment of a SIOFA Vessel Monitoring System;

MINDFUL of the key principles upon which the vessel monitoring system should be based, including the confidentiality and security of information handled by the system, and its efficiency, cost-effectiveness and flexibility;

***ADOPTS* the following Conservation and Management Measure (CMM) in accordance with Articles 4 and 6 of the Agreement:**

Definitions

1. The following definitions shall apply to this CMM:
 - a) “Automatic location communicator” (ALC) means a satellite-based on-board device that is capable of continuously, automatically and independently of any intervention of the vessel, transmitting VMS position reports;
 - b) “Fisheries monitoring centre” (FMC) means the authority or agency of a Flag CCP responsible for managing the VMS for its flagged fishing vessels;
 - c) “Vessel Monitoring System” (VMS) means a satellite-based monitoring system which, at regular intervals, provides VMS position reports;
 - d) “SIOFA VMS” means the SIOFA Vessel Monitoring System established under this CMM;
 - e) “Manual reporting” means the transmission via alternative means of the position reporting of a fishing vessel when an ALC fails to transmit VMS position reports;
 - f) VMS position reports shall include at least the following data, which shall be considered confidential (i.e. non-public domain data):

- i. the fishing vessel's unique vessel identifier⁴;
- ii. the current geographical position (latitude and longitude) of the vessel;
- iii. the date and time (UTC) of the fixing of the position of the vessel;
- iv. the vessel's speed; and
- v. the vessel's course.

Objective

- 2. The main objective of the SIOFA VMS is to monitor in an automatic, continuous and cost-effective manner the movements and activity of fishing vessels operating in the Agreement Area to ensure compliance with SIOFA CMMs.

Application

- 3. The SIOFA VMS shall apply to all fishing vessels flying the flag of a Contracting Party, cooperating non-Contracting Party or participating fishing entity (CCP) that are entered onto the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels and operating in the Agreement Area, as defined in Article 3 of the Agreement.

Nature and specifications of the SIOFA VMS

- 4. The SIOFA VMS shall be administered by the SIOFA Secretariat under the guidance of the Meeting of the Parties.
- 5. Each CCP shall ensure that all fishing vessels flying their flag entered onto the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels and operating in the Agreement Area are fitted with an operational ALC that complies with the minimum standards for ALCs described in Annex 1.
- 6. Each CCP shall ensure that all fishing vessels flying their flag referred to in paragraph 3 report VMS position reports automatically while they are operating in the Agreement Area either:
 - a) to the [Secretariat-SIOFA VMS](#) via their FMC; or
 - b) simultaneously to both the [Secretariat-SIOFA VMS](#) and their FMC.
- 7. CCPs that choose to report under option (a) of paragraph 6 shall automatically forward VMS position reports to the [Secretariat-SIOFA VMS](#) without delay but not later than one hour after receipt.
- 8. CCPs⁵ shall ensure that VMS position reports are reported automatically⁵ by each of their vessels while operating in the Agreement Area:
 - a) at least once every hour as provided for in paragraph 25 of CMM 15(2024) (Management of Demersal Stocks), and;

⁴ [The unique vessel identifier shall be the ALC Unique Identifier or, for vessels reporting pursuant to paragraph 6 a\) of this Measure, the vessel's International Radio Call Sign \(IRCS\) or International Maritime Organisation \(IMO\) number.](#)

⁵ In the event that the connection between the ALC and the satellite is temporarily unavailable, the data referred to in paragraph 1(f) of this Measure shall still be collected but shall instead be transmitted as soon as the satellite connection becomes available again.

b) at least once every two hours in other circumstances.

9. VMS position reports sent pursuant to paragraph 6. a. shall be transmitted to the SIOFA VMS using one of the data formats in Annex 2.~~The Meeting of the Parties shall establish VMS position report format and transmission standards, specifications and procedures prior to the entry into operation of the SIOFA VMS.~~
10. Each CCP shall ensure that their FMC can automatically receive and, for those CCPs whose vessels transmit VMS position reports in accordance with paragraph 6 a), transmit VMS position reports from ALCs. Each CCP shall provide backup and recovery procedures in case of system failures.
11. Each CCP shall provide the Secretariat with the name, address, email, and telephone number~~(s) of the relevant authorities of~~ its FMC and shall designate a VMS Point of Contact for the purposes of any communication regarding the SIOFA VMS (“VMS Point of Contact”). Each CCP shall notify the Secretariat of any changes to these details within 30 days after such changes take effect and the Secretariat shall promptly notify this information to the other CCPs and make it available on the non-public area of the SIOFA website.
12. Each CCP shall ensure that in vessels flying their flag:
 - a) the ALC is not tampered with in any way;
 - b) VMS position reports are not altered in any way;
 - c) the antenna or antennae are connected to the ALC and not obstructed in any way;
 - d) the power supply of the ALC is not interrupted in any way;
 - e) the ALC is not removed from the vessel except for the purpose set out in paragraph 15; and
 - f) ~~T~~the satellite navigation decoder and transmitter shall be~~are~~ fully integrated and housed in the same tamper-proof physical enclosure.

Procedure for manual reporting

13. In the event of non-reception of four consecutive, expected programmed VMS position reports by the SIOFA VMS, the Secretariat shall notify the CCP whose flag the vessel is flying. The Flag CCP shall immediately notify the vessel Master and direct the Master to provide it with manual reports every four hours of the vessel’s position in accordance with the reporting frequency under paragraph 8. The Flag CCP shall ensure that this manual reporting is transmitted to the Secretariat, either by the flag CCP or by the fishing vessel, with a clear distinction between reports that are manual and those that are automatic.
14. The Flag CCP shall ensure that the manual reports include at least the information referred to in paragraph 1(f)(i), (ii) and (iii). If automatic reporting to the SIOFA VMS has not been re-established within 60 days of the commencement of manual reporting, the Flag CCP shall order the vessel to cease fishing, stow all fishing gear and return immediately to port in order to undertake repairs or replacement.

15. Following a technical failure or non-functioning of the ALC, the Flag CCP shall ensure that the fishing vessel only leaves port once the ALC fitted on board is fully functioning to the satisfaction of the competent authorities of the Flag CCP. By derogation, the Flag CCP may authorise the fishing vessel to leave port with a non-functioning satellite-tracking device for its repair or replacement.
16. The Flag CCP shall ensure that the vessel recommences fishing in the Agreement Area only when the ALC has been confirmed as operational by its FMC. Four consecutive, programmed VMS position [reports](#) must have been received by the FMC to confirm that the ALC is fully operational.
17. Notwithstanding paragraphs 13 to 16, where the Flag CCP confirms that the ALC on board the vessel is functioning normally, but the [Secretariat-SIOFA VMS](#) is not receiving the vessel's VMS position reports, the Secretariat shall immediately take steps to resolve any technical or other issue that is preventing [the SIOFA VMS](#) from receiving the VMS position reports. If the VMS position reports cannot be retrieved by the [Secretariat SIOFA VMS](#) after the issue has been resolved, the Flag CCP shall send these VMS position reports to the Secretariat via manual reporting and provide the Secretariat with any assistance as may be necessary.

Measures to prevent tampering with ALCs

18. Each CCP shall ensure that the ALCs fitted on board vessels flying their flag are tamper resistant, that is, are of a type of and configuration that prevent the input or output of false positions, and that they are not capable of being over-ridden, whether manually, electronically or otherwise, in accordance with the minimum standards for ALCs set out in Annex 1.
19. Each CCP shall prohibit vessels flying their flag to destroy, damage, switch off, render inoperative or otherwise interfere with the ALC.
20. In the event that a CCP or the Secretariat obtains information that indicates an ALC on board a fishing vessel operating in the Agreement Area does not meet the requirements of Annex 1 or there is evidence that the ALC has been tampered with, it shall immediately notify the Secretariat, and the fishing vessel's Flag CCP which shall:
 - a) investigate the suspected breach of this measure as soon as possible; and
 - b) depending on the outcome of the investigation, if necessary suspend the vessel from fishing until an ALC that meets the specifications outlined in Annex 1 is operational on board the vessel; and
 - c) communicate actions taken to the Meeting of the Parties, including the outcome of the investigation within 30 days of its completion.
21. Nothing in this measure shall prevent a CCP from applying additional or more stringent measures to prevent tampering of ALCs on board vessels flying its flag.

Use and [Release-release](#) of VMS position reports

22. All requests for access to VMS position reports must be made to the Secretariat by a VMS Point of Contact by electronic means using the appropriate template⁶ at least 5 working days in advance of the intended use, except for the purposes of paragraph 23 c), and in accordance with the procedures set out in paragraphs 24 to 29.
23. Upon request of a CCP, the Secretariat shall only provide VMS position reports without the permission of the Flag CCP for the exclusive purposes of:
- a) planning for active surveillance operations and/or boarding and inspection at sea within 72 hours of the expected start of the operations in the Agreement Area;
 - b) active surveillance operations and/or boarding and inspection at sea in the Agreement Area;
 - c) supporting search and rescue activities undertaken by a competent Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) subject to the terms of an Arrangement between the Secretariat and the competent MRCC. Such Arrangement shall be reported to the Meeting of the Parties.
24. For the purpose of implementing paragraph 23 a) and b):
- a) Boarding and inspection at sea shall be undertaken in accordance with CMM 14(2021) (High Seas Boarding and Inspection Procedures), including its paragraph 7;
 - b) each CCP shall only make available VMS position reports relevant to the planned or active surveillance operations and/or boarding and inspection at sea in the Agreement Area to the requesting CCP's inspectors and any other government officials for whom it is deemed necessary to access the reports;
 - c) CCPs shall ensure that such inspectors and government officials keep the VMS position reports confidential and only use the reports for the purposes described in paragraph 23 a) and b);
 - d) CCPs shall be allowed to retain VMS position reports provided by the Secretariat for the purposes described in paragraph 23 a) and b) until 72 hours after the time that the active operation has concluded. Except in the circumstances outlined in paragraph 24 e), CCPs shall submit a written confirmation to the Secretariat of the deletion of the VMS position reports immediately after the 72 hours' period;
 - e) CCPs' inspectors and government officials authorities shall be allowed to retain VMS position reports provided by the Secretariat for the purposes described in paragraph 23 a) and b) for longer than the periods specified in paragraph 24 d) only if it is part of an investigation, judicial or administrative proceeding of an alleged violation of the provisions of the Agreement, any CMMs or decisions adopted by the Meeting of the Parties. CCPs shall inform the Secretariat of the purposes and expected timing of the additional period of retention before the expiration of the initial period and the Secretariat shall promptly notify the concerned Flag CCP of the additional period. CCPs shall submit a written confirmation to the Secretariat of the deletion of the VMS position reports as soon

⁶ The template shall be developed by the Secretariat and submitted to the Compliance Committee and the Meeting of the Parties for consideration.

as the purposes have been achieved or immediately after the additional period of retention has expired, whichever is earlier.

25. For the purpose of paragraph 23 a), CCPs requesting VMS position reports shall provide the Secretariat the geographic area of the planned surveillance and/or boarding and inspection activity. In this case, the Secretariat shall provide the most recent available VMS position reports for the notified geographic area at a specified point in time no more than 72 hours prior to the commencement of each surveillance and/or boarding and inspection activity. In the event that the planned surveillance and/or boarding and inspection activity does not proceed, the CCP shall notify the Secretariat, ~~destroy-delete~~ the VMS position reports, and confirm their deletion to the Secretariat in writing, without delay. Regardless of whether the planned surveillance and/or boarding and inspection activity were conducted or not, the Secretariat shall notify the Flag CCP that the VMS position reports were provided to the CCP no later than 7 days after the VMS position report provision, and, if applicable, that they have received confirmation that the reports have been deleted.
26. For the purpose of paragraph 23 b), the Secretariat shall provide VMS position reports from the previous 10 days, for vessels detected during the active surveillance and/or boarding and inspection activity by a CCP, and VMS position reports for all vessels within 300 n miles of the surveillance and/or boarding and inspection activity location. The Secretariat shall provide regular updates of VMS position reports to the CCP for the duration of the active surveillance and/or boarding and inspection activity. CCPs conducting the active surveillance and/or boarding and inspection activity shall provide the Secretariat and the VMS Point of Contact of the Flag CCP with a report including the name of the vessel or aircraft on active surveillance and/or boarding and inspection activity. This information shall be made available without undue delay after the surveillance and/or boarding and inspection activities are complete. The Secretariat shall notify the Flag CCP that the VMS position reports were provided to the CCP no later than 7 days after the active surveillance and/or boarding and inspection activity has ended, and, if applicable, that they have received confirmation that the reports have been deleted.
27. For the purpose of paragraph 23 c), upon the request of a CCP, the Secretariat shall provide VMS position reports without the permission of the Flag CCP for the purposes of supporting search and rescue activities undertaken by a competent MRCC subject to the arrangement between the Secretariat and the competent MRCC, including in relation to the provision of VMS position reports to the requesting CCP, and the protection and deletion of those reports.
28. Other than the purposes set out in paragraph 23, the Secretariat shall only provide VMS position reports to a requesting CCP or to the SIOFA Scientific Committee and its ~~subsidiary bodies~~ Working Groups where the VMS position reports relates to vessels flagged to CCPs that have provided prior written consent through their VMS Point of Contact for the reports to be shared. Such VMS position reports shall be deleted as soon as they have served their intended purpose, and the deletion of the reports shall be confirmed to the Secretariat in writing without delay.
29. CCPs may request VMS position reports for their own flagged vessels from the Secretariat.

Closed areas and interim protected areas

30. If VMS position reports received by the Secretariat indicate the presence of a fishing vessel in [a closed area](#), or of a fishing vessel excluding those using line and trap methods in an interim protected area, as defined in paragraph 42 and Annex 3 of CMM 01(2024) (Interim Management of Bottom Fishing), the Secretariat shall notify the Flag CCP. The Flag CCP shall investigate the matter and provide an explanation within 5 working days to the Secretariat. The explanation shall be provided by the Secretariat to the Compliance Committee for consideration at its next annual meeting.

Data security and confidentiality

31. All CCPs, the Secretariat, the SIOFA Scientific Committee and its [subsidiary bodies/Working Groups](#), and any SIOFA VMS [service](#) provider shall ensure the secure and confidential treatment of VMS data in their respective electronic data processing facilities [in accordance with the requirements of CMM 02\(2023\) \(Data Standards\), CMM 03\(2016\) \(Data Confidentiality\) and Annex 3](#), in particular where the processing involves transmission over a network, [including by using secure internet protocols to ensure secure communications and taking all necessary measures to protect VMS data against accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure or access, and against all unauthorised forms of processing](#).
32. ~~The Meeting of the Parties shall adopt detailed data security and confidentiality provisions prior to the entry into operation of the SIOFA VMS and shall review the applicability and appropriateness of CMM 03(2016) (Data Confidentiality) to VMS position report security, confidentiality, management and use.~~

Entry into operation

33. The SIOFA VMS shall enter into operation at a date to be determined by the Meeting of the Parties.
34. Upon entry into operation of the SIOFA VMS, paragraphs 5 to 14 of CMM 10(2023) (Monitoring) shall be superseded and replaced by this CMM.

Review

35. Following the entry into operation of the SIOFA VMS, the Secretariat shall report annually to the Meeting of the Parties on the implementation of, and compliance with, this CMM, [including on the performance of the SIOFA VMS service provider](#).
36. After two years of implementation [of the SIOFA VMS](#), the Meeting of the Parties shall conduct a review of this CMM and consider improving it as appropriate.

Annex 1

Minimum standards for Automatic Location Communicators (ALCs) used in the SIOFA VMS

1. The Automatic Location Communicator (ALC) shall continuously, automatically and independently of any intervention by the fishing vessel, communicate VMS position reports referred to in paragraph 1(f) of this ~~conservation measure~~[CMM](#).
2. The position reports referred to in paragraph 1(f) shall be obtained from a satellite-based positioning system.
3. ALCs fitted to fishing vessels must be capable of transmitting the position reports referred to in paragraph 1(f) recorded at least every fifteen minutes.
4. ALCs fitted to fishing vessels must be tamper-proof so as to preserve the security and integrity of the position reports referred to in paragraph 1(f).
5. Storage of information within the ALC must be safe, secure and integrated within a single unit under normal operating conditions.
6. It must not be reasonably possible for unauthorised persons to alter any of the VMS position reports stored in the ALC, including the frequency of position reporting to the FMC.
7. Any features built into the ALC or terminal software to assist with servicing shall not allow unauthorised access to any areas of the ALC that could potentially compromise the operation of the VMS.
8. ALCs shall be installed on fishing vessels in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and applicable standards.
9. Under normal satellite navigation operating conditions, positions derived from the data forwarded must be accurate to within 100 metres ($2 \times$ Distance Root Mean Squared; 2DRMS) i.e., 99 per cent of the positions must be within this range.
10. The satellite navigation decoder and transmitter shall be fully integrated and housed in the same tamper-proof physical enclosure.

Annex 2
Data formats for transmission of VMS position reports

A. North Atlantic Format (NAF)

1. VMS position reports sent in NAF format shall be transmitted using one of the following application layers (secured connection):
 - (i) Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS);
 - (ii) File Transfer Protocol (FTP) with Transport Layer Security (TLS) (FTPS);
 - (iii) Email.
2. VMS position reports sent in NAF format shall contain, at minimum, the data elements in Table 1.

Table 1: NAF message data elements

<u>Data Element</u>	<u>Field Code</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Contents</u>
<u>Start Record</u>	<u>SR</u>	<u>Defines the start of the message structure.</u>	<u>No Data</u>
<u>Address</u>	<u>AD</u>	<u>Indicates the destination. Provider and Secretariat to define code for SIOFA VMS</u>	<u>3-Alpha code</u>
<u>From</u>	<u>FR</u>	<u>3-alpha code describing the country which FMC is submitting the report.</u>	<u>3-Alpha code</u>
<u>Sequence Number</u>	<u>SQ</u>	<u>Message Sequence Number</u>	<u>0-999999</u>
<u>Internal Reference Number*</u>	<u>IR</u>	<u>Unique Number attributed by the flag state</u>	<u>3-Alpha code. 0-999999999</u>
<u>Type of Message</u>	<u>TM</u>	<u>Letter code of the type of message</u>	<u>POS = position report.</u> <u>MAN = manual report.</u> <u>ENT = entry report.</u> <u>EXI = exit report</u>
<u>Radio Call Sign (IRCS)</u>	<u>RC</u>	<u>Vessel detail: international radio call sign of the vessel</u>	<u>IRCS</u>
<u>Latitude (decimal)</u>	<u>LT</u>	<u>Latitude expressed in degrees and decimals (WGS-84)</u>	<u>+(-)DD.ddd</u>
<u>Longitude (decimal)</u>	<u>LG</u>	<u>Longitude expressed in degrees and decimals (WGS-84)</u>	<u>+(-)DD.ddd</u>
<u>Vessel Speed</u>	<u>SP</u>	<u>Speed of the vessel</u>	<u>Knots * 10</u>
<u>Vessel Course</u>	<u>CO</u>	<u>Heading of the vessel in degrees</u>	<u>1-360</u>
<u>Flag State</u>	<u>FS</u>	<u>State of registration of the vessel</u>	<u>3-Alpha code</u>
<u>Date</u>	<u>DA</u>	<u>Date of reported event</u>	<u>YYYYMMDD</u>
<u>Time</u>	<u>TI</u>	<u>Time of reported event</u>	<u>HHMM</u>
<u>End of Record</u>	<u>ER</u>	<u>Indicates the end of the message/report</u>	<u>No Data</u>

3. VMS position reports sent in NAF format shall be structured as follows:

- (i) double slash (//) and the characters 'SR' indicate the start of a message;
- (ii) a double slash (//) and field code indicate the start of a data element;
- (iii) a single slash (/) separates the field code and the data;
- (iv) pairs of data are separated by a space;
- (v) the characters 'ER' and a double slash (//) indicate the end of a record.

B. Fisheries Language for Universal Exchange (UN/FLUX)

1. VMS position reports sent in UN/FLUX format shall contain, at minimum, the mandatory data elements in Table 2.

Table 2: UN/FLUX data elements

<u>Data Element</u>	<u>Mandatory/ optional</u>	<u>Comments</u>
<u>Addressee</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Message detail — Addressee Alpha-3 country code</u> <u>Note: Part of the FLUX TL envelope</u>
<u>From</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Message detail — Sender Alpha-3 country code</u>
<u>Unique message identifier</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>UUID according to RFC 4122 defined by IETF</u>
<u>Date and time of transmission</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Date and time when the message was created in UTC,</u> <u>using the format YYYY-MM-DDThh:mm:ss[.000000]Z⁷</u>
<u>Flag State</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Message detail – Flag of flag State. Alpha-3 country code</u>
<u>Type of message</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Message detail – Type of message</u> <u>The following codes are to be used:</u> <u>ENTRY: first position recorded after entering the fishing</u> <u>zone)</u> <u>EXIT: first message recorded after leaving the fishing zone</u> <u>POS: positions transmitted while being in the fishing zone</u> <u>MANUAL: position transmitted manually</u>
<u>Radio call sign</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Vessel detail – Vessel international radio call sign (IRCS)</u>
<u>CCP internal reference number</u>	<u>O</u>	<u>Vessel detail – Unique CCP vessel identifier</u>
<u>Unique Vessel Identifier (UVI)</u>	<u>O</u>	<u>Vessel detail – IMO number</u>
<u>External registration number</u>	<u>O</u>	<u>Vessel detail – Number on side of vessel</u>
<u>Latitude</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Vessel position detail – Position in degrees and decimal</u> <u>degrees DD.ddd (WGS-84)</u> <u>Positive coordinates for positions north of the Equator;</u> <u>Negative coordinates for positions south of the Equator.</u>

⁷ YYYY= year; MM= month, including leading 0 where month number is less than 10; DD= day of the month including leading 0 where day number is less than 10; T= the letter T to indicate the part of the time section; H24= hours of the day expressed with 2 digits using the 24-hour notation; MI=minutes expressed as 2 digits; SS=seconds expressed as 2 digits; [.000000]= optionally fractions of seconds may be included, not including the brackets; Z= time zone, which must be Z (i.e. UTC).

Longitude	M	Vessel position detail – Position in degrees and decimals DD.ddd (WGS-84) Positive coordinates east of the Greenwich meridian; Negative coordinates west of the Greenwich meridian.
Course	M	Vessel course 360° scale
Speed	M	Vessel speed in knots
Date and time	M	Vessel position detail – date and time of recording of the position in UTC, using the format YYYY-MM-DDThh:mm:ss[.000000]Z⁸

⁸ YYYY= year; MM= month, including leading 0 where month number is less than 10; DD= day of the month including leading 0 where day number is less than 10; T= the letter T to indicate the part of the time section; H24= hours of the day expressed with 2 digits using the 24-hour notation; Ml=minutes expressed as 2 digits; SS=seconds expressed as 2 digits; [.000000]= optionally fractions of seconds may be included, not including the brackets; Z= time zone, which must be Z (ie. UTC)

Annex 3

Data Confidentiality and Security Provisions

1. The following security measures shall be mandatory for the SIOFA VMS:
 - a. System Access Control: The Secretariat shall ensure that the system can withstand break-in attempts from unauthorised persons.
 - b. Authenticity and data access control: The Secretariat shall limit access of Secretariat staff to the data necessary for them to carry out their tasks via a flexible user identification and password mechanism.
 - c. Communication Security: VMS position reports shall be securely communicated.
 - d. Data Security: All VMS data received by the Secretariat shall be securely stored for a predetermined time and shall not be tampered with.
 - e. Security Procedures: The Secretariat shall implement an Information System Security Policy adopted by the Meeting of the Parties to ensure proper access to the system (hardware and software), system administration and maintenance, backup and general usage of the system.
2. The SIOFA VMS shall have the following mandatory access control features:
 - a. Stringent password and authentication system, attributed to each designated user. The user shall only have access to functions and data that they are designated to have access to.
 - b. All access to physical computer systems shall be controlled by the Secretariat.
 - c. The system shall automatically record all events for analysis and detection of potential security breaches.
 - d. Time-based access control: Access to the system can be specified in terms of times-of-day and days of the week that each user is allowed to log into the system.
 - e. Terminal access control: the system shall specify for each workstation which user(s) is/are allowed to access it.
3. Communication between CCPs, the SIOFA VMS Service Provider, and the Secretariat shall use secure internet protocols. The exchange of VMS position reports may also require the use of digital certificates that correctly identify and validate the party submitting the VMS position reports.
4. The Secretariat shall only provide VMS position reports to the email address specified by the requesting entity at the time the data is requested.
5. The Secretariat shall periodically review access to and the logs of the SIOFA VMS software and ensure the proper maintenance of system security.

CMM 17(2025)**Conservation and Management Measure for New and Exploratory Fisheries in the Agreement Area
(New and Exploratory Fisheries)****The Meeting of the Parties to the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement;**

RECALLING Article 4(a) of the *Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement* (the Agreement) which calls on the Contracting Parties, in giving effect to the duty to cooperate, to adopt measures on the basis of the best scientific evidence available to ensure the long-term conservation of fishery resources, taking into account the sustainable use of such resources and implementing an ecosystem approach to their management;

FURTHER RECOGNISING Articles 4(c), (d), (e) and (f) of the Agreement which call on the Contracting Parties to apply the precautionary approach and the principles that measures shall be taken to ensure that the level of fishing activity is commensurate with the sustainable use of the fishery resources, that fishing practices and management measures shall take due account of the need to minimise the harmful impact that fishing activities may have on the marine environment, and that biodiversity in the marine environment shall be protected;

FURTHER RECOGNISING Articles 6(1)(d) and (e) of the Agreement which provide that the Meeting of the Parties shall adopt conservation and management measures (CMMs) necessary for ensuring the long-term sustainability of fishery resources, taking into account the need to protect marine biodiversity, based on the best scientific evidence available and adopt generally recommended international minimum standards for the responsible conduct of fishing operations;

MINDFUL of Article 16 of the Agreement that calls on Contracting Parties, acting jointly under the Agreement, to cooperate closely with other international fisheries and related organisations in matters of mutual interest;

COMMITTED to ensuring that bottom fishing undertaken in the SIOFA Area of Application (the Agreement Area) is consistent with the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks and the protection of the marine environment;

NOTING the requirements in CMM 01(2024) on the Management of Bottom Fishing in the Agreement Area which place a number of obligations on Contracting Parties, cooperating non-Contracting Parties and participating fishing entities who intend to authorise their flagged vessels to engage in any bottom fishing in the Agreement Area;

AGREEING that new and exploratory fisheries should not be permitted to expand faster than the acquisition of information necessary to ensure that the fishery can and will be developed in accordance with the principles set out in Article 4 of the Agreement;

ADOPTS the following CMM in accordance with Articles 4 and 6 of the Agreement:**Objective**

1. The objective of this CMM is to govern the undertaking and management of new and exploratory fisheries in the Agreement Area based on the precautionary approach. In particular, this CMM is intended to ensure that sufficient information is available to evaluate the long term potential of new and exploratory fisheries, to assist the formulation of management advice, to evaluate and minimize the possible impacts on target stocks, non-target, and associated and dependent species, to ensure new and exploratory fishery resources are developed on a precautionary and gradual basis, and to promote the sustainable management of new and exploratory fisheries.

General provisions and definitions

2. This CMM applies to all fishing vessels flying the flag of a Contracting Party, cooperating non-Contracting Party, participating fishing entity or cooperating non-participating fishing entity (collectively CCPs) to the Agreement engaging or intending to engage in any fishing activity that falls within the scope of new and exploratory fisheries, as defined in this CMM, in the Agreement Area³.
3. For the purpose of this CMM, a fishery is a 'new and exploratory fisheries' if
 - a. it is a bottom fishing activity, as defined in paragraph 3.b. of CMM 01(2024), conducted outside the SIOFA bottom fishing footprint, as defined in paragraph [3.c.] of CMM 01(2024); or
 - b. it is a bottom fishing activity, as defined in paragraph 3.c. of CMM 01(2024), conducted within the SIOFA bottom fishing footprint, as defined in paragraph 3.c. of CMM 01(2024), with a particular gear type or technique not used before in that fishery in that area as set out in Annex 1; or
 - c. it uses a gear type to target fishery resources in the Area that is not listed in [Annex 1]; or
 - d. fishing in that fishery has not been undertaken in the Area in the previous ten years pursuant to this CMM; or
 - e. fishing in that fishery has been undertaken in the Area in the previous nine years pursuant to this CMM and the Meeting of the Parties has not decided to either close or manage the fishery as an established fishery.
4. New and exploratory fisheries shall not be approved for a target species in areas and with gear used in an existing new and exploratory fishery, unless coordinated with the CCP undertaking an existing new and exploratory fishery.

Requirements for new and exploratory fisheries

5. Any CCP seeking to authorize any vessel flying its flag to fish in new and exploratory fisheries shall prepare and submit, at least 35 days prior to the commencement of the ordinary meeting of the Scientific Committee, a Fishery Operations Plan (FOP) for the fishing season(s) concerned for review and endorsement by the Scientific Committee. The FOP shall be developed using the template in Annex 2 and shall include the following information, to the extent it is available:
 - a. a description of the proposed new and exploratory fishery, including the vessel to be used, area, target species, proposed methods of fishing, proposed maximum catch/effort limits and any distribution of that catch limit among areas or species;
 - b. explicit target and limit and/or threshold reference points and a mechanism to adjust any proposed catch limit;
 - c. specification and full description of the types of fishing gear to be used, including any modifications to gear intended to mitigate the effects of the proposed fishing on non-target and associated or dependent species or the marine ecosystem in which the fishery occurs;
 - d. the intended time period covered by the FOP, up to a maximum period of three years;
 - e. any biological information on the target species from accepted research such as distribution, abundance, demographic data including genetics, longevity and maturity, and information on stock identity;
 - f. details of non-target and associated or dependent species and the marine ecosystem in which the fishery occurs, the extent to which these would be likely to be affected by the proposed fishing activity and any measures that will be taken to mitigate these effects;

³ This CMM shall not apply to research cruises.

- g. the anticipated cumulative impacts of all fishing activity in the area of the proposed new and exploratory fishery if applicable;
 - h. information from other fisheries in the region or similar fisheries elsewhere that may assist in the evaluation of the proposed fishery's potential yield, to the extent that the CCP is able to provide this information;
 - i. if the proposed fishing activity is bottom fishing, as defined in paragraph [3.b.] of CMM 01(2024), the assessment of the impact of the proposed fishing activity, prepared pursuant to the SIOFA Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment Standard (BFIAS), as defined in paragraph [3.e.] of CMM 01(2024); and
 - j. where the target species is also managed by an adjacent Regional Fisheries Management Organisation or similar organisation, a description of that neighbouring fishery sufficient to allow the Scientific Committee to formulate its advice and recommendations in accordance with paragraph 8.
6. The FOP submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 shall be accompanied by a Data Collection and Analysis Plan (DCAP) for the proposed fishery identifying the data needed and any operational research actions needed to obtain data from the proposed fishery to enable an assessment of the stock, the feasibility of establishing a fishery and the impact of the proposed fishing activities on non-target, associated or dependent species and the marine ecosystem in which the fishery occurs. The DCAP shall require, as appropriate:
- a. a description of the catch, effort and related biological, ecological and environmental data required to undertake the evaluations described in paragraph 20;
 - b. the date(s) by which the data must be provided to the Secretariat;
 - c. a plan for directing fishing effort to allow for the acquisition of relevant data to evaluate the fishery potential and the ecological relationships among harvested, non-target, and associated and dependent populations and the likelihood of adverse impacts;
 - d. a plan for the acquisition of any other research data obtained by fishing vessels, including activities that may require the cooperative activities of scientific observers and the vessel, as may be required by the Scientific Committee to evaluate the fishery potential and the ecological relationships among harvested, non-target, and associated and dependent populations and the likelihood of adverse impacts;
 - e. an evaluation of the time scales involved in determining the responses of harvested, dependent and related populations to fishing activities; and
 - f. details on the analyses that will be used to evaluate population trends, key biological parameters, and to assess sustainability and the fishery impacts.

Assessment of proposed new and exploratory fisheries by the Scientific Committee

- 7. At its ordinary meeting, the Scientific Committee shall consider any FOPs and their associated DCAPs submitted pursuant to paragraphs 5 and 6 respectively and any other relevant information.
- 8. The Scientific Committee shall review the FOP and its associated DCAP, and the data and reports from relevant ongoing or completed new and exploratory fisheries, and provide advice and recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties on the following, as appropriate:
 - a. Management strategies or plans for fishery resources;
 - b. Reference points, including precautionary reference points as described in Annex II of the 1995 Agreement;
 - c. An appropriate precautionary catch limit and appropriate time period for operation;
 - d. the cumulative impacts of all fishing activities in the area of the proposed fishery;
 - e. the impact of the proposed fishing on the marine ecosystem;
 - f. the sufficiency of information available to inform the level of precaution required and the degree of certainty with which the Scientific Committee's advice is provided;

- g. the degree to which the approach outlined in the FOP is likely to ensure the proposed fishery is developed consistently with its nature as a new and exploratory fishery, and consistently with the objectives of Article 2 and the general principles of Article 4 of the Agreement; and
 - h. in respect of a FOP that proposes any bottom fishing activity, advice and recommendations in accordance with the requirements of the SIOFA BFIAS.
9. The Scientific Committee shall review annually as appropriate the FOPs and their associated DCAPs for each new and exploratory fishery approved by the Meeting of the Parties.

Assessment of proposed new and exploratory fisheries by the Compliance Committee

10. At its ordinary meeting, the Compliance Committee shall consider any FOPs submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 and any advice of the Scientific Committee thereon as well as an associated draft CMM prepared by the proposing CCP in respect of the new and exploratory fishery and provide advice and recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties on appropriate management arrangements, including in the light of CMM 01(2024) and CMM 15(2024), if applicable.

Assessment of proposed new and exploratory fisheries by the Meeting of the Parties

11. At its ordinary meeting, the Meeting of the Parties shall consider any FOPs submitted pursuant to paragraph 5, any advice or recommendations provided by the Scientific Committee and Compliance Committee pursuant to paragraphs 7-9 and paragraph 10 respectively, any applicable obligations under CMM 01(2024) and CMM 15(2024) in respect of the proposed fishing activity, and any specific draft CMM proposed in respect of the fishery.
12. The Meeting of the Parties shall take a decision as to whether to approve the proposed new and exploratory fishery in accordance with the FOP and DCAP, and shall designate a time period for operation, up to a maximum period of three years. If the Meeting of the Parties approves the proposed new and exploratory fishery, it shall adopt a CMM in respect of the fishery which shall include objectives, reference points, a precautionary catch limit and any other management measures the Meeting of the Parties deems appropriate.
13. The Meeting of the Parties may amend a FOP, as necessary, prior to approving the new and exploratory fishery.
14. Once a FOP and its associated CMM expires, a CCP may prepare and submit a new FOP in accordance with paragraph 5.

Conduct of new and exploratory fisheries

15. CCPs shall not permit fishing vessels flying their flag to participate in new and exploratory fisheries without prior approval from the Meeting of the Parties.
16. CCPs shall ensure that any fishing vessel flying their flag only participates in a new and exploratory fishery in accordance with the FOP reviewed by the Scientific Committee and approved by the Meeting of the Parties.
17. CCPs shall ensure that vessels flying their flag that engage in new and exploratory fisheries that have been authorised by the Meeting of the Parties carry on board one or more scientific observers for the duration of the activity to collect data in accordance with the DCAP, and to assist in collecting biological and other relevant data, as appropriate.
18. CCPs shall ensure that where their flagged vessels participate in a new and exploratory fishery, the data required by the DCAP is provided to the Scientific Committee. CCPs whose vessels participate in a new and exploratory fishery shall be prohibited from participating in that fishery if the data specified in the DCAP has not been submitted to the Scientific Committee for the most recent season in which the fishing occurred, until the relevant data has been submitted to the Scientific Committee and it has had the opportunity to review that data.

19. Notwithstanding paragraph 5.a., CCPs shall be entitled to authorize participation in a new and exploratory fishery by a vessel flying their flag not identified in the FOP if the vessel specified in the FOP is prevented from fishing on account of legitimate operational or *force majeure* reasons and a replacement vessel of similar capability and capacity is proposed pursuant to this paragraph. In such circumstances, the CCP concerned shall immediately inform the Secretariat thereof and provide:
- full details of the intended replacement vessel(s);
 - a comprehensive account of the reasons for the replacement and any relevant supporting evidence; and
 - specifications and a full description of the types of fishing gear to be used by the replacement vessel.

The Secretariat shall immediately circulate this information to all CCPs.

Reclassification of new and exploratory fisheries

20. The Meeting of the Parties may take a decision to manage the fishery as an established fishery if it is satisfied that sufficient information is available concerning a new and exploratory fishery:
- to evaluate the distribution, abundance and demography of the target and primary species to inform an estimate of the fishery's potential yield; and
 - to review the fishery's potential impacts on non-target and associated or dependent species, including endangered, threatened and protected (ETP) species and bycatch, and on the marine ecosystem in which the fishery occurs, including vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs); and
 - to allow the Scientific Committee to formulate and provide advice to the Meeting of the Parties on appropriate management arrangements including harvest catch levels, effort levels, and fishing gear, where appropriate.

Review

21. This CMM shall be reviewed no later than at the ordinary Meeting of the Parties in 2028. The review shall take into account, *inter alia*, international best practices and the most recent advice of the Scientific Committee on new and exploratory fisheries.

Annex 1 – Established fisheries in the SIOFA Area⁴

Targeted⁵ species/fisheries	Fishing gear	Participants	Area
Patagonian toothfish	Set longlines, traps	Australia, EU (Spain), France (Overseas Territories), Japan, Korea	Designated fishing footprints of Australia, EU (Spain), Japan, and France (Overseas Territories). SIOFA sub-areas 3b and 7
Orange roughy	Bottom trawl	Australia, Cook Islands, Japan, China, Mauritius	Designated fishing footprints of Australia, Cook Islands, Japan. Underwater topographic features in SIOFA sub-areas 1, 2, 3a, 3b, 4, 5 and 6.
Alfonsino	Midwater trawl	Australia, Cook Islands, Japan, Korea,	Designated fishing footprints of Australia, Cook Islands and Japan. Underwater topographic features in SIOFA sub-areas 1, 2, 3a, 3b, 4, 5 and 6.
Brushtooth lizardfish and scads	Trawl (nei), single boat otter board trawl	Thailand	Designated fishing footprint of Thailand.
Shallow-water (<200m), Carangoides spp., snappers, emperors and groupers	Set longline, hook and line (handlines), bottom trawl, traps	EU (France), Mauritius, Thailand, Comoros	Designated fishing footprint of Thailand. SIOFA sub-area 8 (mainly Saya de Malha Bank)
Deep water (>200m) snappers, lutjanids, hapuka	Set longline, dropline	Australia, China, EU (Spain)	Designated fishing footprints of the EU (Spain) and Australia. SIOFA Subareas 2, 3a, 3b and 4.
Oilfish	Pelagic longline, dropline	Chinese Taipei, Seychelles	Southwest Indian Ocean
Squid	Light Seining, Squid Jigging	China	Designated fishing footprint of China. SIOFA Subareas 1, 4, 7 and 8.

⁴ Annex 1 may be updated by the Meeting of the Parties upon the advice of the Scientific Committee concerning historical catch data and/or other information submitted by CCPs regarding their targeted fisheries.

⁵ As per the endorsed definition adopted by MoP10 (MoP10 Report Para 130).

Annex 2 – SIOFA Fishery Operations Plan Template

Paragraph 5 of CMM 17(2024) (New and Exploratory Fisheries) requires any CCP seeking to permit a vessel flying its flag to engage in new and exploratory fisheries to prepare and submit, using this template, at least 35 days prior to the commencement of the ordinary meeting of the Scientific Committee, a Fishery Operations Plan (FOP) for the fishing season(s) concerned for review by the Scientific Committee.

Complete the following table:

CCP	
Area	
Target Species	
Proposed Methods of Fishing	
Proposed Maximum Catch / Effort Limit	
Expected Period of Operation (max. 3 years)	
Submission date	

1. Introduction

Provide an overarching description of the purpose of the new and exploratory fishery, including area, target species, proposed methods of fishing, proposed maximum catch limits and any apportionment of that catch limit among areas or species.

2. Operator details, proposed activities in the management areas and target species

2.1 Authorized vessel(s)

Specify which vessel(s) will carry out the new and exploratory fishery.

2.2 Scientific personnel

Describe the personnel that will be involved in data analysis and provide a brief summary of their experience and abilities. Provide information on the independent observers and observer providers.

2.3 Official flag CCP contact

Provide official contacts for the management, science, observer and data aspects of the new and exploratory fishery.

2.4 Vessel authorisation and licensing

Provide details on the flag CCP's legal requirements for authorising new and exploratory fisheries, information about the fishing authorisation or licence issued to the vessel(s) that will conduct the fishery.

2.5 Areas of interest

Describe the area of operation, including the area boundaries, map(s) and depth of gear.

2.6 Target species

Specify the primary target species' scientific name and common name and provide information on what is known about the biology and distribution of the species.

2.7 Non-target, associated and dependent species

Specify anticipated bycatch species and details of the intended fate of this bycatch (e.g., retained, discarded). Provide details of any flag CCP rules for retention or handling practices and how these are enforced (e.g., code of practice or legal requirements).

3. Methods

3.1 The marine environment

Describe the environment that the fishery will occur in such as coral reefs, seagrass beds, shallow flats, seamounts, pelagic waters etc. Provide bathymetry and information on broad scale oceanography if known for that area.

3.2 Operational details

Specify where, when and how will the operation occur. Specify the areas of interest and how many trips per year are intended.

3.3 New and exploratory fishing gear used

Provide details of the gear. This should be as detailed as possible and include images of the gear and gear setup in the water.

4. Landing

Specify how, where and how often the fishery product(s) will be unloaded from the vessel. Specify where any processing of the fishery product will occur and what are the intended markets.

5. Management reference points and biomass calculations and catch/effort limits

Provide details on the target species, catch/effort limits and/or threshold reference points, why these were chosen and how the stock will be assessed against them. Describe and provide details on the total allowable catch and/or effort, specifying how this was chosen and how it will be split between areas.

6. Planned trips in the management area(s)

Specify how many trips are planned in each year and in each management area. Provide details of the number of fishing events per trip. If this FOP is a revision of a previous FOP, explain how and why it has changed from the previous one.

7. Monitoring of vessel and fishing activities

7.1 Vessel monitoring and control

Describe how the vessel will be monitored, which authorities it will report to and how often, including the frequency of VMS position reports. Specify any entry / exit notification requirements for the SIOFA Area and/or bordering EEZs/RFMOs that the vessel will need to comply with.

7.2 Observer coverage

Describe the required level of observer coverage? Explain what the observers will be expected to monitor and sample and how they will monitor catch, bycatch, SSI interactions and VME encounters.

8. Data collection and analysis plan (DCAP)

Provide details of the data sheets/e-logs proposed, submission of data to SIOFA, and descriptions of the sampling methodology proposed. Include vessel activity, set and haul logs, biological data collection and storage, SSI (catch and sightings) and VME data collections. Include details on any tagging or planned genetic analyses.

Describe the proposed analyses and intended outcomes and detail the ordinary meetings of the Scientific Committee at which annual updates (meta data of what was observed and quantity of data collected) and detailed reporting will be presented.

9. Vulnerable Marine Ecosystem indicators (if applicable)

Provide details of the flag CCP's requirements concerning the collection and handling of VME material. Describe the protocols for handling VMEs encounters and any other information of how VMEs interactions will be monitored.

10. Risk assessment⁶

10.1 Teleost/cephalopod/crustacean bycatch

Specify which species are likely to be caught on the gear, and which species are likely to be retained and discarded. Describe the likely nature of any interactions, and the potential condition of these species on landing.

CCP-X Exploratory Fishery for ZZ Risk Summary Table – Teleost/cephalopod/crustacean bycatch

Species	Spatial overlap	Catchability	Risk of mortality
Pelagic teleosts e.g., sp1, sp2	High	High	Low if not retained
Benthic teleosts e.g., sp3	High	Medium	Species dependant low to high
Squid	Medium	High	Low
Mitigation			
Describe any mitigation or codes of practice or binding rules			
Risk if released after mitigation			
Pelagic teleosts - low			
Suprabenthic teleosts - low			
Squid - low			

10.2 Elasmobranch bycatch

Specify what species are likely to be caught on the gear, and which species are likely to be retained and discarded. Describe the likely nature of any interactions.

CCP-X Exploratory Fishery for ZZ Risk Summary Table – Elasmobranch bycatch

Species	Spatial overlap	Catchability	Risk of mortality
Pelagic sharks e.g., sp1, sp2	High	High	Low if not retained
Benthic sharks e.g., sp3	High	Medium	Species dependant low to high
Species z	Medium	High	Low
Mitigation			
Describe any mitigation or codes of practice or binding rules			

⁶ The tables in this section should be completed using coloured cells with the following coding: High (red), Medium (Yellow), Low (Green), unknown (purple). Add and remove rows as applicable.

Risk if released after mitigation
Pelagic sharks - low
Benthic sharks - low
Species Z - low

10.3 Seabirds

Specify what species are likely to be caught on the gear and which species are likely to be seen around the vessel(s). Describe the likely nature of any interactions.

CCP-X Exploratory Fishery for ZZ Risk Summary Table – Seabird bycatch

Species	Spatial overlap	Catchability	Risk of mortality
Albatross sp x	Medium	Low	Low
Cormorant sp y	Low	Low	Low
Penguins sp z	Low	Low	Low
Petrels, prions and shearwaters	Medium-high	Low	Medium-Low
Mitigation			
Describe any mitigation or codes of practice or binding rules			
Risk after mitigation			
Albatross sp x - low			
Cormorants sp y - low			
Penguins sp z - low			
Petrels, prions and shearwaters - low			

10.4 Marine mammals and turtles

Specify what species are likely to be caught on the gear and which species are likely to be seen around the vessel(s). Describe the likely nature of any interactions.

CCP-X Exploratory Fishery for ZZ Risk Summary Table – Marine mammals and turtle bycatch

Species	Spatial overlap	Catchability	Risk of mortality
Whales	High	Low	Low
Dolphins	High	Low	Low
Seals, sealions and elephant seals	Medium	Low	Low
Turtles	Medium	Low	Low
Mitigation			
Describe any mitigation or codes of practice or binding rules			
Risk after mitigation			
Whales - Low			
Dolphins - Low			
Seals, sealions and elephant seals - Low			
Turtles - Low			

10.5 VME impacts

Specify what species are likely to be caught damaged by the gear. Describe the likely nature of any impacts.

CCP-X Exploratory Fishery for ZZ Risk Summary Table – VME interactions

Species	Spatial overlap	Catchability	Risk of mortality
VME indicator taxa spx	Unknown	Low but damage under bottom contact high	Medium
Mitigation			
Describe any mitigation or codes of practice or binding rules			
Risk after mitigation			
VME indicator species - Low			

11. References

Appendix A - Vessel details

Appendix B - Observer tasks and sampling instructions

CMM 01(2025~~2024~~)¹

**Conservation and Management Measure for the Interim Management of Bottom
Fishing in the Agreement Area
(Interim Management of Bottom Fishing)**

The Meeting of the Parties to the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement;

RECOGNISING that Article 4(a) of the *Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement* (the Agreement) calls on the Contracting Parties, in giving effect to the duty to cooperate, to adopt measures on the basis of the best scientific evidence available to ensure the long-term conservation of fishery resources, taking into account the sustainable use of such resources and implementing an ecosystem approach to their management;

FURTHER RECOGNISING Articles 4(c), (e) and (f) of the Agreement which call on the Contracting Parties to apply the precautionary approach, that fishing practices and management measures shall take due account of the need to minimise the harmful impact that fishing activities may have on the marine environment and noting that biodiversity in the marine environment shall be protected;

FURTHER RECOGNISING Articles 6(1)(d) and (e) of the Agreement which provides that the Meeting of the Parties shall adopt conservation and management measures (CMMs) for ensuring the long-term sustainability of fishery resources, taking into account the need to protect marine biodiversity, based on the best scientific evidence and adopt generally recommended international minimum standards for the responsible conduct of fishing operations;

MINDFUL of Article 16 of the Agreement that calls on Contracting Parties, acting jointly under the Agreement, to cooperate closely with other international fisheries and related organisations in matters of mutual interest;

NOTING United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 61/105 and subsequent resolutions of UNGA that call upon RFMOs to assess, on the basis of the best available scientific information, whether individual bottom fishing activities would have significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs), and to ensure that if it is assessed that these activities would have significant adverse impacts, they are managed to prevent such impacts, or not authorised to proceed;

FURTHER NOTING UNGA Resolution 64/72 which calls upon RFMOs to establish and implement appropriate protocols for the implementation of UNGA Resolution 61/105, including definitions of what constitutes evidence of an encounter with a VME, in particular threshold levels and indicator species; and to implement the FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas (FAO, 2009; FAO Deep-sea Fisheries Guidelines) in order to sustainably manage fish stocks and protect VMEs;

FURTHER NOTING UNGA Resolution 66/68 which encourages RFMOs to consider the results available from marine scientific research, including those obtained from seabed mapping programs concerning the identification of areas containing VMEs, and to adopt conservation and management measures to prevent significant adverse impacts from bottom fishing on

¹ CMM 01(~~2024~~2025) (Interim Management of Bottom Fishing) supersedes CMM 01(~~2023~~2024) (Interim Management of Bottom Fishing).

such ecosystems, consistent with the FAO Deep-sea Fisheries Guidelines, or to close such areas to bottom fishing until such conservation and management measures are adopted, as well as to continue to undertake further marine scientific research, in accordance with international law as reflected in Part XIII of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

AWARE of the steps being taken by the Meeting of the Parties to address the impacts of large-scale pelagic drift nets and deepwater gillnets in the SIOFA Area of Application (the Agreement Area) through the adoption of CMM 05(2016) (Pelagic Driftnets and Deepwater Gillnets);

COMMITTED to ensuring that bottom fishing undertaken in the Agreement Area is consistent with the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks and the protection of the marine environment; and

NOTING the SIOFA bottom fishing impact assessment standard and the updated SIOFA bottom fishing footprint adopted by the Meeting of the Parties in 2017 and 2023, respectively;

***ADOPTS* the following CMM in accordance with Article 6 of the Agreement:**

Objective

1. The objective of this CMM is to promote the sustainable management of deep-sea fisheries resources in the Agreement Area, including target fish stocks and non-target species, and to protect the marine ecosystem, including, *inter alia*, the prevention of significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems.

General provisions and definitions

2. This CMM applies to all fishing vessels flying the flag of a Contracting Party, cooperating non-Contracting Party, participating fishing entity or cooperating non-participating fishing entity (collectively CCPs) to the Agreement engaging or intending to engage in bottom fishing in the Agreement Area. A reference in this CMM to fishing and related activities of a CCP (such as *its* fishing, *its* catch or *its* effort) is taken to refer to fishing and related activities undertaken by vessels flying its flag.
3. The following definitions apply to this CMM:
 - a. 'vulnerable marine ecosystem' (VME) means a marine ecosystem identified using the criteria outlined in paragraph 42 of the FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-Sea Fisheries in the High Seas (FAO, 2009; FAO Deep-sea Fisheries Guidelines).
 - b. 'bottom fishing' means fishing using any gear type likely to come in contact with the seafloor or benthic organisms during the normal course of operations.
 - c. 'SIOFA bottom fishing footprint' means the map of the spatial extent of historical bottom fishing in the Agreement Area, for all vessels flagged to all CCPs, adopted by the Meeting of the Parties in 2023.
 - d. 'electronic observer program' means a program that uses electronic monitoring equipment in place of, or in conjunction with, a human observer or human observers on board a vessel that is capable of generating, storing and transmitting data to competent authorities;

- e. 'SIOFA Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment Standard' (SIOFA BFIAS) means the minimum standard for assessing the potential impacts of proposed bottom fishing activities on VMEs and deep sea fish stocks in the Agreement Area, adopted by the Meeting of the Parties in 2017;
 - f. 'SIOFA Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment' (SIOFA BFIA) means the assessment of the cumulative potential impacts of all actual and proposed bottom fishing activities on VMEs and deep-sea fish stocks in the Agreement Area, adopted by the Meeting of the Parties in 2023.
4. The provisions of this CMM are not necessarily to be considered precedents for future allocation or other decisions in accordance with Articles 6(2), (3) and (4) of the Agreement relating to participation in bottom fisheries in the Agreement Area and adjacent areas of national jurisdiction, as appropriate.

Scientific Committee work on bottom fishing and subsequent consideration by the Meeting of the Parties

5. The Scientific Committee shall, whenever a substantial change to the fishery has occurred or new data has otherwise been provided to the Scientific Committee warranting changes, develop, provide and update advice and recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties on:
- a. guidelines for evaluating and approving electronic observer programs for scientific data collection;
 - b. the status of stocks of principal deep-sea fishery resources targeted, and, to the extent possible, taken as bycatch and caught incidentally in these deep-sea fisheries, including straddling fishery resources;
 - c. criteria for what constitutes evidence of an encounter with a VME, in particular threshold levels and indicator species for all gears;
 - d. the most appropriate response to a VME encounter, including *inter alia* closing particular areas to a particular gear type or types;
 - e. the interim SIOFA Standard Protocol for Future Protected Areas Designation adopted by the Meeting of the Parties in 2018;
 - f. research and management plans for each of the protected areas listed in Annex 3. Such plans shall include, *inter alia*, conservation and management objectives taking socio-economic considerations into account where possible, appropriate measures to implement these objectives and timeframes for evaluation and review;
 - g. the SIOFA BFIAS, taking account of the latest scientific information available;
 - h. the SIOFA BFIA;
 - i. any maps of where VMEs are known to occur, or likely to occur, in the Agreement Area; and
 - j. the SIOFA bottom fishing footprint.
6. The Scientific Committee shall also periodically review all benthic taxa bycatch data to inform its consideration of the location of potential VMEs and potential impacts thereon.

7. Upon receipt of advice and recommendations from the Scientific Committee on the matters listed in paragraph 5, the Meeting of the Parties shall act on the Scientific Committee's advice and recommendations at its next ordinary meeting. This may include, when the Meeting of the Parties considers it appropriate, to authorise any document or other output arising from the advice or recommendations, and amendments thereto.

Duties of Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs undertaking bottom fishing activity in the Agreement Area

Interim bottom fishing measures

8. CCPs shall ensure that vessels flying their flag engage in bottom fishing activities in the Agreement Area only in accordance with the terms of this CMM together with CMM 15(2024) (Management of Demersal Stocks).
9. CCPs shall ensure that vessels flying their flag do not engage in bottom fishing activities in the Agreement Area outside the SIOFA bottom fishing footprint or within the SIOFA bottom fishing footprint with a particular gear type or technique not used before in that fishery in that area, except if such activities have been authorised by the Meeting of the Parties pursuant to CMM 17(2024) (New and Exploratory Fisheries).

Effort limitation and general measures

10. (1) Each CCP shall, unless otherwise approved by the Meeting of the Parties, establish and apply specific measures to limit the level and spatial extent of the bottom fishing effort of vessels flying their flag. In particular, such measures shall include:
 - a. for CCPs that have fished more than 40 days in a single year, in the Agreement Area, at the close of the Meeting of the Parties in 2016:
 - i. limits on its bottom fishing effort and/or catch, over a 12 month period to its average annual level in active years over a representative period for which reliable data exists;
 - ii. constraints on the spatial distribution of its bottom fishing effort, excluding line and trap methods, to recently fished areas to prevent any expansion of such fishing activities;
 - iii. provisions to ensure its bottom fishing will not have significant adverse impacts on VMEs and take into account its BFIA submitted pursuant to paragraph 22 or 27 and reviewed by the Scientific Committee, and any areas identified under paragraph 19 where VMEs are known to occur, or are likely to occur; and
 - iv. provisions ensuring that any vessel flying its flag is not authorised to fish in any areas that the Meeting of the Parties has decided to close to fishing.
 - b. for CCPs that have not fished more than 40 days in a single year, in the Agreement Area, at the close of the Meeting of the Parties in 2016:
 - i. limits on its bottom fishing effort and/or catch, and spatial distribution, as disclosed to the Meeting of the Parties in accordance with paragraph 10(2) and (3); and
 - ii. provisions as referred to in subparagraphs 10(1) a. iii. and iv.

(2) The measures established by CCPs pursuant to this paragraph shall be disclosed to the ordinary Meeting of the Parties and shall be made publicly available on the SIOFA website by the Secretariat.

(3) CCPs may revise the measures they establish pursuant to this paragraph provided that any amendments made are consistent with the requirements of paragraph 10(1). Revised measures shall be notified to the Secretariat within 30 days of the amendment, and shall be disclosed at the next ordinary Meeting of the Parties.

(4) The provisions of this paragraph are not necessarily to be considered a precedent for future decisions taken by the Meeting of the Parties pursuant to paragraph 9.

11. Any CCP that has not submitted the measures required pursuant to paragraph 10(1), shall not authorise any vessels flying its flag to bottom fish in the Agreement Area until:

- a. that CCP has submitted the measures required in paragraph 10(1); or
- b. it has otherwise been decided by the Meeting of the Parties.

Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems

12. CCPs shall apply to vessels flying their flag the following threshold levels for encounters with VMEs:

- a. the threshold that triggers the encounter protocol for longline gears shall be the catch/recovery of 10 or more VME-indicator units² of species listed in Annex 1 in a single line segment³.
- b. the threshold that triggers the encounter protocol for the trawls shall be more than 60 kg of live corals and/or 300 Kg of sponges in any tow.

The threshold that triggers the encounter protocol for the trawl as defined in paragraph 12b shall be reviewed by the Scientific Committee in 2020.

13. Where evidence of a VME is encountered above threshold levels established under paragraph 12 in the course of fishing operations, CCPs shall require any vessel flying their flag to immediately cease bottom fishing activities within:

- a. For bottom or mid water trawling, or fishing with any other net - two (2) nautical miles either side of a trawl track extended by two (2) nautical miles at each end;
- b. For longline and trap activities - a radius of one (1) nautical mile from the midpoint of the line segment⁴;
- c. For all other bottom fishing gear types - a radius of one (1) nautical mile from the

² 'VME indicator unit' means either one liter of those VME indicator organisms that can be placed in a 10-litre container, or one kilogram of those VME indicator organisms that do not fit into a 10-litre container

³ Line segment' means a 1000-hooks section of line or a 1 200 m section of line, whichever is the shorter.

⁴ Line segment means a 1000 hooks section of line or a 1200 meters section of line, whichever is the shorter, and for pot lines a 1200 meters section

midpoint of the operation.

14. CCPs shall immediately report any VME encounter to the Secretariat and in their National Reports to the Scientific Committee in accordance with the guidelines at Annex 2. In the event of an encounter, CCPs shall cooperate to the extent possible with the Secretariat and other CCPs engaged in bottom fishing to exchange such data and information as may be relevant to the Scientific Committee's consideration of the encounter area.
15. On receipt of a notification under paragraph 14, the Secretariat shall:
 - a. record the location of the encounter area;
 - b. within three working days of receipt, notify all CCPs that bottom fishing is suspended in the encounter area; and
 - c. publicise the encounter area on the non-public area of the SIOFA website for the duration of the suspension.
16. Upon receipt of a notification from the Secretariat under paragraph 15b., CCPs shall ensure that vessels flying their flags do not undertake bottom fishing in the notified encounter area unless and until the Meeting of the Parties determines management action under paragraph 18 that would permit the resumption of bottom fishing in the encounter area.
17. As an encounter may be considered evidence of a potential presence of a VME, the Scientific Committee shall, at each ordinary meeting, review any encounter reported pursuant to paragraph 14 and any other benthic bycatch data it considers relevant and provide advice to the Meeting of the Parties thereon.
18. On the basis of the advice of the Scientific Committee, the Meeting of the Parties shall decide to confirm whether the encounter area should remain closed to all or some gears. Where the Meeting of the Parties decides that an encounter area should remain closed to all or some gears, the Secretariat shall make the information publicly available on the SIOFA website.
19. The Meeting of the Parties shall identify, on the basis of the best available scientific information including advice and recommendations provided by the Scientific Committee pursuant to paragraph 5i, areas where VMEs are known or likely to occur in the Agreement Area and map these sites, and the Secretariat shall circulate such data and information to all CCPs.
20. The Secretariat shall make available the maps in paragraph 19 on a dedicated webpage and update them in a timely manner.

Provision of data by CCPs

21. CCPs shall submit to the Secretariat:
 - a. relevant data on the spatial extent of their historical bottom fishing effort in the Agreement Area expressed as grid blocks of at least 20 minutes resolution or, if available, a finer scale; and
 - b. any other data the Scientific Committee may consider to be useful in updating the SIOFA BFIA, including data relating to recorded encounters with VMEs or indicators

of VMEs.

22. Any CCP that authorises or is seeking to authorise any vessel flying its flag to bottom fish in the Agreement Area shall submit to the Secretariat a Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment for its individual bottom fishing activities in the Agreement Area that meets the requirements of paragraph 26.
23. The Scientific Committee shall consider all BFIA's received under paragraph 22 and 28b. at its next ordinary meeting, and provide advice in its meeting report as to:
 - a. the likely cumulative impacts of bottom fishing impact activity from vessels flying the flag of a CCP in the Agreement Area; and
 - b. whether each BFIA meets the requirements of paragraph 26.
24. If the Scientific Committee's advice is that a BFIA does not meet the requirements of paragraph 26, the Meeting of the Parties may request that CCP who submitted the BFIA to revise and resubmit its BFIA to the next ordinary meeting of the Scientific Committee, and to decide to either:
 - a. suspend any vessel flying its flag from bottom fishing in the Agreement Area until the Scientific Committee provides advice that the BFIA meets the requirements of paragraph 26; or
 - b. undertake any other course of action, as the Meeting of the Parties may decide, taking into account Scientific Committee advice and the objectives of this CMM.
25. Any CCP that has not submitted a BFIA in accordance with paragraph 22 shall not authorise any vessels flying its flag to bottom fish in the Agreement Area until:
 - a. that CCP has prepared and submitted a BFIA, and the Scientific Committee has reviewed that BFIA and determined it meets the requirements of paragraph 26; or
 - b. it has otherwise been decided by the Meeting of the Parties.
26. All BFIA's, including the SIOFA BFIA, shall:
 - a. be prepared, to the extent possible, in accordance with the FAO International guidelines for the management of deep-sea fisheries resources in the high seas;
 - b. meet the standards of the SIOFA BFIA's;
 - c. take into account areas identified where VMEs are known or are likely to occur in the area to be fished pursuant to paragraph 19;
 - d. take into account all relevant information provided pursuant to paragraph 21, and in addition, for the SIOFA BFIA, paragraph 22;
 - e. be updated when a substantial change in the fishery has occurred, such that it is likely that the risk or impacts of the fishery may have changed;
 - f. assess, to the extent possible, the historical and anticipated cumulative impact of all bottom fishing activity in the Agreement Area, if applicable; and
 - g. address whether the proposed activities achieve the objectives described in paragraph 1 of this CMM and Article 2 of the Agreement.

27. All BFIA's, including the SIOFA BFIA, shall be made publicly available on the SIOFA website once the Scientific Committee has determined that they meet the requirements of paragraph 26.

Provision of data by, and interim bottom fishing measures for, new CCPs

28. Paragraphs 10 to 12 shall not apply to any State or fishing entity that becomes a CCP after the Meeting of the Parties in 2017. However, prior to authorising any vessels flying its flag to bottom fish in the Agreement Area, each of these new CCPs which has fished more or less than 40 days in a single calendar year as referred to in paragraph 10(1) a. or b. shall:
- a. advise the Meeting of the Parties of the measures it intends to take pursuant to paragraph 10(1) a. i., ii., iii. and iv.;
 - b. 30 days prior to an ordinary meeting of the Scientific Committee after it becomes a CCP, submit the data referred to in paragraph 21 and a BFIA as outlined in paragraph 22 to the Scientific Committee for its consideration in accordance with paragraph 24.
29. Subject to agreement of the Meeting of the Parties, based on the advice from the Scientific Committee and the measures submitted in accordance with paragraph 28, a new CCP referred to in paragraph 28 may then authorise vessels flying its flag to bottom fish in the Agreement Area, in accordance with paragraphs 10-12.
30. A CCP seeking to authorise any vessel flying its flag to undertake bottom fishing in the Agreement Area in a manner at variance with the requirements of paragraph 10 to limit the bottom fishing effort of vessels flying its flag shall submit to the Scientific Committee, at least 30 days prior to an ordinary meeting of the Scientific Committee, a proposal to undertake that activity or activities. This proposal shall include an assessment of the impact of the proposed fishing activity in accordance with the requirements for BFIA's outlined in paragraph 26, any proposed measures to mitigate that impact, and any other information as required by the Scientific Committee to undertake the assessment in paragraph 23.
31. On receipt of any proposal developed pursuant to paragraph 30, the Scientific Committee shall, at its next ordinary meeting:
- a. assess, on the basis of the best available scientific information, whether the proposed bottom fishing would have significant adverse impacts on VMEs;
 - b. if it is assessed that these activities would have significant adverse impacts, consider what measures should be taken to prevent such impacts, or, if those impacts cannot be appropriately mitigated, whether the proposed bottom fishing should proceed or not;
 - c. assess, taking into account, *inter alia*: the cumulative impacts of other fishing occurring in that area, where such information is available; whether the proposed activities are compatible with the sustainable management of bottom fisheries, including target fish stocks and non-target species; and the protection of the marine environment, including *inter alia*, the prevention of significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems; and

- d. provide recommendations and advice to the Meeting of the Parties in its meeting report on each of these matters, as applicable.
32. The Meeting of the Parties shall, taking into account the recommendations and advice of the Scientific Committee, decide whether or not to authorise bottom fishing in accordance with a proposal made pursuant to paragraph 30 including, if applicable, the extent to which such bottom fishing shall be authorised.
 33. If applicable, the Meeting of the Parties shall also decide which measures or conditions shall be applied to any activity authorised pursuant to paragraph 32 to ensure that fishing activity is consistent with the objectives of Article 2 of the Agreement and paragraph 1 of this CMM.

General management and conditions for bottom fishing in the Agreement Area

34. Consistently with Article 11(1)(a) of the Agreement, CCPs shall only authorise vessels flying their flag to bottom fish in the Agreement Area in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement, this CMM and all other applicable CMMs, and shall ensure that such vessels do not engage in any activity which undermines the effectiveness of these measures.
35. Nothing in this CMM shall affect the rights of a CCP to apply additional or more stringent compatible measures to vessels flying their flag that are conducting bottom fishing.
36. Nothing in this CMM exempts a CCP from complying with any other obligations in the Agreement or any CMMs adopted by the Meeting of the Parties.

Scientific observer coverage

37. Each CCP shall ensure that any vessel flying its flag and undertaking bottom fishing in the Agreement Area:
 - a. using trawl gear has 100 percent scientific observer coverage for the duration of the trip; and
 - b. subject to paragraph 43b, using any other bottom fishing gear type has 20 percent scientific observer coverage in any fishing year⁵.
38. Consistent with paragraphs 12 and 15 of CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards), the Scientific Committee shall regularly review the observer coverage levels prescribed in paragraph 37 at its ordinary meeting and provide advice to the Meeting of the Parties thereon.

⁵ For line fishing this should be expressed as the percentage of the total number of observed hooks or days.

39. The scientific observer coverage levels outlined in paragraph 37 shall be fulfilled through the use of human observers, except to the extent authorised by the Meeting of the Parties pursuant to paragraph 41c.
40. Once the Meeting of the Parties has adopted Guidelines for evaluating and approving electronic observer programs developed pursuant to paragraph 5a, a CCP may submit a proposal to the Scientific Committee seeking to use an electronic observer program which uses, entirely or in part, electronic monitoring equipment, human observers and/or a port sampling program. As part of this proposal, that CCP shall submit evidence of, and data relating to, a statistically robust trial of the program that demonstrates it meets the data requirements prescribed in the SIOFA data standards CMM, once adopted by the Meeting of the Parties.
41. Following the submission of the proposal by the CCP to the Scientific Committee:
 - a. The Scientific Committee shall review the proposal and provide recommendations and advice thereon to the Meeting of the Parties, taking into account the Guidelines and whether the program will reliably collect all data required by CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards).
 - b. The Compliance Committee shall also review the proposal and provide advice and recommendations thereon to the Meeting of the Parties.
 - c. On receipt of the advice by the Scientific Committee and the Compliance Committee on the proposal, the Meeting of the Parties shall, at its next meeting, consider whether to authorise the use of that program by that CCP in place of the exclusive use of human observers.

Interim Protected Area Designation

- ~~42. The areas included in Annex 3 are provisionally designated as protected areas.~~
- ~~43. CCPs shall provisionally apply the following measures in the areas listed on Annex 3 until the adoption of a dedicated research and management plan, referred to in paragraph 5f, for each area:~~
 - ~~a. CCPs shall prohibit all vessels flying their flag from engaging in bottom fishing, excluding line and trap methods; and~~
 - ~~b. For all other gears, CCPs shall ensure each vessel flying their flag has a scientific observer onboard at all times while fishing inside those areas.~~
- ~~44. In 2025, the Meeting of the Parties shall review Annex 3, taking into account advice of the Scientific Committee.~~

Cooperation with other States

- ~~45.~~^{42.} Contracting Parties resolve, individually or jointly, to request those States and fishing entities that are undertaking bottom fishing in the Agreement Area but are not currently CCPs to cooperate fully in the implementation of this measure and to consider participating in the work of SIOFA as a matter of priority.

Review

~~46.43.~~ This CMM shall be reviewed no later than at the ordinary Meeting of the Parties in 2025. This review shall take into account, *inter alia*, the latest advice of the Scientific Committee, including advice on those matters listed in paragraphs 5 and appropriate catch levels for principal target species, in accordance with the objective described in paragraph 1.

Annex 1 - SIOFA VME indicator taxa **(in bold)**

Taxonomic level	Taxon name	FAO Code
<u>Domain</u>	<u>Bacteria</u>	
	Chemosynthetic organisms	CXV
<u>Phylum</u>	Bryozoa	BZN
<u>Phylum</u>	Xenophyophorea	XEY
<u>Phylum</u>	Brachiopoda	BRQ
<u>Phylum</u>	Porifera	PFR
<u>Class</u>	Hexactinellida	HXY
<u>Class</u>	Demospongiae	DMO
<u>Phylum</u>	Cnidaria	CNI
<u>Order</u>	Actiniaria	ATX
<u>Order</u>	Alcyonacea	AJZ
<u>Order</u>	Anthoathecata	AZN
<u>Order</u>	Antipatharia	AQZ
<u>Order</u>	Gorgonacea	GGW
<u>Order</u>	Scleractinia	CSS
<u>Order</u>	Pennatulacea	NTW
<u>Order</u>	Zoantharia	ZOT
<u>Family</u>	Stylasteridae	AXT
<u>Phylum</u>	<u>Echinodermata</u>	
<u>Class</u>	Crinoidea	CWD
<u>Order</u>	Euryalida	OEQ
<u>Order</u>	Cidaroida	CVD
<u>Phylum</u>	<u>Anellida</u>	
<u>Family</u>	Serpulidae	SZS
<u>Phylum</u>	<u>Arthropoda</u>	
<u>Family</u>	Bathylasmatidae	BWY
<u>Phylum</u>	<u>Tunicata</u>	
<u>Class</u>	Asciacea	SSX
<u>Phylum</u>	<u>Hemichordata</u>	
<u>Class</u>	Pterobranchia	HET

Annex 2 - Guidelines for the Preparation and Submission of Notifications of Encounters with VMEs

1. General Information

Include contact information, nationality, vessel name(s) and dates of data collection.

2. VME location

Start and end positions of all gear deployments and/or observations.

Maps of fishing locations, underlying bathymetry or habitat and spatial scale of fishing. Depth(s) fished.

3. Fishing gear

Indicate fishing gears used at each location.

4. Additional data collected

Indicate additional data collected at or near the locations fished, if possible.

Data such as multibeam bathymetry, oceanographic data such as CTD profiles, current profiles, water chemistry, substrate types recorded at or near those locations, other fauna observed, video recordings, acoustic profiles etc.

5. VME taxa

For each station fished, provide details of VME taxa observed, including but not limited to their relative density, absolute density, or weight and/or number of taxa.

Annex 3—Interim Protected Areas

The boundary of each Area is a line that begins at point 1 then continues along the geodesics sequentially connecting the rest of the points for the area, then west to the point of commencement.

Atlantis Bank

Point	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
1	32° 00'	57° 00'
2	32° 50'	57° 00'
3	32° 50'	58° 00'
4	32° 00'	58° 00'

Coral

Point	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
1	41° 00'	42° 00'
2	41° 40'	42° 00'
3	41° 40'	44° 00'
4	41° 00'	44° 00'

Fools Flat

Point	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
1	31° 30'	94° 40'
2	31° 40'	94° 40'
3	31° 40'	95° 00'
4	31° 30'	95° 00'

Middle of What

Point	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
1	37° 54'	50° 23'
2	37° 56.5'	50° 23'
3	37° 56.5'	50° 27'
4	37° 54'	50° 27'

Walter's Shoal

Point	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
1	33° 00'	43° 10'
2	33° 20'	43° 10'
3	33° 20'	44° 10'
4	33° 00'	44° 10'

CMM 02(2023)³**Conservation and Management Measure for the Collection, Reporting, Verification and Exchange of Data relating to fishing activities in the Agreement Area (Data Standards)****The Meeting of the Parties to the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement;**

RECALLING that Article 6(1) (f) of the *Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement* (the Agreement) calls on the Meeting of the Parties to develop rules for the collection and verification of scientific and statistical data, as well as for the submission, publication, dissemination and use of such data;

FURTHER RECALLING that Articles 10(1)(c) and 11(3) set out the duties relevant to the collection and provision of data and related processes for Contracting Parties and flag CCPs respectively;

RECOGNISING the importance of developing comprehensive arrangements for data collection, reporting, verification and exchange of data to assist the Scientific Committee in performing its functions as outlined in Article 7 of the Agreement;

NOTING the relevance of Articles 10(e) and 14 of the *Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks* (UNFSA) which call on States to cooperate through regional fisheries management organisations to agree on the standards for the collection, reporting, verification and exchange of data on fisheries for the stocks, and the specifications and format for the data to be provided and to cooperate in their scientific research;

CONSIDERING the provisions set forth in the *Resolution on data collection concerning the high seas in the Southern Indian Ocean*, adopted by the Conference on the *Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement* in the Seychelles from 13-16 July 2004;

NOTING the importance of data collection and catch reporting for the purposes of ensuring scientific stock assessment and implementing an ecosystem approach to fisheries management;

NOTING the recommendation by the Third meeting of the Scientific Committee to improve the collection of sharks catch information and the submission of scientific observer data; and

FURTHER NOTING that the Meeting of Parties has adopted policies and procedures for the maintenance of data confidentiality (CMM 03(2016));

ADOPTS the following conservation and management measure (CMM) in accordance with Article 6 of the Agreement:

Application

1. This CMM applies to all Contracting Parties, cooperating non-Contracting Parties and participating fishing entities (CCPs).
2. This CMM prescribes the standards for the collection, reporting, verification, and exchange of data related to fishing activities by vessels fishing in the SIOFA Area of Application (the Agreement Area) that are flying the flag of a CCP. These data standards

³ CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards) supersedes CMM 2022/02 (Data Standards).

shall assist the Meeting of the Parties to fulfil its objectives under the Agreement insofar as it relates to assessing the state of the fisheries within SIOFA's competence, including the status of target and non-target species and the impact of fishing on the marine environment.

Terminology

3. The following definitions apply to this CMM including its annexes:
 - a. 'other species of concern' means those species as may be defined by the Scientific Committee from time to time.
 - b. 'National Report' means the report defined in paragraph-9 of this CMM.

Vessel Catch and Effort Data

Collection of data

4. CCPs shall ensure that data on fishing activities, including for target, non-target and associated and dependent species such as marine mammals, marine reptiles, seabirds or 'other species of concern', are collected from vessels flying their flag that are fishing in the Agreement Area in accordance with the relevant sections of Annex A.
5. CCPs shall collect vessel catch and effort data on a haul-by-haul basis, with the exception of handline fishing, where CCPs shall collect vessel catch and effort data on an operation⁴ basis.

Data collection and submission

6. CCPs shall report to the Secretariat, by 31 May each year, the data collected under paragraphs 4 and 5 for the previous calendar year, in accordance with the format prescribed in the corresponding annexes.
7. CCPs shall provide to the Secretariat, by 31 May each year, annual catch summaries for all species/groups caught in the Agreement Area during the previous calendar year. The catch summaries shall include the following information:
 - a. Calendar year (e.g. 2015)
 - b. FAO statistical area (e.g. FA087)
 - c. Species/group name (common name and scientific name)
 - d. Species/group code (FAO3-alpha code 19, EG ORY) (if available)
 - e. Annual catch total - tonnes raised to 'live' weight.
8. To assist in data collection CCPs engaged in, or intending to engage in, fishing pursuant to CMM 01(2024) shall implement on-board all fishing vessels flying their flag the FAO Identification guide to the deep-sea cartilaginous fishes of the Indian Ocean⁵. Where available the use of Smartforms may be considered.

National report

9. Following the entry into force of this CMM, CCPs shall provide to the Scientific Committee, at least 30 days prior to the commencement of each ordinary meeting, an annual National

⁴ An operation is the daily activity of a main vessel (including its dories), where catch is the daily catch and effort is the number of active ~~fishermen~~ fishers per day and the number of lines fished per day.

⁵ Ebert, D.A. and Mostarda, E. 2013. Identification guide to the deep-sea cartilaginous fishes of the Indian Ocean, FishFinder Programme, FAO, Rome. 76 p

Report of their fishing, research and management activities in accordance with the following:

- a. For the first report: the National Report shall include details of activities of the previous five calendar years;
- b. For all reports thereafter: the National Report shall include details of activities of the previous calendar year; and
- c. In either case, the National Report shall take into account the guidelines prepared by the Scientific Committee for the preparation of such reports.

Historical Data

10. To assist with the development of a bottom fishing footprint and stock assessments, each CCP shall provide the Secretariat with all historical catch and effort, and if available observer data for vessels flying their flag and fishing in the Agreement Area at any time during period 2000-2015 and any previous years where available in accordance with annex A and annex B to the extent applicable. Any State or fishing entity that becomes a Party to the Agreement, a CNCP or PFE after the date this CMM is adopted shall provide their historical data to the Secretariat within 12 months of becoming Party to the Agreement, or becoming a CNCP or PFE.
11. Where possible, CCPs are encouraged to provide relevant, reliable historical data for species caught in waters under their national jurisdiction where such information would assist in understanding the status of the stocks and the impacts of fishing on all target species, non-target and associated and dependent species and the marine environment within the Agreement Area.

Scientific Observer Data

12. All CCPs shall implement national scientific observer programs to collect from activities undertaken by vessels flying their flag:
 - a. Vessel information, effort and catch data for its fishing activities in the Agreement Area, including target, non-target and associated and dependent species including marine mammals, marine reptiles, seabirds or 'other species of concern';
 - b. Biological or other data and information relevant to the management of fishery resources in the Agreement Area, as specified in this CMM, or as identified from time to time by the Scientific Committee or through processes identified by the Meeting of the Parties; and
 - c. Relevant scientific information related to the implementation of the provisions of the CMMs adopted by the Meeting of the Parties.
13. The function and tasks of the scientific observer are described in Annex D.
14. CCPs shall, through their National Report, provide to the Scientific Committee an annual observer programme implementation report which should include summary sections covering: observer training, program design and coverage, type of data collected, and any problems encountered during the previous calendar year.
15. CCPs shall, for all observed trips, collect observer data in accordance with the relevant sections of Annex B. All observer data collected by CCPs shall be reported to the Secretariat by 31 May each year for the previous calendar year.
16. By 2023, the Scientific Committee shall develop and adopt a template for the observer reports, and a template for an observer data collection form that may be used by observers in subsequent years.
17. By 2023, the Meeting of the Parties, based on recommendations from the Scientific

Committee and the Compliance Committee shall adopt a SIOFA framework for scientific observation clarifying all the aspects related to the role.

Data Verification

18. CCPs shall:
 - a. ensure that fishery data are verified through an appropriate system of data verification mechanisms;
 - b. develop, implement, and improve data verification mechanisms, which may include:
 - i. Position verification through vessel monitoring systems;
 - ii. Independent monitoring, including scientific observer programs and approved electronic observer programs,⁶ to verify industry data on catch, effort, catch composition (target and non-target), discards and other details of fishing operations;
 - iii. Vessel trip, landing and transshipment reports; and
 - iv. Port sampling.
 - c. provide to the Scientific Committee, through their National Report, an annual data verification report which should provide information regarding their development and implementation of data verification mechanisms.

Format for data submission

19. CCPs shall report all data required to be reported by this measure to the Secretariat in accordance with the formats described in this CMM, including its annexes.
20. Specifications for the submission of data:
 - a. times, latitudinal /longitudinal/ information and units of measure are to be reported in accordance with the format described in Annex C;
 - b. Species are to be described using the FAO 3 letter Species Codes;⁷
 - c. Fishing methods are to be described using the International Standard Classification of Fishing Gear (ISSCFG - 29 July 1980) codes;⁸ and
 - d. Types of fishing vessels are to be described using the International Standard Classification of Fishery Vessels (ISSCFV) codes.⁹

Review

21. This CMM should be reviewed periodically by the Scientific Committee and the Meeting of the Parties, taking into account new information or data requirements as may be decided.

⁶ Approved electronic observer programs refers to those programs that meet the SIOFA agreed standard and have been reviewed by the Scientific Committee and approved by the Meeting of the Parties as being capable of meeting the data requirements in this CMM.

⁷ <https://www.fao.org/fishery/en/collection/asfis/en>

⁸ <https://www.fao.org/cwp-on-fishery-statistics/handbook/capture-fisheries-statistics/en/>

⁹ <https://www.fao.org/cwp-on-fishery-statistics/handbook/capture-fisheries-statistics/en/>

**Standards for the Collection, Reporting, Verification and Exchange of Data
Annexes**

List of Annexes:

Annex A - Vessel Catch and Effort Data

Annex B - Observer Data

Annex C - Specifications for the Exchange of Data

Annex D – Function and tasks of the scientific observer

Annex E - Protocol for documenting whale interaction in deep-sea demersal longline fisheries

Annex A

Vessel Catch and Effort Data

1. Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall ensure that the following data on fishing activities are collected in the Agreement Area:

For all demersal fishing vessels flying their flag:

Data Set - Fishing activities General (Trip) Vessel flag CCP (ISO 3-apha) Name of vessel International radio call sign (if any) Vessel Registration number (flag CCP) Lloyd's / IMO /IHS Fairplay Number (if allocated) Vessel size: Gross Tonnage (Gross register tonnage may be used if GT is not available, or both) Name of person filling in the data
Weight Conversion Factor Species Processing type Conversion factor = live weight/processed weight
Haul Information Intended Target species (FAO code) Type of fishing (C)ommercial; (R)esearch; (S)urvey data Haul ID number
Set Start date and Time (Based on Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)) Recorded at start and end of fishing For longline vessels - record at start and end of setting, in addition to start and end of haul Date format (YYYY.MON.DD) Time format (hh.mm)
Position at start and end of fishing Latitude Longitude For longline vessels: position is recorded at the start and end of setting For bottom trawl fishing: "start" is defined as when the groundrope first touch the bottom, and "end" is when the groundrope leaves the bottom at the beginning of hauling. For midwater trawl: "start" is defined as when the fishing gear is at target fishing depth, "end" is when the tow haul begins. For handline fishing: record the position of the vessels at the start and at the end of the fishing operation
Bottom Depth (m) As recorded at the start and end of fishing.
Fishing / gear depth (m) As recorded at the start and end of fishing. For trapping/potting, Actual Fishing / gear depth (m) as recorded at start is required.
Species retained Estimated catch retained on board by taxa (FAO species/group code/scientific name) in green weight (kg).

Species Discarded An estimation of the amount of living marine resources discarded by taxa, if possible, in green weight (kg)
Incidental bycatch of marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles and 'other species of concern' Presence: Yes / No For each species caught • Taxa name • Number alive • Number dead or injured
Incidental bycatch of VME indicator taxa Presence: Yes / No For each species caught • Taxa name

For all pelagic fishing vessels targeting SIOFA species flying their flag:

Data Set - Fishing activities General (Trip) Vessel flag CCP (ISO 3-apha) Name of vessel International radio call sign (if any) Vessel Registration number (flag CCP) Lloyd's / IMO / IHS Fairplay Number (if allocated) Vessel size: Gross Tonnage (Gross register tonnage may be used if GT is not available, or both) Name of person filling in the data
Weight Conversion Factor Species Processing type Conversion factor = live weight/processed weight
Haul Information Intended Target species (FAO code) Type of fishing (C)ommercial; (R)esearch; (S)urvey data Haul ID number
Set Start date and Time (Based on Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)) Recorded at start of fishing Date format (YYYY.MON.DD) Time format (hh.mm)
Position at start of fishing Latitude Longitude
Species retained Estimated catch retained on board by taxa (FAO species/group code/scientific name) in live weight (kg)
Species Discarded An estimation of the amount of living marine resources discarded by taxa, if possible, in live weight (kg)
Incidental bycatch of marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles and 'other species of concern' Presence: Yes / No For each species caught • Taxa name • Number alive • Number dead or injured

2. Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall ensure that the following gear-specific data on fishing activities, as applicable, are collected from all fishing vessels flying their flag in the Agreement Area.

Data Set – Gear
Trawl Cod end mesh Size (mm) Trawl technique: Type of trawl: (S)ingle, (D)ouble or (T)ripple
Demersal Longline Type of longline (Spanish, Trotline, Autoline) Total length (m) Type of bait Hook size (mm) Hook spacing (m) Hook code or make Length of line (m) Number of hooks set Number hooks per cluster (if Trotline) Number of hooks lost (attached to lost sections of line)
Pelagic Longline Total length (m) Total number of hooks in the set Number of hooks between floats Number of light-stick used in the set Type of bait used in the set Sea surface temperature at noon (Length of floating line) (Length of branch line) (Distance between branch lines)
Trap/Pot Pot type Type of line: Dropline or longline Length of line (m) Pot spacing (m) Number of pots set Number of pots lost Type of bait
Dahn/Drop Line/ Total number of hooks in the set Total number of line lifts in the set Number of hooks lost Hook code or make Type of leader used Type of bait used
Handline Number of ~~fishermen~~ <u>fishers</u> involved <u>Number of lines per fisher</u> ~~Number of line lifts per fisherman~~ Number of hooks per line

Squid JiggingPower of fish lamp (kw)Use of the fish finder (Y/N)Number of fishersNumber of line machinesFishing duration by hand (h)Fishing duration by machines (h)Number of hooks on per line

Annex B

Observer Data

1. Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall, for all observed trips, collect and provide to the Secretariat the data contained in this Annex in accordance with the format set out below.
2. Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall, where appropriate, ensure that observers are briefed and provided with documented length-frequency and biological sampling protocols and the specific priorities for the trip for the sampling activities documented below.
3. Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall endeavour to collect tissue, otolith and/or stomach samples in accordance with any research programs developed by the Scientific Committee.

Hierarchies for Observer Data collection**Fishing Operation Information**

All vessel and tow / set / effort information.

Reporting of Catches

Record time, weight of catch sampled versus total catch or effort (e.g. number of hooks), and total numbers of each species caught

Identification and counts of [endangered, threatened or protected species \(ETP\)](#), seabirds, mammals, reptiles (e.g., turtles), sensitive benthic species and vulnerable species

Record numbers or weights of each species retained or discarded Record instances of depredation, where appropriate

Biological Sampling

Check for presence of tags

Length-frequency data for Target species (FAO species code)

Basic biological data (sex, maturity) for Target species (FAO species code)

Length-frequency data for main by-catch species

Otoliths (and stomach samples, if being collected) for Target species (FAO species code)

Basic biological data for by-catch species

Biological samples of by-catch species (if being collected)

Take photos

Observer Data Sections Common to all fisheries

Data Set - Observer data
Trip Details Trip Number Cruise details (start and end dates - YYYY.MON.DD) Date report is generated (UTC) Current vessel flag CCP (ISO 3-apha) Name of vessel

Observer Details

Observer name and ID
 Nationality (ISO 3-apha)
 Employing organisation
 Contact name in organisation (Address/email/fax)
 Boarding location (UNLOCODE, if applicable or Latitude/Longitude) Boarding Date (UTC:YYYY.MON.DD)
 Disembarkation location (UNLOCODE, if applicable or Latitude/Longitude)
 Disembarkation date (UTC:YYYY.MON.DD)
 Time Zone (UTC +/-)

Length Frequency Data

Representative and randomly sampled length-frequency data shall be collected for the target species (FAO species code)

Length data shall be collected and recorded at the most precise level appropriate for the species (cm or mm and whether to the nearest unit or unit below) and the type of measurement used (total length, fork length, or standard length) shall also be recorded.

Where possible, total weight of length-frequency samples should be recorded, or estimated and the method of estimation recorded

Where possible, Observers should determine and record sex of measured fish to generate length-frequency data stratified by sex

Where possible, representative and randomly sampled length-frequency data should be collected for other main by-catch species

Biological Sampling

Species

Length (mm or cm) and the type of length measurement used.

Skates and rays:

- Maximum disk width shall be measured

Sharks

- Appropriate length measurement to be used should be selected for each species. As a default, total length should be measured.

Weight (kg)

Sex (male, female, immature (optional), unsexed (optional))

Maturity stage (optional) and criteria/schedule used (optional)

Gonad weight (g) (optional)

Otoliths

[Seabird & Marine Mammals abundance observation \(to be recorded for each operation and for all gears/fisheries\):](#)

[Operation ID \(Set ID, tow ID\)](#)

[At Setting or At Hauling \(At setting/At hauling/Not applicable\)](#)

Seabirds present in observation area? (Yes/No/Not Observed)

Species

Estimated numbers of abundance (by species)

Operation ID (Set ID, tow ID)

Marine Mammals present in observation area? (Yes/No/Not Observed)

Species

Estimated numbers of abundance (by species)

Observed catch (to be recorded for each operation and for all gears/fisheries, record weight or number according to the fishery)

Operation ID (Set ID, Tow ID)

Observer ID

FAO ASFIS Species code

Species retained

Total Number retained

Weight retained (kg)

Species discarded

Total Number discarded

Weight discarded (kg)

Number discarded alive

Number discarded dead

Number or weight of fish lost (if applicable)

Number or weight of fish cut off (if applicable)

Number of fish depredated (if applicable)

Comments

Incidental bycatch of ETP species (seabirds, mammals, turtles or 'other species of concern')

The following data shall be collected for all seabirds, mammals, turtles, and other species of concern caught in fishing operations as much as possible:

- Species (identified taxonomically as far as possible, or accompanied by photographs if identification is difficult) and size
- Estimated species abundance around fishing vessel
- Species interactions with fishing gear
- Count of the number of each species caught per tow or set
- Fate of bycatch animal(s) (retained or released/discarded)
- If released, life status (vigorous, alive, lethargic, injured, dead) upon release

- If injured, what was the cause of injury?
- If dead, then collect information or samples for onshore identification in accordance with pre-determined sampling protocols. Where this is not possible, observers may be required to collect sub-samples of identifying parts, as specified in biological sampling protocols
 - Record the type of interaction (hook/line entanglement/warp strike/net capture/other) if other, describe
- Sex of each individual for taxa where this is feasible from external observation, e.g. pinnipeds, small cetaceans or *Elasmobranchii* species
- identify any circumstances or actions that may have contributed to the bycatch event? (E.g. tori line tangle, high levels of bait loss)

Tag releases

The following data shall be reported for all tagged fish, seabird, mammal, or reptile

Tag type, wording, and colour

Tag number

Date and time of tagging

Species

Animal length

Type of length

Animal sex (F=female, M=male, I=indeterminate, D=not examined)

Position (Lat/Lon) of release

Animal status at release (injured/uninjured)

Tag Recoveries

The following data shall be collected for all recovered fish, seabird, mammal or reptile tags if the organism is dead, to be retained, or alive:

- Name of observer
- Name of vessel
- International radio call sign (if any)
- Vessel flag CCP (ISO 3-apha)
- Collect, label (with all details below) and store the actual tags for later return to the tagging agency
- Species from which tag recovered
- Tag colour
- Tag wording and type of tag (spaghetti, archival)
- Tag numbers
- Date and time of capture (UTC)
- Location of capture (Lat/Lon, to the nearest 1 minute)
- Animal length / size (cm or mm) with description of what measurement was taken (such as total length, fork length, etc.)
- Sex (F=female, M=male, I=indeterminate, D=not examined)
- Maturity stage
- Gonad weight (g)
- Tag Site Condition
- Samples retained
- Tag photo (include in cruise report)
- Whether the tags were found during a period of fishing that was being observed (Y/N)

Bird Bands

The following data shall be reported for all seabird bands retrieved or spotted

- Species
- Band identifier
- Date and time of observation (UTC)
- Location of observation (Lat/Lon, to the nearest 1 minute) or Operation ID
- Type of interaction (with gear, with vessel, no interaction with gear or vessel)
- Photo taken? (Yes/No)
- State (likely to survive, injured, dead)

Bird interaction with vessel and collisions (excluding fishing gear)

- Species
- Number of birds
- Date and time of observation (UTC)
- Location of observation (Lat/Lon, to the nearest 1 minute)
- Type of interaction (with gear, with vessel, with mitigation device)
- Photo taken? (Yes/No)
- State (likely to survive, injured, dead)
- Vessel activity (steaming, fishing, other)
- Type of interaction (collision, entanglement, bird found landed)
- Description of the interaction (including location of the bird on the vessel)
- Presence of fog (yes/no)
- Wind speed (kts) and bearing (°)
- Sea state (Beaufort)
- Description of vessel lighting at the moment of the observation

Bycatch mitigation gears details**Streamer line****General Streamer Line Description**

Number of streamer lines regularly set

Streamer line position (port, starboard, stern)

Streamer line length (m)

Streamer length min/max (m)

Attached height above water (m)

Distance between streamers (m)

Number of streamers

Streamer design (single or paired)

Aerial extent of line (m)

Method used to assess aerial extent

Streamer material
Streamer line diameter (mm)
Streamer colours
Streamer line over bait entry position? (y/n/u)
Distance from stern to bait entry point (m)
Towed object (Y/N)
Horizontal distance from bait entry point to streamer line (m)

Bird baffler

Other bycatch mitigation device

Trotline cetacean exclusion device

Photo taken of the mitigation gear?

Interactions with Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME)

General information

Name of observer

Name of vessel

Date

Trip number

Set number

VME location

Start and end positions of all gear deployments and/or observations.

(Latitude/longitude)

Depth(s) fished (m)

Fishing Gear

Indicate fishing gears used at each location

VME Taxa

Presence: Yes/No

a) Species (identified taxonomically as far as possible or accompanied by a photograph where identification is difficult).

b) An estimate of the quantity (weight (kg) or volume (m3)) of each listed benthic species caught in the tow (and the unit of measurement).

c) An overall estimate of the total quantity (weight (kg) or volume (m3)) of all invertebrate benthic species caught in the tow (and the unit of measurement).

d) Where possible, provide the live or dead status for corals

e) Where possible, and particularly for new or scarce benthic species which do not appear in ID guides, whole samples should be collected and suitably preserved for identification on shore.

e) Collect representative biological samples from the entire VME catch. (Biological samples shall be collected and frozen when requested by the scientific authority in a Contracting Party). For some coral species that are under the CITES list photographs should be taken.

Other sessile benthos taxa

Presence: Yes/No

For each catch of taxa
Scientific names (identified to the finest taxon level possible)
FAO code (if available)
Estimation of the amount caught

Processing Details and Conversion Factors (CF)

Operation ID (setID, towID)
Name of observer
Species Code (FAO species code)
Processing Code
Length Type
Minimum Length (cm)
Maximum Length (cm)
Number of individuals
Total Green Weight (kg)
Weighting Method
Processed Weight (kg)
Size Grade
Quality Grade
Conversion Factor

Observer data sections that are gear and fishery specific

For trawl fishing activities ONLY

Gear details

Net ID

Net-Gear type (ISSFCV)

Headrope length (m)

Ground rope length (m)

Ground rope bobbins present?

Ground rope bobbins material (steel or rubber)

Ground rope bobbins weight (combined)

Bobbin diameter (cm)

Otter board to wing length (m)

Horizontal Opening, i.e. wingspread (m)

Vertical Opening (m)

Codend mesh

Mesh size (cm),

codend circumference (cm),

Orientation

Mesh type (diamond, square, etc)

Otter board

Type, weight (kg)

Net design

Net design description including make, model etc

Selectivity device present? (Y/N)

Selectivity device description

Net monitoring cables present? (Y/N)

Trawl details

Trawl Number

Bycatch Mitigation Gear used (Y/N)

Bycatch Mitigation Gear 1 ID

Bycatch Mitigation Gear 2 ID

Bycatch Mitigation Gear 3 ID

Gear

Trawl type: Research or Commercial (R/C)

Observed (Yes/No)

Target Species (FAO species code)

Date Start (YYYY.MON.DD)

Date Finish (YYYY.MON.DD)

Time net deployed (hh:mm)

Time net retrieved (hh:mm)

Start and End Fishing

For bottom trawl "start" is defined as when the groundrope is on the bottom, "end" is when the hauling starts.

For midwater trawl "start" is defined as when the fishing gear is at target fishing depth, "end" is when the hauling starts.

Time (hh:mm)

Latitude

Longitude

Trawl Depth (m)

Bottom Depth (m)

Other

Offal discharged during shooting (Y/N)

Offal discharged during hauling (Y/N)

Trawl speed (knots)

~~Horizontal opening (m)~~

Total catch (kg)

Observed catch composition

~~Observer ID~~

Was Haul observed for fish/invertebrate by-catch (Y/N):

Record the total weight of all sub-samples for this shot (kg):

Species:

~~FAO species code~~

~~Scientific name~~

~~Estimated retained catch weight (kg) or number of individuals~~

~~Estimated discarded catch weight (kg) or number of individuals~~

Bycatch mitigation measures employed:

~~Were bird scaring (tori) lines in use? (Yes/No)~~

~~Were bird bafflers in use? (Yes/No)~~

Trawl ~~warp-gear~~ strike (to be monitored for 15 minutes immediately after the net has been deployed) (optional):

~~Trawl number (optional)~~

~~Name of observer (optional)~~

Start observation time (hh:mm) (optional)

End observation time (hh:mm) (optional)

Species

Nb of light strikes

Light strikes contact place:

 Number on windward ward

 Number on leeward ward

 Number on monitoring cable

 Number on net

Nb of heavy strikes

Heavy strikes contact place:

 Number on windward ward

Number on leeward ward
Number on monitoring cable
Number on net

Heavy strike fate:

Number aerial
Number sea surface
Number submerged
State of the bird(s) after strike
Number Likely to survive
Number Injured
Number Dead
Number Unknown

Number of heavy warp strikes (record for Albatross, Giant Petrels, White-chinned petrels, other petrels):

Air

Water

Sinker

Seabird abundance observation:

Seabirds present in observation area (y/n)
 Estimated numbers of abundance (by species)

For Longline fishing activities ONLY

Longline Description:

Longline Type (ISSCFG codes~~FFSSCV~~)
 Period in which the gear was used (YYYY.MON.DD)
 Start and end date (YYYY.MON.DD)
 Target Species (FAO species code)

Main Line:

Material
 Diameter (mm)

For Integrated Weight Lines (IWL):

Integrated weight (g/m)

For non-IWL:

Weight spacing (m)
Number of measured weights
Weight type
Average weight (kg)
Standard deviation (kg)

Branch Lines:

Material
 Length (~~M~~m)

Spacing (m)

Branchline weights (kg)

Branchline weight distance from hook (m)

Hooks

Type (e.g.: J shaped, Circular, etc.)

Manufacturer

Marking (vessel mark, leave blank for none)

Model name

Make

Size (~~inch~~mm)

~~Total length (mm)~~

Shank (mm)

Gape (mm)

~~Throat (mm)~~

~~Front length (mm)~~

Usual setting position

Line off bottom (m) (optional for pelagic longline)

Hooks off bottom (m) (optional for pelagic longline)

Method of baiting (manual/automatic)

Automatic baiting equipment (make and model)

Hook sinkers

Size (g)

Position from hook (mm)

Offal dumping position (port, starboard, stern)

Longline setting position (port, starboard, stern)

Offal dumping during hauling (never, occasionally, always)

Propeller rotation direction (clockwise/anti-clockwise)

Detail the weight and distance between the line weights for the longline system used

Single (Auto) Line (kg:m)

Double (Spanish) Line (kg:m)

Trotline (vertical droppers/trots attached to a mainline) (kg:m)

General Streamer Line Description

~~Vessel equipped with a streamer line (y/n)~~

~~Number of streamer lines regularly set~~

~~Streamer line position (port, starboard, stern)~~

~~Streamer line length (m)~~

~~Streamer length min/max (m)~~

~~Attached height above water (m)~~

~~Distance between streamers (m)~~

~~Number of streamers~~

~~Streamer design (single or paired)~~

~~Aerial extent of line (m)~~

~~Method used to assess aerial extent~~

~~Streamer material~~

~~Streamer line diameter (mm)~~

~~Streamer colours~~

~~Streamer line over bait entry position? (y/n/u)~~

~~Distance from stern to bait entry point (m)~~

~~Towed object (Y/N)~~

~~Horizontal distance from bait entry point to streamer line (m)~~

Daily setting observations

Set Number (as referenced in catch and effort log)

Set Type: Research or Commercial (R/C)

~~Bycatch Mitigation Gear used (Y/N)~~

~~Bycatch Mitigation Gear 1 ID~~

~~Bycatch Mitigation Gear 2 ID~~

~~Bycatch Mitigation Gear 3 ID~~

Longline Type Code (FSSCV)

~~Trotline cetacean exclusion device used (Y/N)~~

Date of observation (YYYY.MON.DD)

Setting information

Vessel setting speed (knots)

Number sets unobserved since last set

Start and End setting for each haul

Date (YYYY.MON.DD)

Time (hh:mm)

Latitude

Longitude

Bottom Depth (m)

Total length of longline set (km)

Total number of hooks for the set

For each Observation

Start date (YYYY.MON.DD)

Start time (hh:mm)

~~End date~~ (YYYY.MON.DD)

End time (hh:mm)

Details of Longline Setting

Main line length (m)

Number of hooks set

Number of Baskets/Magazines Set

Number of hooks per Basket/Magazine

Percentage hooks baited

Distance between branches (m)

Distance of hooks off bottom (m) (optional for pelagic longline)

Bait species (FAO species code)

Deck lights during setting (On, Off)

Streamer lines used (Yes, No)

Number of streamer lines used Offal dumping during setting (Yes, No)

Bait entry position (Port, Starboard, Stern)

~~Clip on Interval (seconds)~~

~~Setting Speed (Line setter)~~

Daily hauling observations

Set number

Date of observation (YYYY.MON.DD)

Hauling Information

Number of hooks observed for seabird and fish by-catch (tally period)

Offal dumped during hauling (Yes / No)

Interactions with marine mammals

Data is to be collected in accordance with the protocol set out in annex E. For each haul and each species of depredating whales (killer whales *Orcinus orca* and sperm whales *Physeter macrocephalus*):

- Priority 1 data to be collected include:

1. Presence/absence data: Presence / Absence / Not observed;
2. When presence, photo-identification data: photographs of specific body parts (for killer whales: dorsal fin, saddle patch and eye patches; for sperm whales: tail flukes) visible when whales come to the surface.

- Priority 2 data to be collected include:

1. Estimates of the number of individuals present around the vessel in the vicinity of the fishing gear.

- Priority 3 data to be collected include:

1. Information about whether or not whales interact with the gear;
2. Estimate of the time of arrival of whales in the vicinity of the gear.

Gear lost

Number of sections lost

Number of hooks lost that were attached to lost sections of the longline
Number of other hooks lost (excluding hooks attached to lost sections)

Observed catch composition

Was Haul observed for fish/invertebrate by-catch (Y/N):

Estimate percentage of the haul observed for by-catch (%)

Species

Species code (FAO species code)

Total retained catch weight (kg) or total number

Total discarded catch weight (kg) or total number

Species Retained

Observed number retained Observed number retained with tags

Species Discarded

Observed number discarded

Observed number discarded dead

Observed number discarded alive

Species Lost

Observed number lost/dropped off at surface

Specimen cut off (if possible)

Yes / No

For each species caught

- ~~Taxa name~~
- ~~Number alive~~
- ~~Number dead or injured~~

•

For Trapping/Potting Fishing Activities ONLY*Gear type*

pot type (with drawing)

mesh size (mm)

Material***Funnel position***

Orientation

Aperture (cm)

Number of chambers

Escape port present (y/n)

Dimensions (cm) of escape port

Weights attached?Min Weight (kg)Max Weight (kg)***Processing Details and Conversion Factors (CF)***~~Haul Number~~~~Name of observer~~~~Species Code (FAO species code)~~~~Processing Code~~~~Length Range (Minimum Maximum)~~~~Number of individuals~~~~Live Weight (kg)~~~~Processed Weight (kg)~~~~Grade~~~~Conversion Factor~~***Set and haul details***

Set Number

Bycatch Mitigation Gear used (Y/N)Bycatch Mitigation Gear 1 IDBycatch Mitigation Gear 2 IDBycatch Mitigation Gear 3 ID

Date of observation (YYYY.MON.DD)

Set Type: Research or Commercial (R/C)

Target species (FAO species code)

Offal dumped during setting (Yes / No)

Offal dumped during hauling (Yes / No)

Start and End setting. Repeat for hauling

Date (YYYY.MON.DD)

Time (:mm)

Latitude

Longitude

Bottom depth (m)

Gear Details

Length of line (m)

Type of line Pot spacing (m)

Bait type

Setting

Number of pots set

Number of pots observed

Hauling

number of pots hauled

number of pots observed

Observed interactions with birds or marine mammals

Species Code (FAO species code)

At Setting

Abundance (500m radius)

Gear interaction (y/n)

At Hauling

Abundance (500m radius)

Gear interaction (y/n)

Observed catch composition

Name of observer

Was Haul observed for fish/invertebrate by-catch (Y/N):

Estimate percentage of the haul observed for by-catch (%):

Number of pots observed for by-catch:

Species Code (FAO species code)

Total retained catch weight (kg)

Total discarded catch weight (kg)

Species Retained

Observed number retained

Observed number retained with tags

Species Discarded

Observed number discarded

Observed number discarded dead

Observed number discarded alive

Species Lost

Observed number lost/dropped off at surface

For Dahn/Drop lining activity ONLY***Dahn/Dropline Description***

Line Type

Period in which the gear was used () Start and end date

Target species (FAO species code)

Main Line

Material

Diameter (mm)

Integrated weight (g/m)

Hooks

Type (e.g.: J shaped, Circular, etc.)

ManufacturerMarking (leave blank for none)Model nameMakeSize (~~inch~~mm)~~Total length (mm)~~

Shank (mm)

Gape (mm)

~~Throat (mm)~~~~Front length (mm)~~

Usual setting position

Line off bottom (m)

Hooks off bottom (m)

Method of baiting (manual/automatic)

Automatic baiting equipment (make and model)

Offal

Offal dumping position (port, starboard, stern)

Offal dumping during hauling (never, occasionally, always)

Propeller rotation direction (clockwise/anti-clockwise)

General Streamer Line Description~~Vessel equipped with a streamer line (y/n)~~~~Number of streamer lines regularly set~~~~Streamer line position (port, starboard, stern)~~~~Streamer line length (m)~~~~Streamer length min/max (m)~~~~Attached height above water (m)~~~~Distance between streamers (m)~~~~Number of streamers~~~~Streamer design (single or paired)~~~~Ariel extent of line (m)~~~~Method used to assess aerial extent~~~~Streamer material~~~~Streamer line diameter (mm)~~~~Streamer colours~~~~Streamer line over bait entry position? (y/n/u)~~~~Distance from stern to bait entry point (m)~~~~Horizontal distance from bait entry point to streamer line (m)~~

Details of Dahn/Dropline SettingBycatch Mitigation Gear used (Y/N)Bycatch Mitigation Gear 1 IDBycatch Mitigation Gear 2 IDBycatch Mitigation Gear 3 ID

Main line length (m)

Number of hooks set

Percentage hooks baited

Distance between branches/snoods (m)

Distance of hooks off bottom (m)

Bait species

Bait size

Bait proportion

Deck lights during setting (On, Off)

Streamer lines used (Yes, No)

Number of streamer lines used Offal dumping during setting (Yes, No)

Daylight period

Moonlight

Bait entry position (Port, Starboard, Stern)

Vessel setting speed (knots)

Start and End setting. Repeat for Start and End of hauling

Date (YYYY.MON.DD)

Time (hh:mm)

Latitude

Longitude

Bottom Depth (m)

Gear lost

Number of sections lost

Number of hooks lost that were attached to lost sections of the dahn/dropline

Number of other hooks lost (excluding hooks attached to lost sections)

~~Observed catch composition~~~~Observer ID~~~~Was Haul observed for fish/invertebrate by-catch (Y/N):~~~~Estimate percentage of the haul observed for by-catch (%)~~~~Species (data shall be collected for each observed species)~~~~Species code (FAO species code)~~~~total retained catch weight (kg)~~~~total discarded catch weight (kg)~~***~~Species Retained~~***~~observed number retained~~~~observed number retained with tags~~***~~Species Discarded~~***~~observed number discarded~~~~observed number discarded dead~~~~observed number discarded alive~~***~~Specimen cut off (if possible)~~***~~Yes / No~~

For each species caught

• ~~_____~~ Taxa name

• ~~_____~~ Number alive

~~Number dead or injured~~

~~**Species Lost**~~

~~observed number lost/dropped off at surface~~

Handline fishing activity

Handline Description

~~Target species (FAO species code)~~

Main Line

Material

Diameter (mm)

~~Integrated weight (g/m)~~

Hooks

Type (e.g.: J shaped, Circular, etc.)

~~Manufacturer~~

~~Marking (leave blank for none)~~

~~Model name~~

~~Make~~

Size (~~inch~~mm)

~~Total length (mm)~~

Shank (mm)

Gape (mm)

~~Throat (mm)~~

~~Front length (mm)~~

Usual setting position

Line off bottom (m)

Hooks off bottom (m)

Offal

Offal dumping position (port, starboard, stern)

Offal dumping during hauling (never, occasionally, always)

Propeller rotation direction (clockwise/anti-clockwise)

Details of Handline Operation

~~Target species (FAO species code)~~

~~Operation type: Research or Commercial (R/C)~~

~~Bycatch Mitigation Gear 1 ID~~

~~Bycatch Mitigation Gear 2 ID~~

~~Bycatch Mitigation Gear 3 ID~~

~~Main line length (m)~~

Number of ~~fishermen~~ fishers operating handlines

Number of line lifts per fisherman (average)

Number of hooks per line

Percentage hooks baited

Bait species

Bait size

Bait proportion

Deck lights during setting (On, Off)

Start and End time of operation.

(An operation is a defined period of fishing between start and end date)

Date (YYYY.MON.DD)

Time (hh:mm)

Time Start (YYYY.MON.DD hh:mm)

Time Finish (YYYY.MON.DD hh:mm)

Operation Latitude

Operation Longitude

Bottom Depth (m)

Gear lost

Number of hooks lost

Observed catch composition

Observer ID

Was Haul observed for fish/invertebrate by-catch (Y/N):

Estimate percentage of the haul observed for by-catch (%)

~~Species (data shall be collected for each observed species)~~

~~Species code (FAO species code)~~

~~total retained catch weight (kg)~~

~~total discarded catch weight (kg)~~

Species Retained

~~observed number retained~~

~~observed number retained with tags~~

Species Discarded

~~observed number discarded~~

~~observed number discarded dead~~

~~observed number discarded alive~~

Species Lost

~~observed number lost/dropped off at surface~~

Squid Jigging operation details:

Squid Jigging (operation) Number

Observed (Yes/No)

Target Species (FAO species code)

Time Start (YYYY.MON.DD hh:mm)

Time Finish (YYYY.MON.DD hh:mm)

Latitude of operation

Longitude of operation

Number of fishers

Number of jigging machines

Fishing duration by hand (h)

Fishing duration by machine (h)

Fish lamp used during fishing (Y/N)

Was fishing observed for fish/invertebrate bycatch (Y/N):

Estimated percentage of the operation observed for fish/invertebrate bycatch (%)

Species:

FAO species code

Scientific name

Estimated retained catch weight (kg) or number of individuals

Estimated discarded catch weight (kg) or number of individuals

Interactions with Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME)

General information

Name of observer

Name of vessel

Date

Trip number

Set number

VME location

Start and end positions of all gear deployments and/or observations.

(Latitude/longitude)

Depth(s) fished (m)

Fishing Gear

Indicate fishing gears used at each location

VME Taxa

Presence: Yes/No

a) ~~Species (identified taxonomically as far as possible or accompanied by a photograph where identification is difficult).~~

b) ~~An estimate of the quantity (weight (kg) or volume (m³)) of each listed benthic species caught in the tow (and the unit of measurement).~~

c) ~~An overall estimate of the total quantity (weight (kg) or volume (m³)) of all invertebrate benthic species caught in the tow (and the unit of measurement).~~

d) ~~Where possible, provide the live or dead status for corals~~

e) ~~Where possible, and particularly for new or scarce benthic species which do not appear in ID guides, whole samples should be collected and suitably preserved for identification on shore.~~

e) ~~Collect representative biological samples from the entire VME catch. (Biological samples shall be collected and frozen when requested by the scientific authority in a Contracting Party). For some coral species that are under the CITES list photographs should be taken.~~

Other sessile benthos taxa

Presence: Yes/No

For each catch of taxa

~~Scientific names (identified to the finest taxon level possible)~~

~~FAO code (if available)~~

~~Estimation of the amount caught~~

|

Specifications for the Exchange of Data

1. Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) shall be used to describe times, using the following submission format: YYYY-MON-DDThh:mm:ss where:

- a. YYYY - represents a 4-digit year e.g. "2007"
- b. MON - represents a 3-character month abbreviation e.g. "APR"
- c. DD - represents a 2-digit day e.g. "05"
- d. T - is a space separator
- e. hh - represents hours based on the 24hr clock (length = 2 digits) e.g. "16"
- f. mm - represents minutes (length = 2 digits) e.g. "05"
- g. ss - represent seconds (length = 2 digits) e.g. "00"

Example: 2003-JUL-17T13:10:00 = 1.10pm (1310h), 17 July 2003

2. Coordinates are to be used to describe precise locations and the following standards shall be used:

Degrees minutes seconds (DD°MM'SS") or Degrees minute decimal (DD°MM.XX) or Decimal degrees (DD.XXXX)

Add N or S to indicated North or South for latitudes. Add E to indicate the Eastern longitude (the SIOFA Area is always in the Eastern longitudes), for decimal degrees, add minus for southern latitudes.

Examples:

Latitude= 42°37'06" S Longitude= 48°03'58" E

Latitude= 35°09.70" S Longitude= 51°12.94"

Latitude= -10.0386 Longitude= 61.7088

3. Metric units of measure be used, specifically:

- a. kilograms are to be used to describe catch weight
- b. Metres are to be used to describe height, width, depth, beam, or length
- c. Cubic metres are to be used to describe volume
- d. Kilowatts are to be used to describe engine power

Role and tasks of the scientific observer

1. The function of scientific observers on board vessels engaged in harvesting of marine living resources is to independently observe and report on the operation of fishing activities in the SIOFA Area.
2. In fulfilling this function, scientific observers will undertake the following tasks:
 - a. Record details of vessel operations, including inter alia, times of, searching, fishing, transit etc., and details of hauls;
 - b. Take biological samples of catches;
 - c. Record biological data of species caught;
 - d. Record by-catch information, such as species, quantity, and other biological data [as specified in Annex B]
 - e. Record interactions with seabirds, marine mammals, and marine reptiles
 - f. Record information on catch including data relating to processed conversion factors;
 - g. prepare reports of their observations for their respective national authorities;
 - h. collect and report data on sightings fishing vessels, unmarked fishing gear, and recovery of fishing gear in the SIOFA Area, including vessel type identification, vessel position and activity and gear type;
 - i. collect information on fishing gear loss and waste disposal by the fishing vessels at sea.

Protocol for documenting whale interaction in deep-sea demersal longline fisheries

Priority 1 Data to be collected**Presence**

For every haul and for each species:

Haul	Fish Waste discharge	Presence ?	Comment
1	Yes/No	Absent	
2	Yes/No	Present	
3	Yes/No	Present	Night-time, but clearly see them in projectors
4	Yes/No	Not observed	Night-time, can't see them but can't say they are not present around.

Requirement: data mandatory and must be collected for every haul.

“Presence”: Favourable conditions (visibility is at least several hundred meters with sufficient light) and observation by the observer (observer can be alerted by the crew when whales are sighted). The presence of whales is confirmed by direct observation of at least one individual at the surface in the vicinity of the vessel at least once during 1 haul. Note that presence can also be observed at night when killer whales come very close to the boat.

“Absence”: Favourable conditions and no odontocete spotted at any time during the entire haul.

“Not observed” is used either if the observer did not have time to gather information (e.g. if line broke), or if conditions are too bad to observe (either weather conditions, or hauling at night).

Photos

For every haul and for each species:

Haul	Presence?	Photos?	Comment
1	Absent	No	
2	Present	Yes	
3	Present	No	Night-time: too dark for pictures
4	Not observed	No	Night-time: too dark for pictures

Requirement: data mandatory and must be collected for every haul.

With this additional field, observers indicate whether they took pictures of whales for photo-identification purposes or not during the haul of the set.

Priority 2 Data to be collected

Number of individuals

For every haul and for each species:

Haul	Presence?	minimum	maximum	comment
1	Absent	0	0	
2	Present	15	22	
3	Present	1		At least one but too dark for accurate estimate
4	Not observed			

Requirement: data should be collected for every haul to the extent possible.

Providing exact counts of individuals from the surface may be difficult for observers as whales can dive for long periods of time. To account for uncertainty around counts, observers may fill in two fields:

- Minimum estimate of the number of individuals,
- Maximum estimate of the number of individuals.

Priority 3 Data to be collected

Interaction with fishing gear

For every haul and for each species:

Haul	Presence?	Interaction with fishing gear?	Comment
1	Absent	No	
2	Present	Yes	Saw them diving close to the line
3	Present	Yes	Head of fish were observed
4	Not observed		

Requirement: data should be collected for every haul to the extent possible.

When Presence, interaction with fishing gear is taken into account if whales are diving close to the lines or directly observed with fish in their mouths.

Estimated Time of Arrival (ETA)

For every haul and for each species:

Haul	Presence?	ETA	Comment
1	Absent	NA	Not applicable
2	Present	0:30	We were able to haul 30 minutes before they arrive
3	Present	0:00	Saw them in projectors even before first hook came on board
4	Not observed	NA	Not applicable

Requirement: data should be collected for every haul to the extent possible.

The Estimated Time of Arrival here corresponds to the time between the first hook of the line hauled on board and the arrival of sperm whales / killer whales. If whales are already present when hauling starts, then ETA is zero.

CMM 18 (2025)**Conservation and Management Measure for Benthic Fishery Closures****The Meeting of the Parties to the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement;**

RECALLING Article 4(a) of the *Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement* (the Agreement) which calls on the Contracting Parties, in giving effect to the duty to cooperate, to adopt measures on the basis of the best scientific evidence available to ensure the long-term conservation of fishery resources, taking into account the sustainable use of such resources and implementing an ecosystem approach to their management;

FURTHER RECOGNISING Articles 4(c), (d), (e) and (f) of the Agreement which call on the Contracting Parties to apply the precautionary approach and the principles that measures shall be taken to ensure that the level of fishing activity is commensurate with the sustainable use of the fishery resources, that fishing practices and management measures shall take due account of the need to minimise the harmful impact that fishing activities may have on the marine environment, and that biodiversity in the marine environment shall be protected;

FURTHER RECOGNISING Articles 6(1)(d) and (e) of the Agreement which provide that the Meeting of the Parties shall adopt conservation and management measures (CMMs) necessary for ensuring the long-term sustainability of fishery resources, taking into account the need to protect marine biodiversity, based on the best scientific evidence available and adopt generally recommended international minimum standards for the responsible conduct of fishing operations;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that the *Mid-Indian Ridge Benthic Fishery Closure* established under this CMM shall be implemented in accordance with SIOFA's mandate and not prejudice any CCP's rights and obligations under international law. This includes provisions under UNCLOS, International Seabed Authority (ISA) or other competent international organizations and shall not prejudice any rights exercised or activities undertaken subsequent to the claim for an extended continental shelf undertaken in accordance with international law.

MINDFUL of Article 16 of the Agreement that calls on Contracting Parties, acting jointly under the Agreement, to cooperate closely with other international fisheries and related organisations in matters of mutual interest;

COMMITTED to ensuring that bottom fishing undertaken in the SIOFA Area of Application (the Agreement Area) is consistent with the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks and the protection of the marine environment;

NOTING that the SC10 recommended the establishment of benthic protected areas in areas with sensitive physical and/or biological properties, and the SC has agreed on a set of criteria to evaluate protected area designation;

NOTING that since 2006, SIODFA members have voluntarily refrained from engaging in bottom fishing within the areas outlined in this CMM and now agree to formally designate these areas as Benthic Fishery Closures (BFCs) under SIOFA CMMs;

NOTING the requirements in CMM 01(2024) on the Management of Bottom Fishing in the Agreement Area which place a number of obligations on Contracting Parties, cooperating non-Contracting Parties and participating fishing entities who intend to authorise their flagged vessels to engage in any bottom fishing in the Agreement Area.

ADOPTS the following CMM in accordance with Articles 4 and 6 of the Agreement:

Objective

1. The objective of this CMM is to provide benthic protection to sensitive areas through the implementation of Benthic Fishery Closures (BFCs) in the Agreement Area.

General provisions

2. This CMM applies to all bottom fishing vessels flying the flag of Contracting Parties, cooperating non-Contracting Parties, participating fishing entities or cooperating non-participating fishing entities (collectively CCPs) to the Agreement currently engaging in, or intending to engage in, any existing, new or exploratory bottom fishing activities in the Agreement Area.
3. CCPs shall ensure that their flagged vessels do not engage in bottom fishing within the BFCs outlined in Table 1.
4. CCPs shall ensure that their flagged vessels do not engage in bottom fishing within the BFCs outlined in Table 2 unless the CCP has existing bottom longline footprint within those areas.

Definitions

5. For the purpose of this CMM,
 - a. 'bottom fishing' means fishing using any gear type likely to come in contact with the seafloor or benthic organisms during the normal course of operations. This includes trawling; bottom longlining; drop lining and trap fishing or any method listed as bottom gear in CMM 01 or CMM 17 or bottom fisheries listed in any future amendments, or replacements, to these CMMs.
 - b. 'BFC' means Benthic Fishery Closure where bottom fishing is not permitted, unless specifically provided for in Table 2. The latitude and longitude coordinates of the BFCs are specified in Tables 1 and 2 and a map of the BFCs are included at Figure 1.

Reporting requirements

6. For any vessel allowed to fish, and engaging in fishing within the BFCs listed in Tables 1 and 2, CCPs shall record all catch and effort occurring within these BFCs and shall report these data annually, for each BFC separately, to the SC in the CCP's country report.

7. The secretariat shall annually undertake an assessment of the VMS data for all vessels entering these BFCs noting the time spent and potential activity (fishing and transiting) by vessel type and flag in each BFC. In addition, the secretariat shall provide a summary of VMS reporting under paragraph 30 of CMM 16(2023)³.
8. Until such time that CCPs' flagged vessels automatically report VMS position reports in accordance with CMM 16, the Master of any CCP's flagged vessel transiting through a BFC shall report to the Secretariat and its flag CCP 4 hours prior to entering and exiting a BFC.
9. All reports under paragraph 8 shall contain the following information:
 - (i) Report type (ZENT for entry and ZEXT for exit)
 - (ii) Vessel name
 - (iii) Flag CCP
 - (iv) IMO Number
 - (v) Trip start date i.e. date of departure from port
 - (vi) Date and time on entry or exit (GMT)
 - (vii) International Radio Call Sign (IRCS)
 - (viii) Position of entry to, or exit from, the BFC by latitude/longitude (to one tenth of a minute of arc)
 - (ix) Intended or completed activity while inside the BFC
 - (x) On exit from a FC, catch on board by weight (kilograms) and species for all catch caught within the BFC.

Research and Monitoring

10. By 2028, the SC shall develop a research and monitoring plan for the BFCs listed in Tables 1 and 2 and provide advice to the Meeting of the Parties on the maintenance, modification or termination of these BFCs. The research and monitoring plan may include fisheries independent surveys, benthic monitoring data, remote sensing analyses or other relevant research.

Review

11. This CMM shall be reviewed no later than at the 17th ordinary Meeting of the Parties in 2030 and periodically thereafter (e.g. every 5 years). The review shall take into account, *inter alia*, the most recent advice from the Scientific Committee including the results of the research and monitoring plan, international best practices and analyses of fisheries impacts on benthic areas.

³ Or its replacement.

Table 1: SIOFA Benthic Fishery Closures, closed to all bottom fishing with the coordinates and closure type. Note these can be downloaded as shapefiles from the SIOFA website [at https://siofa.org/science](https://siofa.org/science).

Area Name	Coordinates				Closure type
	Position 1	Position 2	Position 3	Position 4	
<i>Gulden Draak</i>	28° 00'S 98° 00'E	29° 00'S 98° 00'E	28° 00'S 99° 00'E	29° 00'S 99° 00'E	Closed to all bottom fishing activities
<i>Rusky</i>	31° 20'S 94° 55'E	31° 30'S 94° 55'E	31° 20'S 95° 00'E	31° 30'S 95° 00'E	
<i>Fools-Flat</i>	31° 30'S 94° 40'E	31° 40'S 94° 40'E	31° 30'S 95° 00'E	31° 40'S 95° 00'E	
<i>East Broken Ridge</i>	32° 50'S 100° 50'E	33° 25'S 100° 50'E	32° 50'S 101° 40'E	33° 25'S 101° 40'E	
<i>Mid-Indian Ridge⁴</i>	13° 00'S 64° 00'E	15° 50'S 64° 00'E	15° 50'S 66° 48'E	15° 02'S 68° 00'E	
<i>Atlantis Bank</i>	32° 00'S 57° 00'E	32° 50'S 57° 00'E	32° 00'S 58° 00'E	32° 50'S 58° 00'E	
<i>Bridle</i>	38° 03'S 49° 00'E	38° 45'S 49° 00'E	38° 03'S 50° 00'E	38° 45'S 50° 00'E	
<i>Banana</i>	30° 20'S 45° 40'E	30° 30'S 45° 40'E	30° 20'S 46° 00'E	30° 30'S 46° 00'E	
<i>Middle of What</i>	37° 54'S 50° 23'E	37° 56'S 50° 23'E	37° 54'S 50° 27'E	37° 56'S 50° 27'E	

Table 2: SIOFA Benthic Fishery Closures, closed to all bottom fishing, but where bottom longlining is permitted, with the coordinates and closure type. Note these can be downloaded as shapefiles from the SIOFA website [at https://siofa.org/science](https://siofa.org/science).

Area Name	Coordinates				Closure type
	Position 1	Position 2	Position 3	Position 4	
<i>Walters Shoal</i>	33° 00'S 43° 10'E	33° 20'S 43° 10'E	33° 00'S 44° 10'E	33° 20'S 44° 10'E	Closed to bottom fishing, with bottom longlining permitted
<i>Coral</i>	41° 00'S 42° 00'E	41° 40'S 42° 00'E	41° 00'S 44° 00'E	41° 40'S 44° 00'E	
<i>Magneto (formally South Indian Ridge)</i>	44° 00'S 40° 52' 40.8E	45° 00'S 42° 07' 26.4E	44° 00'S 46° 32' 38.4E	45° 00'S 45° 42' 39.6E	

⁴ The Mid-Indian Ridge BFC established under this CMM shall not prejudice any rights of coastal States in respect of extended continental shelf claims submitted in accordance with international law.

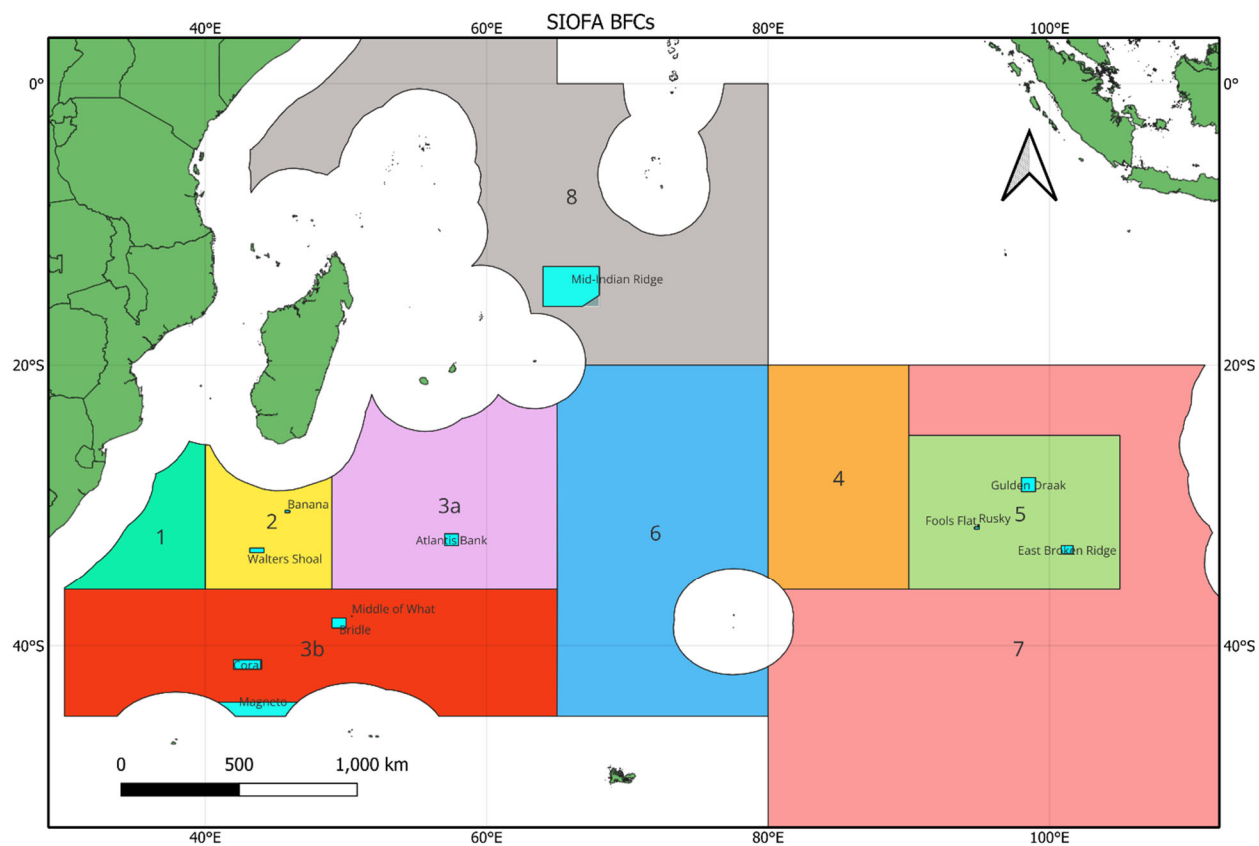


Figure 1: Map showing the location of all the SIOFA BFCs.

High-Value Procurement Policy and Procedures for SIOFA

1. Purpose

The purpose of this *SIOFA High-Value Procurement Policy and Procedures* (procurement policy) is to set out a clear, transparent and efficient process for the procurement of high-value services, having due regard to existing regulations of the organisation, notably the Financial Regulations of the Meeting of the Parties (Financial Regulations), while applying best practices adopted by other similar organisation within the context of SIOFA.

This Policy aims to establish a fair, transparent, and competitive framework for the procurement of goods and services that meet or exceed the designated financial threshold. It also reinforces institutional accountability by mandating an agreed-upon process, thereby mitigating potential organisational liability and ensuring sound governance in all high-value procurement activities.

2. Definition of High Value Goods and Services

High-value services are defined as those exceeding a € 100,000 threshold or as specified by the Meeting of the Parties. The threshold represents around 11% of the organisation's average annual operational budget over the past three years.³ These services may include consultancy, technical assistance, or other critical services requiring extensive evaluation and oversight by the Meeting of the Parties.

Establishing a carefully considered threshold is essential to upholding strong fiscal discipline while maintaining the organisation's operational efficiency. A threshold set too low may burden routine procurement with unnecessary bureaucracy, while one too high may negatively expose the organisation by limiting oversight over substantial expenditures, reducing opportunities for competitive procurement and increasing the risk of unchecked spending, conflict of interest, or non-adherence with broader financial governance principles, exposing the organisation to reputational damage or inefficient use of organisation funds. The selected threshold should reflect the scale of SIOFA's operations and the principles of sound financial governance outlined in the Financial Regulations.

The suggested threshold is set at a level that ensures the organisation can manage procurement effectively without impeding the organisation's and the Secretariat's daily operations with excessive processes. It should also allow similar processes of lesser value within the organisation to be implemented without needing readjustment to agreed-upon procedures. This includes the current process for the recruitment of Consultants in Science, which has established processes, with services costing from € 5,000 to €100,000 in the past four (4) years.

Subject to the agreement of the Meeting of the Parties, the application of the threshold may be exempted:

- If it relates to renewing or extending an ongoing service/ contract
- If the procurement is routine in nature
- If the Meeting of the Parties deems the procurement as low risk (e.g. purchase of movable properties for the Secretariat)

³ Calculated at € 872,949, rounded to the nearest €100,000. i.e. €900,000.

- In cases of emergencies
- Where the timelines associated with implementing this policy may position SIOFA as a less favourable client to potential service providers
- Other such circumstances as may be determined by the Meeting of the Parties

The threshold should allow the organization to make timely decisions. In some sectors or operational areas, delaying procurement processes (even for high-value services) could negatively impact the effectiveness of the organization's work, so having flexibility and efficiency in the process is key.

The Meeting of the Parties should review this threshold from time to time to ensure that it remains appropriate as the organisation evolves. It should consider factors such as the organisation's operational budget, external market condition changes and other strategic and policy changes.

3. Procurement Process

The procurement of high-value services will follow a structured and transparent process in line with the principles of this policy. These steps are as follows:

1. **Needs Assessment:** Every high-value procurement should reflect the organisation's needs, objectives and operational requirements. The needs assessment should define the scope, deliverables, and timelines of the service required, which should be reflected in the procurement documents such as the Terms of Reference and the Invitation to Bid. ***All high-value procurement shall be subject to the pre-approval of the Meeting of the Parties, including intersessionally.***
2. **Preparation of Procurement Documents:** The Secretariat shall draft all the procurement documentation required for the solicitation of services. These procurement documents will include:
 - a. Invitation to Bid (ITB)
 - b. Terms of Reference (TOR)
 - c. Evaluation Criteria
 - d. Exclusion and eligibility criteria

The procurement documents *may* be subject to review by the Meeting of the Parties or its chairperson, or any subsidiary body as delegated by the Meeting of the Parties

3. **Advertisement:** The Secretariat shall publish the Invitation to bid, together with the ToR and other relevant procurement documents on the SIOFA website and other relevant platforms. The ITB may also be advertised in local media, to allow participation of local service providers in the bidding process. Direct requests for bids and quotes could also be submitted to selected providers, but any direct bids/quote would still have to go through the selection process like any other bid.
4. **Proposal Submission and Opening:** All proposals shall be submitted by the Secretariat's Close of Business on the deadline, which shall be expressed in date and Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) in the procurement documents. All submissions shall include a financial proposal that shall accompany their submissions. They should be submitted to the Executive Secretary, with the Panel Chair in cc. Proposals shall be submitted electronically, unless otherwise specified in the procurement documents. The Executive Secretary shall circulate all proposals received to the Selection Panel, also noting those that were not considered due to the timeliness of the submission. All services, including submission related to the ITB, shall be provided in the organisation's working language, English.

4. Selection Panel

The Meeting of the Parties will establish a selection panel specific to a procurement. The Selection Panel shall review and evaluate proposals submitted to a specific procurement. The composition of the panel will be as follows:

- **Panel Chair:** A person from a Contracting Party (CP) or a participating fishing entity (PFE) who will oversee the process.
- **Subject Matter experts:** 2 -3 persons with expertise in the specific area being procured. The subject matter experts shall preferably be from CCPs. However, in cases where there are no such experts within the CCPs, independent experts may be recruited to support the panel's work.
- **The SIOFA Secretariat:** The Executive Secretary or a designated member of the Secretariat (the Secretariat) will ensure compliance with the Procurement Policy and Procedures and provide administrative support to the panel. The secretariat may also provide necessary advice to the selection panel during the evaluation process in cases where expertise exists within the secretariat to provide such expert advice on the subject matter being assessed. However, the secretariat shall not be part of the evaluation process.

The panel will be responsible for:

- Reviewing and shortlisting proposals based on set criteria.
- Ensuring that all evaluations are conducted fairly and objectively.
- Preparing a final report recommending the successful bidder.

5. Evaluation Criteria

To ensure that the evaluation panel prioritises the most critical aspects, the policy has defined a set of assessment criteria and prioritises them by assigning weights to each criterion based on its relative importance. The selection panel will evaluate the proposal on the following key criteria:

- 1. Technical Merit (60%):**
 - Experience and qualifications of the service provider.
 - Quality of the proposed methodology and approach.
 - Alignment with the organisation's needs.
- 2. Timeline (10%):**
 - Ability of the service provider to meet the proposed timelines.
 - Feasibility of the proposed delivery schedule.
- 3. Cost (30%):**
 - Total cost of the proposal, including pricing structure, fees, and any other associated costs, as specified in their financial proposal.
 - Value for money (considering the cost relative to the proposed benefits and quality).
 - Competitiveness and transparency of the pricing structure.

The selection panel shall evaluate the technical merit and timelines included in the proposal prior to assessing the financial proposal(cost). Proposals will only proceed to financial evaluation if they fully meet both specified criteria.

These weights can be adjusted depending on the nature of the procurement (e.g. goods or services).

In evaluating each criterion, the panel shall additionally consider the following risk factors:

- How well the bidder identifies and addresses potential risks.
- The approach to mitigating risks during service delivery.
- Any risks within the specific proposal
- Whether the vendor have a history of successful or failed projects (references or case studies from previous projects)
- Whether the proposed timelines are realistic or not

To ensure a fair assessment, the panel shall implement a consistent and objective scoring system to assess each proposal based on the defined criteria. For example, a score of 1 to 5 can be assigned by each panel member to each criterion, with the final panel member score being the sum of all single criteria scores. The final bidder score could be the average of all panel member scores received.

Each panel member should propose a score under each criterion for each submission. The Secretariat shall be responsible for collating and compiling the results and preparing the assessment's outcome for review by the selection panel.

After all proposals have been evaluated and scored, the selection panel will compile and compare each member's results. The panel may negotiate or reject the proposal if the highest-scoring bid doesn't meet the organisation's standards (e.g., it's too costly, or the provider's timeline is unrealistic). In the event of a tie (i.e., two proposals with similar scores), the panel might evaluate additional factors such as customer service, flexibility, or other qualitative aspects that differentiate the bids.

6. Exclusion Criteria

Proposals shall be excluded from consideration if they meet any of the following conditions:

1. Non-Compliance with Requirements:

- Failure to meet the minimum technical or financial requirements
- Failure to include a financial proposal in their submission
- Incomplete, late or inconsistent submissions.
- Submission and services not submitted in the working language of the organization

2. Conflict of Interest:

- Bidders who have any conflict of interest with the organization or are unable to remain impartial.

3. Bankruptcy or Legal Issues:

- Bidders who are bankrupt, under liquidation, or involved in legal disputes that may impact their ability to deliver the services.

4. Previous Poor Performance:

- Bidders with a history of poor performance or non-fulfilment of previous contracts with the organisation

7. Contract Award and Implementation

1. The contract will be awarded to the bidder with the best combination of technical and financial value, as determined by the selection panel.
2. The Executive Secretary shall be responsible for notifying all bidders of the outcome of the evaluation process.
3. The selected service provider will enter into a formal contract, which will outline the scope, deliverables, timelines, and payment terms. The Executive Secretary shall also be

responsible for entering into an agreement with the Service provider on behalf of the Meeting of the Parties

4. Regular monitoring and evaluation will be carried out to ensure the service provider delivers according to the agreed terms.
5. The Executive Secretary shall report to the Meeting of the Parties on the performance of the contracts by the service providers.

8. Record Keeping and Reporting

The Secretariat shall be responsible for maintaining all procurement records, including bids, evaluations, and correspondence, in accordance with the Financial Regulations and the Rules of Procedure. The documentation shall also include:

- The scoring of each proposal
- Rationale for selecting the preferred bidder
- Any notes on risk assessment or potential concerns

The Executive Secretary shall report the process and its outcome to the Meeting of the Parties after the selection panel has selected a successful bidder.

SIOFA Performance Review Recommendations

Introduction

This paper attempts to provide a simple and schematic summary of the Performance Review Panel Recommendations considered by the MoP10.

The paper uses tables, links and a “traffic light” colour system to rapidly visualize the status of the tasks assigned to the MoP, with the aim to identify tasks that warrant further attention from the MoP and the Secretariat. The following table provides an explanation of the colour coding system.

Recommendation ongoing	
Recommendation waiting for MoP’s action	
Recommendation completed by the Secretariat waiting for MoP’ action	
Recommendation not endorsed by MoP	

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No	Performance Review Recommendations	Review Panel Priority (H/M/L)	SC Recommendations (from SC-EXTRA1)	CC07 Recommendations	MoP10 Decision	MoP 10 Priority	Implementing Party(ies) / Body(ies)	Proposed Timeline at MoP10	Notes and Current Status
1	The Panel recommends that the SIOFA SC is tasked with conferring high priority to the improvement of stock assessments in order to reduce uncertainty as a necessary basis for the adoption of harvest strategies. This task should be subject to a target timeline and include a process for an independent peer review of assessment methods and results.	H	11. Regarding Recommendation Nr 1, the SC noted that it has made recommendations to the MoP on the development of harvest strategies and related data collection and stock assessment work at the Joint MoP-SC Harvest Strategies Workshop and at the SC8 meeting including the necessary steps and timelines for the stock assessments of the key SIOFA stocks. 12. The SC recommended that the MoP consider Recommendation Nr 1 in conjunction with paragraphs 166–197 and Annex F (Medium-Term SC8 Workplan) of the SC8 Report. 13. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 1 but recommended that the MoP note that it may be difficult to improve some stock assessments and reduce their uncertainty, because even though the catch and effort data collected are accurate, there may only be a limited amount of data available because of the small size of those fisheries. However, it is still possible to develop useful harvest strategies based on stock assessments with a higher level of uncertainty, provided adequate management procedures		MoP endorses recommendation 1 as commented by the SC in particular difficulties of improving SA and reducing uncertainty	H	SC	Ongoing, ref timeline recommended	See ORY, TOT, ALF projects in the SC workplan. Note the new (2024-2025) assessment of ORY (SC-10-40). Note new assessment of toothfish biomass (SC-10-23).

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			are used to mitigate the risk and uncertainty. 14. The SC endorsed the high priority assigned to this recommendation.						
2	The Panel recommends that SIOFA CCPs task the Scientific Committee with assessing the status of key shark stocks in the Area and that their status be kept under constant review over the coming years.	H	15. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 2 and noted that it has conducted discussions on assessing the status of key shark stocks in the SIOFA Area. 16. The SC recommended that the MoP consider Recommendation Nr 2 in conjunction with: a. the outcomes of the Interseasonal Workshop on Deepwater Sharks in SIOFA Area, particularly the updated ecological risk assessment for deepwater chondrichthyan species (paper SC-08-29 Update on the ecological risk assessment of deepwater chondrichthyan species); b. paragraphs 224–257 of the SC8 Report, noting in particular the limited ability to conduct a stock assessment on shark species in the short-term, especially since the planned measures to reduce shark bycatch will result in less data being available; c. the shark-related scientific work in the Medium-Term SC8 Workplan (Annex F, SC8 Report). 17. The SC endorsed the		MoP supports this recommendation, work is already ongoing. Key shark stocks for assessment to be defined by SC.	H	SC	Ongoing	Task considered, ref SC9 report. Future SC meeting will need to define “key shark” species. Note the update in the shark ERA (SC-10-49).

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			high priority assigned to this recommendation.						
3	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs ensure that the fisheries summaries developed by the Scientific Committee contain clear information on the stock status of species caught in the SIOFA Area, and that this information is promptly made available to the general public.	M/L	18. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 3. The SC noted that stock status will be included in the fisheries summaries and will be reported to the MoP. The SC also noted that the fisheries summaries should be made available to the public (paragraph 129, SC8 Report) and that the continued development of the fisheries summaries is a priority in the Medium-Term SC Workplan (Annex F, SC8 Report). 19. The SC endorsed the medium/low priority assigned to the recommendation.		MoP endorses this recommendation, work is ongoing	M/L	SC / Secretariat	3 - 5 Years	See the fisheries summaries updated in 2025 (SC10 Report)
4	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs assess the use of the VME Guide by observers and take action to ensure its use as required, and also implement awareness programmes targeting observers.	M	20. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 4 and noted that work is ongoing to make this information available on the SIOFA website and that the SC has discussed developing the VME Guide further with additional species. 21. The SC endorsed the medium priority assigned to this recommendation.		MoP endorses this recommendation	M	SC Secretariat for publication CCPs for implementation	3 - 5 Years	Note work on the SIOFA VME Classification Guide (SC-10-26). Publication has been made by the Secretariat on the website. https://siofa.org/sites/default/files/documents/cmm/SIOFA-VME-taxa-guide-2025.pdf

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5	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs finalise the protocol on VME and protected area designation and speed up the process of progressing the agreed protected areas from their interim nature and identify any further areas in need for protection.	H/M	22. Regarding Recommendation Nr 5, the SC endorsed the recommendation and noted that related work is underway as part of the "PAE2022-MPA1 Protocols to designate and evaluate MPAs" EU funded project, which focuses on the designation and assessment of marine protected areas, and whose outcomes are expected to be delivered at the end of 2023. 23. The SC endorsed the high/medium priority assigned to this recommendation.		MoP endorses this recommendation	H/M	SC MoP	1 - 3 Years	Completed, see SC10 Report on revised protocol and proposed BPAs
6	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs consider capacity building activities for developing States to undertake BFIA as per the SIOFA standards.	M	24. The SC noted that Recommendation Nr 6 should be considered in conjunction with Recommendation Nr 31. 25. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 6 but recommended to the MoP that broader capacity building, particularly data capture, data quality, and data reporting, rather than specifically to BFIA, would be of greater use to developing States. 26. Regarding the priority assigned to this recommendation, the SC considered it to be of a low priority if it only pertained to BFIA, but a high/medium priority if it pertained to broader capacity building that included data capture,		MoP endorses this recommendation	H/M H on data capacity building	SC / Secretariat	1 - 3 years	The Observers' harmonisation framework partially addresses the data capture and quality improvement (SEC2022-OBS1) The MoP tasked the Secretariat for developing a paper on options for facilitating and addressing Capacity Building needs of CCP development states for consideration at its next CC and MoP. The scope of the paper should encompass the broad range of areas as commented by the SC in relation to recommendation 6. See paper SC-10-24.

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			data quality, and data reporting.						
7	The Panel recommends either the deadlines for data submission under relevant CMMs or the schedule of the annual meeting of the Scientific Committee be revised to ensure the SC has the most recent data available ahead of its annual meeting.	H	27. Regarding Recommendation Nr 7, the SC noted that it had discussed this issue and reached the conclusion that: a. the current data submission deadline is the only feasible deadline for CCPs, as it comes after the end of the fishing season and that obtaining, entering and checking the data before submission to SIOFA would not be possible at an earlier date. The SIOFA Secretariat noted that, once received, these data are entered into the SIOFA databases, checked and validated, and that final versions of these data are only available for analysis around September, which would be after the MoP. b. rescheduling of the SC to a later date would therefore also not be a feasible option, as there would not likely be enough time to hold the MoP meeting within the same year. 28. The SC noted that it had previously discussed and requested the MoP to consider mechanisms to enable CCPs to submit data on a more frequent basis (e.g., monthly or quarterly reporting) where CCPs were		MoP agrees with the concerns expressed by SC. MoP does not endorse this recommendation The MoP would however consider mechanisms to enable CCPs to provide data on a more frequent basis.				N/A

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			able to (paragraph 64, SC7 Report). 29. The SC noted that the annual national reports provide a mechanism for the SC to have a summary of the most recent data and “could be used to support more informed discussions at the SC meeting” (SC8 para 52). The SC further noted that when conducting stock assessments on long-lived fish, the long-term trend is more important than the terminal year, and not being able to use the most recent data in a stock assessment is therefore not a major issue. 30. The SC recommended that the MoP note that it disagreed with Recommendation Nr 7.						
--	Recommendation Nr 34 on the implementation of reporting requirements, specifically on the development of an IT-platform for the management of data and information submissions also apply to the issues assessed under this criterion.	--							See recommendation 34

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8	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs task the Scientific Committee to develop a long-term strategic plan with identified priorities for its work and options for the use of independent consultants, academic institutions, private/public organisations and/or CCP expertise resources as feasible, taking into account funding requirements.	M	31. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 8. 32. The SC recommended that the MoP note that the SC is prepared to develop a long-term strategic plan with guidance from the MoP, and that a medium term plan had been prepared at SC8 for consideration by the MoP. 33. The SC recommended that the MoP hold a broader discussion on options for the use of independent consultants, academic institutions, private/public organisations and/or CCP expertise resources as feasible. 34. The SC endorsed the medium priority assigned to this recommendation.		MoP encourages SC to develop a long-term strategic plan. Topic will also be addressed at MoP10 under agenda item XX	M	SC	3 years	Completed. Note the SC workplan with priorities developed for up to 5 years
--	Recommendations nr 7, 10 and 46 concerning, respectively, the scheduling of SC meetings, the development of a framework for Scientific Advice and the management of human and funding resources for its work apply also to the issues assessed under this criterion.	--							

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9	The Panel recommends CCPs to launch an exercise of consolidation of the various CMMs into a corpus of SIOFA rules and regulations, with the aim of codifying the applicable rules to make them clearer, easier to interpret and easier to control in terms of compliance. This exercise should identify existing gaps and possible contradictions, issues of interpretation in need of resolving, and a future structure of the corpus that allows the different actors on whom the various obligations fall (from SIOFA's own bodies, to CCP authorities, to fishers) to have a clear and user-friendly access to their applicable rules and discipline.	M	35. Regarding Recommendation Nr 9, the SC endorsed the need to identify existing gaps and possible contradictions, and issues of interpretation in need of resolving, but did not consider there to be a strong need to consolidate the various CMMs. 36. The SC endorsed the medium priority assigned to this recommendation. 37. The SC recommended that the MoP consider changing the naming convention for the CMMs so that the CMM number precedes the year the CMM was updated, e.g., CMM 2020-01 would become CMM 01-2020.	82. Regarding Recommendation Nr 9, the Compliance Committee endorsed the recommendation to identify existing gaps and possible contradictions, and issues of interpretation in need of resolving, while noting that this is part of the ongoing work of the Compliance Committee. The Compliance Committee did not endorse the recommendation to consolidate the various CMMs into a corpus of SIOFA rules and regulations.	MoP does not endorse the recommendation to consolidate the various CMM into a corpus of SIOFA measures. The MoP noted that the CC is continuously revising the CMM. MoP adopts the renaming convention of the CMM.	M	CC / Secretariat	Ongoing Oct 2023 for CMMs renaming	A change to the CMM naming convention was adopted at MoP10, and this was implemented by the Secretariat in October 2023 MoP11 notes that the recommendation has been implemented.

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10	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs undertake the development of a framework for the provision of Scientific Advice that takes into account best international practices, whether or not combined with a framework for decision-making at managerial level in accordance with the Precautionary Approach. This could accompany or complement the already decided work line dedicated to the development of harvest strategies but would provide the basis for an urgent consideration of precautionary measures in the short term.	M	38. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 10 and noted that, with the adoption of harvest strategies and defined management targets and risk thresholds, the SC would be able to develop more formal decision-making tools that would be useful for the MoP. 39. The SC endorsed the medium priority assigned to this recommendation. 40. The SC noted that the FAO DSF project is compiling information on how advice is requested and provided at different RFMOs as a way to share ideas and methods among RFMOs. 41. The SC noted that it would also be useful to develop a template or agreed language for framing stock assessment or ecological advice to the MoP.		MoP endorsed recommendation 10.	M	SC	1 - 3 years	Ongoing. See the SC workplan for proposed projects relating to the precautionary approach framework and harvest strategies (SIOFA-PAM)

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11	The Panel recommends SIOFA discusses with CCAMLR concrete options to co-manage toothfish stocks shared between the 2 organisations, and establishes either a prohibition of fishing for this resource outside established toothfish management units or revised the units as required so no activities escape the conservation measures established for this resource.	H	42. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 11 and noted that it is consistent with its discussions at SC8 (paragraphs 143–155, SC8 Report). 43. The SC endorsed the high priority assigned to this recommendation.		MoP endorsed recommendation 11.	H	MoP	ongoing	SC has recommended the establishment of a new South Indian Ridge (SIR) management area with an associated catch limit (para 211 of the SC9 report) MoP11 noted that CMM15 was amended in 2023, to extend the scope of the application of provisions concerning observer coverage and toothfish tagging to the whole SIOFA area.
12	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs to urgently agree on precautionary measures regarding alfonso in light of the significant level of catches, second in the Area by weight, and of the fact that the stocks' biological complexity makes it challenging to adopt measures other than precautionary, at least in the short-to-medium term.	H	44. The SC disagreed with Recommendation Nr 12 and recommended that the MoP note that this recommendation was inconsistent with the previous alfonso stock assessment advice (SC-05-29 Age-Structured Production Model assessments of the Alfonso, and summarised in paragraphs 116–119 of the SC5 Report) and with the CPUE analyses conducted at SC8 (paragraph 130 and Figure 1, SC8 Report), which indicated that “the stock is fluctuating without trend in recent years”.		MoP does not endorse Recommendation 12. MoP noted the lack of management measures for Alfonso, and requests SC9 to propose potential management measures for Alfonso				N/A

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	Effort and catches should be constrained to the lowest possible levels.		45. The SC noted that it discussed planned and ongoing alfonsino-related scientific work at SC8 (paragraphs 131–140, SC8 Report).						
13	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs adopt precautionary measures for target stocks other than the three key stocks of toothfish, orange roughy and alfonsino.	H/M	46. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 13 and noted that it had discussed and recommended interim Harvest Control Rules (HCRs) for the key SIOFA stocks (paragraph 178, SC8 Report). 47. The SC endorsed the high/medium priority assigned to this recommendation.		MoP endorsed recommendation 13	H/M	SC / MoP	ongoing	Note the development of harvest strategies for key stocks, and note the ERA and proposed updates for future meetings (SC workplan). Note the work on CPUE for oilfish and escolar. Note the catch limits on species not otherwise assessed based on the average catch of a reference period already adopted by the MoP.
14	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs engage in discussions towards a future regime for the allocation of fishing rights.	L			MoP endorsed recommendation 14	L	MoP	5 years	MoP11 had discussion on this topic under the SC agenda items. CKI proposed a paper on allocation framework for MoP12.
15	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs agree on a definition of new fisheries and discuss a regulatory framework for new and exploratory fisheries incorporating the highest standards derived from international best practices. The framework should	H/M	48. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 15 and noted that there had been previous work on this matter, although not in recent years. The SC noted that it had recommended an updated bottom fishing footprint to the MoP and recommended that the MoP consider the implications of the bottom fishing footprint once it is agreed, including how new fishing should be considered (paragraphs 95		MoP endorses recommendation 15 Work in ongoing	H/M	SC and MoP	1 - 3 years	Completed. A new CMM has been adopted MoP11 (CMM 17 (2024)).

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	make proper use of tools already developed by SIOFA such as the fishing footprint, BFIA's and VME mapping.		and 277, SC8 Report). 49. The SC endorsed the high/medium priority assigned to this recommendation.						
--	Recommendations nr 10, 12 and 13, above on the implementation of the Precautionary approach apply also for the purposes of the issues assessed under this criterion.	--							
16	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs to make every effort to progress from the current interim arrangements for bottom fishing to permanent rules, retaking discussions on this issue from the proposal tabled in 2019 or an updated version of it. Recommendation nr 9 above, on a corpus of SIOFA rules, applies also for the purposes of the issues at stake here.	H	50. The SC noted that, with the provision of BFIA's in the past years and of an updated footprint presented this year, the MoP could decide to move towards a more permanent management of bottom fishing. 51. The SC also noted its recommendation to the MoP noting that new fishing would need to be considered when the bottom fishing footprint is agreed (paragraph 95, SC8 Report).		MoP endorses recommendation 16 Work in ongoing	H	SC and MoP	1 - 3 years	MoP11 notes that SC9 provided some details on how to address new and exploratory fisheries. By adopting the bottom fishing footprint many provisions in the CMM 01 should not be interim anymore. A new CMM has been adopted by MoP11 (CMM 17 (2024)).

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17	The Panel recommends the MoP requests from the SC an evaluation of the frequency of VME encounters and of the compliance of fishing vessels with the reporting and move-on rule requirements.	H	52. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 17. 53. The SC recommended that the MoP consider this recommendation in conjunction with the outcomes of the VME workshop (paper SC-08-25), the analysis of available VME indicator taxa accidental captures data from the Observer and CatchEffort databases and their usability for setting VME encounter thresholds (paper SC-08-26) presented by the Secretariat at SC8, and the related discussions at SC8 (paragraphs 290-292, SC8 Report). 54. The SC endorsed the high priority assigned to this recommendation.		MoP endorses recommendation 17	H	CC and SC	1 - 3 years	See the SC workplan and the SC VME focused session at SC in 2025. CC08 noted that this work is ongoing. Note the revised guidelines for annual national reports 2025 recommending higher resolution of VME incidental captures reporting.
18	The Panel recommends that SIOFA CCPs expand their consideration of actions aiming at the conservation of biodiversity to fishing activities other than those using bottom gears, extending the concept of Impact Assessment to such activities as well.	M	55. Regarding Recommendation Nr 18, the SC agreed that fishing activities other than those using bottom gears may affect biodiversity and noted that it could include such considerations in its workplan if requested by the MoP.		MoP endorses recommendation 18	M	SC	3 - 5 years	Note the proposal of new observer logbooks for squid fishing from SC10.
19	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs to agree urgently on measures to reduce shark by-catches, in	H	56. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 19 and noted that it held extensive discussions on measures to reduce shark by-catch measures at SC8, including		MoP endorses recommendation 19	H	SC and MoP	1 - 3 years (work ongoing)	Note the projects in the SC workplan and discussions in the SC10 report

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	particular by implementing any mitigation measures that identified as effective by the 2023 specific workshop on sharks to take place under the aegis of the Scientific Committee, including precautionary catch limits for Portuguese dogfish. Recommendation nr 2 on the assessment of the status of shark stocks is also relevant for the issues discussed under this criterion.		the outcomes of the Interseasonal Workshop on Deepwater Sharks in SIOFA Area and the SC recommendations to the MoP (paragraphs 225–257, SC8 Report). 57. The SC endorsed the high priority assigned to this recommendation.						
20	The Panel recommends the SC effectively use the focused agenda item on seabird by-catch, decided by SC 8 in 2023 for future sessions, to identify necessary by-catch mitigation measures, including in trawl fisheries, as originally proposed at the time CMM 13 was adopted. SIOFA's cooperation arrangements with ACAP, but also with	M/L	58. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 20 and noted that it plans to hold a focused agenda item on seabird data collection and bycatch mitigation measures at SC9 (paragraphs 265 and 268, SC8 Report). 59. The SC endorsed the medium/low priority assigned to this recommendation.		MoP endorses recommendation 20	M	SC and MoP	3 - 5 years	This is now a standing item of the SC agenda. Work has substantially progressed during SC10.

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	CCAMLR, should be strengthened including for the purposes of this work.								
21	The Panel recommends SIOFA carries out a review of the effect of effort limits applicable to relevant fleets to determine whether such limits constrain the fishing activity or not, and that a clear determination is made on the potential use of capacity or effort limits as a fishery management tool, especially with regard to fisheries conducted with gears other than bottom gears.	M	60. The SC noted Recommendation Nr 21 and that it could conduct the relevant analyses if requested by the MoP.		MoP endorses recommendation 21	M	SC and MoP	3 - 5 years	[The implementation of this recommendation has not started yet]
22	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs consider incorporating the principles of a flag State performance self-assessment into their compliance monitoring scheme, including by tasking the CC with reviewing the	H/M	61. Regarding Recommendation Nr 22, the SC noted that it reviews CCPs' annual national reports to obtain the most recent information fisheries data and to identify any potential new trends or scientifically relevant issues.	83. Regarding Recommendation Nr 22, the Compliance Committee noted that flag State performance self-assessment is already part of the CMS, and that the Secretariat identifies any potential compliance issues from the annual national	MoP endorses the recommendation and notes the comments of the CC and the SC that such assessments are already performed.	M	SC CC MoP	1 - 5 years (and ongoing)	Annual reports are reviewed annually at SC. The SIOFA CMS captures this recommendation

MoP-12-26 Rev 3 - SIOFA Performance Review Recommendations

No	Performance Review Recommendations	Review Panel Priority (H/M/L)	SC Recommendations (from SC-EXTRA1)	CC07 Recommendations	MoP10 Decision	MoP 10 Priority	Implementing Party(ies) / Body(ies)	Proposed Timeline at MoP10	Notes and Current Status
	annual national reports submitted by CCPs and currently reviewed only by the SC.			reports and replies to compliance questionnaire and presents these to the Compliance Committee for its consideration.					
23	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs consider the adoption of binding application of the Port Inspection Scheme to all ports of every CCPs, without the condition to apply to those having areas of national jurisdiction adjacent to the Agreement Area.	H/M		84. Regarding Recommendation Nr 23, the Compliance Committee expressed its general support for reviewing the scope of the Port Inspection Scheme. 85. One CCP supported expanding the scope of the Port Inspection Scheme but not to "all ports of every CCP" as stated in the Panel's recommendation, and cautioned that any potential amendment to the current scheme should be carefully considered to avoid adding unnecessary burden on ports not adjacent to the Agreement Area. 86. Australia expressed its intention to prepare a proposal to amend CMM 2020/08 (Port Inspection), based on Recommendation Nr 23 and the views expressed by CCPs,	MoP agrees to review the scope of the PI scheme, and noted the recommendations by the CC	M	CC and MoP	1 - 3 years <u>(stopped)</u>	<u>CC notes the ongoing work led by Australia on the port inspection scope</u> <u>[MoP notes the ongoing work being led by Australia on the port inspection scope]</u> <u>[Australia to provide update on this work during CC09/MoP12 did not conduct any further work in the intersession in relation this work]</u> <u>Australia conducted intersessional work, collecting CCPs views, and no consensus was reached on a way forward. The MoP agreed to not progress this work at this time.</u>

MoP-12-26 Rev 3 - SIOFA Performance Review Recommendations

No	Performance Review Recommendations	Review Panel Priority (H/M/L)	SC Recommendations (from SC-EXTRA1)	CC07 Recommendations	MoP10 Decision	MoP 10 Priority	Implementing Party(ies) / Body(ies)	Proposed Timeline at MoP10	Notes and Current Status
				with the aim to present this proposal at CC8.					
24	The Panel recommends SIOFA adopts at least a minimum standard regarding inspection coverage of all fishing vessels carrying or landing resources of its competence which enter their ports.	H		87. Australia expressed its intention to consider Recommendation Nr 24 when preparing its aforementioned proposal to amend CMM 2020/08.	MoP agrees to consider minimum standards for PI coverage and noted the recommendations from the CC	M	CC and MoP	1 - 3 years	<u>CC notes the ongoing work led by Australia on the port inspection scope</u> <u>[MoP notes the ongoing work being led by Australia on the port inspection scope]</u> <u>[Australia did not conduct any further work in the intersession in relation this work to provide update on this work during CC09/MoP12]</u> <u>Australia conducted intersessional work, collecting CCPs views, and no consensus was reached on a way forward. The MoP agreed to not progress this work at this time.</u>
25	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs investigate possible landings or transshipments of SIOFA species at ports placed under the jurisdiction of non-CCPs, and if this is found to happen, initiate demarches with the relevant port States to request they become CCPs or cooperate with SIOFA as appropriate.	H		88. The Compliance Committee expressed its general support for Recommendation Nr 25. Some CCPs had different interpretations of the definition of “demarches” but agreed that, if possible landings or transshipments of SIOFA species are found to have occurred at ports placed under the jurisdiction of non-CCPs, the Secretariat should contact the relevant port States to request they become CCPs or cooperate with SIOFA as appropriate. 89. The Chairperson of the Review Panel	MoP endorses the recommendation, noting the comments of the CC	M/L	Secretariat CC MoP	3 - 5 years	The Secretariat sends annual invitations to coastal states to join the Agreement as CP or CNCP. The Secretariat reviews the inspections reports that are provided by other parties CC recommends that the Secretariat widens the scope of information it collects to conduct this analysis, including information already available from other organisations (e.g. FAO statistics) [The 8th Meeting of the Compliance Committee (CC08) requested the Secretariat to broaden the range of data sources used in the analysis of potential landings or transshipments of SIOFA species at ports under the jurisdiction of non-Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (non-CCPs)—including data held by external organisations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)—To this end, the Secretariat undertook consultations with the FAO as well as several relevant non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Despite these efforts, no suitable or verifiable port landing data were made available to the Secretariat during the reporting period. As a result, it was not possible to complete the analysis as requested by CC08.]

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No	Performance Review Recommendations	Review Panel Priority (H/M/L)	SC Recommendations (from SC-EXTRA1)	CC07 Recommendations	MoP10 Decision	MoP 10 Priority	Implementing Party(ies) / Body(ies)	Proposed Timeline at MoP10	Notes and Current Status
				clarified that the key element of the investigation is the need to investigate possible landings or transshipments of SIOFA species at ports placed under the jurisdiction of non-CCPs.					
26	The Panel recommends and encourages SIOFA CCPs to continue their efforts to agree on a SIOFA VMS in order to verify vessels activity in the Agreement Area. The Panel also recommends that CCPs adopt rules for the submission VMS data until such scheme is adopted.	H/M	62. Regarding Recommendation Nr 26, the SC noted that the sharing of VMS data with the SC could be useful for enabling the verification fishing location data for its data checking procedures.	90. Regarding Recommendation Nr 26, the Compliance Committee endorsed the recommendation to continue efforts to agree on a SIOFA VMS and noted that this work is ongoing. 91. One CCP suggested that Recommendation Nr 26 should be assigned a priority of 'H' rather than 'H/M'. 92. Another CCP suggested that the second recommendation, to adopt rules for the submission of VMS data, should only be considered if and when a SIOFA VMS is agreed upon.	MoP endorses the recommendation, noting the statements of some CCPs that the rule of submission of VMS data, should only be considered if and when a SIOFA VMS is agreed upon	H	CC and MoP	1 - 3 years (ongoing)	MoP10 established the VMS WGs. The WGs met several times in the intersessional period. CC8 and MoP11 are reviewing the SSPs [SIOFA agreed on a VMS measure in 2023. Work is ongoing to operationalise the SIOFA VMS. To date, there have been six (6) VMS Working Groups that has addressed a number of issues such as: - Development of a SIOFA VMS SSPs - Hosting Options for the SIOFA VMS - Consideration of policy implications and CMM reviews required to support the operationalisation of the VMS - Drafting a terms of reference for the procurement of the SIOFA VMS
27	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs urgently seek to clarify the various issues of interpretation affecting the implementation of	H		93. The Compliance Committee did not express any views regarding Recommendation Nr 27.	MoP endorses the recommendation, and notes that there may not be a need to seek independent legal or tech advice	M	SC CC MoP	ongoing (3 - 5 years)	CMMs are reviewed by the MoP and its subsidiary bodies.

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	several MCS measures, in particular those related to CMM 06 on the IUU vessel list, CMM 07 on Vessel authorisation and CMM 14 on the HSBI procedures, including by seeking independent legal or technical advice if necessary.								
--	With regard to SIOFA's observer programme, and in general with regard to possible technical improvements for the standing measures, Recommendation nr 9 on a corpus of SIOFA CMMs applies also for the purposes of the issues assessed under this criterion	--							
28	The Panel recommends including in the agenda of the Compliance Committee a specific standing item on follow-up actions in the framework of the	H		94. The Compliance Committee endorsed Recommendation Nr 28 and noted that the review of follow-up actions is already part of its CMS framework.	MoP endorsed the recommendation, and noted the comments made by the CC.	H	CC	ongoing	The CC included a dedicated item on its annual agenda. A standing agenda item of the Compliance Committee

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	CMS for the previous year or years.								
29	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs agree on a review of CMM 11 on a Compliance Monitoring Scheme in order to facilitate its interpretation, taking into account the changes proposed by this Panel, including to the CCR template and the rules regarding follow up action on infringements identified in previous years.	H/M		95. The Compliance Committee noted Recommendation Nr 29 and that the review of CMM 2020/11 (Compliance Monitoring Scheme) is part of its ongoing work. The Compliance Committee agreed to consider the Review Panel's views as part of its CMS review process.	MoP endorsed the recommendation, and notes that work is on-going.	H/M	CC MoP	1-3 years	A new template has been agreed by CC8. CC8 recognized the need for capacity building within CCPs' delegations on the usage of the new CCR template. This is envisaged to be undertaken within one month of the 2025 submission deadline. An Informal Workshop on the SIOFA CCR Template (CCRTW) was successfully completed in March 2025. Furthermore, the Secretariat developed the "Guidelines for Completing the New SIOFA CCPs Compliance Report Template" which complemented the workshop and is available to CCPs when completing their CCR.
30	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs task the Secretariat with an assignment as high priority for the Compliance Officer the strengthening of the Secretariat's technical capacity to examine, analyse and verify the data collected for the purposes of the Compliance Monitoring Scheme.	H/M		96. The Compliance Committee expressed agreement with Recommendation Nr 30.	MoP endorses this recommendation.	H	Secretariat (ES and CO)	ongoing work (continuous)	CC8 is following this recommendation. A Compliance Officer has been recruited in 2023. CC8 noted that additional activities to enhance the Secretariat capacity in relation to the Compliance Monitoring Scheme would evolve over time. Ongoing

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31	The Panel recommends that SIOFA CCPs task the Secretariat to assess the capacity building needed in order to improve implementation of their obligations by the CCPs, prioritizing the most urgent and providing options to ensure appropriate assistance is provided to CCPs which so require.	M	63. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 31 and noted that it should be considered in conjunction with Recommendation Nr 6. 64. The SC endorsed the medium priority assigned to this recommendation.	97. The Compliance Committee endorsed Recommendation Nr 31 and noted that the identification of capacity gaps is an essential part of an effective CMS.	MoP endorses this recommendation. And notes that capacity building was already discussed	H	Secretariat CC SC MoP	1 - 3 years	CC8 recognized the need for capacity building within CCPs' delegations, which in part could be addressed by the workshop on the usage of the new CCR template. See paper SC-10-24. [Capacity building options presented to CC09 through paper CC-09-15] Capacity building options presented to MoP12 through paper MoP-12-25
32	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs discuss the possible adoption of a new measure on a Catch Documentation Scheme, focusing, in particular, on CCAMLR's DCD, and explore options for its implementation. The Panel recommends SIOFA strengthens its cooperation with CCAMLR in this regard, including by requesting capacity building support for the Secretariat so that it can contribute to future	H/M		98. The Compliance Committee noted that Recommendation Nr 32 pertains to a Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) for toothfish, noted that all SIOFA CCPs fishing for toothfish are Members of CCAMLR, where there is already a CDS for toothfish, and are thus already required to document catches of toothfish in the SIOFA Area, and agreed that it is therefore not necessary to establish a SIOFA CDS for toothfish, rather, it is adequate to continue	MoP agrees with the recommendation made by the CC, and noted that it is therefore not necessary to establish a SIOFA CDS for toothfish, rather, it is adequate to continue its ongoing cooperation with CCAMLR	H	SC, CC and MoP	ongoing	Collaboration with CCAMLR is ongoing under the SIOFA-CCAMLR Arrangement.

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	joint work by the two organisations.			its ongoing cooperation with CCAMLR.					
33	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs consider the option of developing a SIOFA Reporting Manual to replace the present table of reporting requirements provided for in the organisation's website. Suggestions as to the structure and contents have been provided in our assessment under this criterion.	M	65. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 33 and supported improving communication around data collection, noting that the currently ongoing project on Harmonisation of Scientific Observer Programmes (Annex F, SC8 Report) would address some aspects of this recommendation. 66. The SC endorsed the medium priority assigned to this recommendation.		MoP endorses the recommendation	M	Secretariat, CC, SC	3 years	Project SEC2022-OBS1 and the observer harmonisation workshops (WS2024-OBS and OBS2) have made recommendations for the consideration by SC10 on observer manuals and data reporting systems.
34	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs consider the option of establishing an IT-based data management platform taking into account the experience gained in the design and use of such platforms in other organisations, including in-built protocols for data verification, quality checks and the protection of	H	67. Regarding Recommendation Nr 34, the SC noted that it would welcome any systems and processes that would improve the quality of data and allow the SC to conduct verification and quality checks. 68. The SC further noted that it has discussed the protection of confidentiality of data in past SC meetings and that processes that would protect confidentiality would be in line with recommendations that the SC has made previously.		MoP endorses the recommendation. And request the Secretariat to prepare a paper describing implementation possibilities (to SC and MoP)	H	Secretariat, SC, CC	1 - 3 years	The Secretariat has an in-house IT-based platform for managing data, datasets (metadata), and the fisheries (C&E, observer, vessels) databases. This was not designed to have an interface from outside of the Secretariat. The Secretariat currently applies a range of data related procedures: data submission, data checks, data release and data backup

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	confidential data. A decision to explore this option should only be taken if CCPs accept and assume the need for investment on capacity building as required.								
35	The Panel recommends, in case SIOFA CCPs are not prepared to implement an IT data platform as per Recommendation nr 34, urgent action is taken to ensure appropriate data verification protocols and quality checks are established.	H	69. Regarding Recommendation Nr 35, the SC noted that data verification protocols and quality checks are already in place, but acknowledged that they could be enhanced.		The MoP notes the comments of the SC, and that the work is on-going	-		ongoing	The Secretariat notes that it currently has data check procedures for data submissions. Completed. The procedures have been presented to SC10 (paper SC-10-30) and are available on the SIOFA website (data section: https://siofa.org/Data/data-files).
36	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs agree to share data regarding the implementation of their fisheries control obligations and utilise such data in the framework of CMM 11's Compliance Monitoring Scheme in order to assess whether SIOFA's control-related measures are effectively implemented.	H/M		99. The Compliance Committee did not express any views regarding Recommendation Nr 36.	The MoP endorses the recommendation. The MoP noted that further work was necessary on the CMS process.	H/M	CC Secretariat	1 - 3 years	Partially implemented by the Compliance Assessment Process. It will further be reinforced with the new CCR template. [New CCR template to improve data collection in use]

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37	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs consider strengthening the use of intersessional decision procedures or inter-sessional working groups to facilitate the work of SIOFA as appropriate, in order to focus MoP discussions and make better use of the time available.	M/L	70. Regarding Recommendation Nr 37, the SC noted that it has trialled and recommended the continuation of a new combined SC meeting format, supplemented by workshops and focused agenda items (paragraph 337, SC8 Report).		MoP endorses the recommendation, and notes that Inter-Sessional decision process should be used only when exceptional	M / L	MoP	1-5 years	Ref MoP10 decision which address the recommendation.
38	The Panel encourages SIOFA CCPs to continue and if needed intensify dialogue on matters of concern to different CCPs, where consensus has not been achieved in order to find a common view which can be satisfactory to all CCPs. In particular, the Panel recommends to address bottom fishing activities in the Saya de Malha	M			MoP endorses the recommendation	M	MoP	ongoing	MoP11 notes that the issue of bottom fishing on Saya De Malha has been discussed at several MoPs without an agreed way forward. <u>Regarding the overlapping area of SIOFA and IOTC, the parties have been working on establishing a formal cooperation framework and are -</u> <u>IOTC and SIOFA are - but are currently working on a informal cooperation basis,</u> already cooperating on several matters (data, IUU fishing)

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	Bank, the scope of boarding and inspection procedures under CMM 14 and the issue of managing overlapping obligations for vessels arising from both SIOFA and neighbouring RFMOs, in particular the IOTC.								
39	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs continue to review, clarify and amend as appropriate the relevant data rules or provisions so that all CCPs as well as observers and the general public have better access to data and information for the purpose of discussion and decision-making.	M	71. The SC noted that it has held discussions on rules of data access and dissemination at SC8 (paragraphs 96–108 and 114–119 and Annex E, SC8 Report) and that the development of standardised reports such as fisheries summaries and ecosystem reports should also facilitate better access to data and information.		MoP endorses this recommendation, and notes that this work is ongoing	M	SC, CC and MoP	ongoing	Public data access is governed by CMM 03. CMM 03 is planned to be revised at CC9 and MoP12 (ref paper CC-09-19 and MoP-12-35) Work has been done to improve the access to the RAV information, with the addition of vessels details pages
40	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs task the Secretariat to review the documents and materials on the SIOFA website and make necessary tunings in accordance with	M			MoP supports the recommendation	M	Secretariat	ongoing	The Secretariat notes that the titles and abstracts of all SC restricted access documents have been made public on its website. In addition, versions of SC project reports (where appropriate) have also been made available publicly on the SIOFA website.

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	any new data rules on dissemination and any relevant decisions of the MoP.								
41	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs engage in discussion on the rules, standards and procedures regarding the granting of CNCP status, including the clarification of the requirements for admission or CNCPs status renewal, in order to ensure a consistent reviewing approach. The adoption of clear rules as well as an application template is also recommended, providing CNCP with general instructions on the required information, actions, and any other criterion.	M			MoP notes that the procedure for becoming CNCP is in the SIOFA RoP, and notes that further discussion would continue if necessary.	L	Secretariat MoP	ongoing	To date, the MoP assesses the CNCP status at its annual meetings. The SIOFA RoP are currently used for this task. MoP recommends that CNCPs attend to the Compliance Committee meetings.

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--	Recommendations nr 11, 20 and 32 on the strengthening of cooperation between SIOFA and CCAMLR also apply to the issues assessed under this criterion.	H							
42	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs consider strengthening cooperation with the IOTC, SWIOFC, SEAFO, SPRFMO, and CCSBT, as appropriate.	H	72. Regarding Recommendation Nr 42, the SC noted that for some stocks in some areas, the scientific information and methods applied by these regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs) may be relevant to SIOFA and cooperation with them would be beneficial.		MoP endorses this recommendation, the MoP notes that cooperation with CCAMLR and other bodies (eg FAO) is also necessary.	H	SC, CC, MoP Secretariat	ongoing	Secretariat has been working intersessionally to conclude the formalisation of cooperation between SIOFA and IOTC. The Secretariat has been working to formalize cooperation with IOC, however its endeavour has not been successful. The Secretariat participates in meetings remotely or in-person of neighbouring RFMOs and CCAMLR to the extent possible.
43	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs include a prerequisite in their consideration of CMM new or amended proposals the review of relevant measures adopted by neighbouring international organizations in order to promote a coherent approach and compatibility of fisheries management across RFMO boundaries.	M			MoP does not endorse the recommendation, and notes that SIOFA should develop its measures independently, especially if they are more effective than those of other RFMOs.				N/A

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44	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs consider setting up a section on the SIOFA website dedicated to SIOFA's implementation of Article 13 of the Agreement, presenting the assistance that may be provided individually or collectively by CCPs to meet the special requirement of CCP developing States including, in particular, the least developed among them, and small island developing States.	M	73. Regarding Recommendation Nr 44, the SC noted that it could be tasked with capacity building in scientific areas. The SC noted that the FAO DSF Project may also share objectives that are aligned with this recommendation.		MoP endorsed this recommendation, and notes the comments provided by the SC	M	SC, CC, MoP Secretariat	3 years	The Secretariat notes that the SIOFA website is capable of supporting a dedicated section for the implementation of article 13 of the Agreement, and can be implemented once the content is advised by the MoP. CC8 recommends that the Secretariat develop a paper for CC9 to identify areas where developing states require technical assistance or otherwise in the implementation of obligations arising from the Agreement. This should include the identification of mechanisms to provide such assistance. The Secretariat should consult CCPs for the development of this paper. [Capacity building options presented to CC09 through paper CC-09-15] Capacity building options presented to MoP12 through paper MoP-12-25
45	The Panel Recommends that SIOFA CCPs agree on a periodical review by the MoP of the organisation's implementation of Article 13 of the Agreement and encourage CCP developing States to proactively express their needs, challenges and special requirements affecting their	M/L			MoP endorses this recommendation, and notes that CCPs should report issues in regard to the implementation of article 13	L	MoP	ongoing	Some financial support is provided to developing CCPs under article 13 of the Agreement for attendance to SIOFA meetings. No specific support from SIOFA is provided to developing States bordering the Area that are not CCPs unless they express the intention to join SIOFA in the coming year. The MoP will establish a standing agenda item relevant to Article 13 and tasked the Secretariat to provide a paper on this topic at its ordinary meetings. A paper on the implementation of Article 13 and the existing mechanisms is presented to the CC9 and the MoP12 through the documents CC-09-14 and MoP-12-24, respectively.

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	contribution to SIOFA's work. The MoP may thereafter consider establishing a fund dedicated to these purposes or expanding the scope of the current one.								
--	Recommendations nr 6, 31 and 34 on various areas where capacity building assistance could be provided by SIOFA also apply to the issues assessed under this criterion.	--							
46	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs urgently agree on a strategic financial planning for the medium term taking into account the costs incurred over recent years for the funding of the Scientific Committee work, and commit to a fairer sharing of these costs, including by contributing in kind CCP scientific resources.	H/M	74. Regarding Recommendation Nr 46, the SC noted that strategic financial planning for the medium-term would allow the SC to plan and prioritize its work and that the Medium-Term SC Workplan (Annex F, SC8 Report) contributes to the achievement of this recommendation.		MoP endorses this recommendation	H	CCPs MoP	1 - 3 years	At its annual meeting, the MoP adopts the budget for the coming year and considers the forecast budget for at least one additional year. The SC has extended its workplan and associated budget to cover a 3-year timeframe.

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47	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs discuss in depth the strategic plan presented by the Executive Secretary in 2022 but extend their discussions not just to the funding aspects of it, but also to its role. For this purpose, an analysis should be carried out of the Secretariat's degree of autonomy to identify areas where it could be allowed to operate in a more agile way.	M	75. Regarding Recommendation Nr 47, the SC noted that the creation of the Science Officer position and the appointment of Dr Marco Milardi has greatly enhanced the ability of the SC to advance its work programme.		MoP endorses this recommendation, MoP notes that is it part of an ongoing process, and notes that the addition of one SO and one CO enhanced the capacity of the Secretariat	M	SC, CC, MoP Secretariat	ongoing	Note the SC workplan CC8 notes that this recommendation is more relevant to the MoP. The role of the Secretariat is determined by the MoP, and the SIOFA RoP. The RoP relevant to the Secretariat have not changed.
48	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs work towards a clear agreement on the use of consultants – or not – for the offices of subsidiary body chairpersons. Were the decision taken to continue using the current contractual arrangements a robust evaluation of the workload and appropriate funding should be agreed, in order to ensure these	H	76. Regarding Recommendation Nr 48, the SC noted the decisions by the MoP to appoint Mr Alistair Dunn as an independent SC Chair and to extend his term, as well as SC8's recommendation that his term be further extended for two years (paragraphs 361– 363, SC8 Report). 77. The SC had no advice regarding Recommendations Nrs 14, 23–25, 27–30, 32, 36, 38, 40–41, 43, 45, and 49.		MoP has so far agreed to this arrangement, and also notes that further discussion on the workload and appropriate funding is necessary.	H	SC, CC, MoP	ongoing	CC8 notes that this recommendation is more relevant to the MoP. The SIOFA budget provides defined funding for the use of external consultants.

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	offices can be effectively and efficiently discharged.								
49	The Panel recommends that the term of office of the MoP Chairperson be extended to 2 years at least, to ensure continuity in proceedings.	M/L			The MoP notes this recommendation, and notes that further discussions are planned during the MoP10.				There is no record about this recommendation in MoP10 report To be potentially discussed by MoP11 (RoP) MoP12 do not agree to implement this recommendation for the time being
0	As a general procedural consideration, the Panel recommends that SIOFA CCPs agree on a clear process for the follow-up of this Performance Review Including the following elements: 1. A formal decision on which Recommendations are accepted; 2. a plan for implementation with time targets; 3. a regular, periodical review of implementation of such accepted Recommendations; 4. a renewal of the Performance Review process within an				MoP will review the implementation of the 1st SIOFA performance review at MoP12.				N/A

No	Performance Review Recommendations	Review Panel Priority (H/M/L)	SC Recommendations (from SC-EXTRA1)	CC07 Recommendations	MoP10 Decision	MoP 10 Priority	Implementing Party(ies) / Body(ies)	Proposed Timeline at MoP10	Notes and Current Status
	appropriate time frame, which we would recommend could be 5 years from now, given the fact this Review is the first such process carried out by the organisation.								

Annex A – SIOFA Budget 2026-2028

		2026 ADOPTED	2027 Forecast	2028 Forecast
		to MoP12	for MoP13	for MoP14
Item 1. Personnel Costs		626,237 €	653,648 €	706,009 €
1.1 to 1.4	Professional Staff (ES-DO-SO-CO)	438,769 €	460,707 €	483,722 €
1.5	Separation from service (1)	36,564 €	38,392 €	40,310 €
1.6	Temporary personnel	20,000 €	21,000 €	22,050 €
1.7	Rent subsidy	27,000 €	27,000 €	27,000 €
1.8	Assignment Grant* (2)	0 €	0 €	20,000 €
1.9	Travel Cost* (3)	3,000 €	1,500 €	3,000 €
1.10	Home leave	2,000 €	1,500 €	1,500 €
1.11	Child studying abroad leave*(4)	3,000 €	3,000 €	3,000 €
1.12	Single Parent/Child allowance	5,150 €	5,408 €	5,678 €
1.13	Spouse allowance *(4)	0 €	0 €	0 €
1.14	Education grant *(4)	0 €	0 €	0 €
1.12	Pension & health schemes	87,754 €	92,142 €	96,749 €
1.13	Staff development and training	3,000 €	3,000 €	3,000 €
Item 2. Property, Plant and Equipment		25,400 €	25,520 €	26,596 €
2.1	Convention d'hébergement charges	0 €	0 €	0 €
2.2	Maintenance	16,800 €	17,640 €	18,522 €
2.3	Utilities - Includes electricity, water, gas	0 €	0 €	0 €
2.4	Office Equipment and furniture	5,000 €	4,000 €	4,000 €
2.5	Consumables - Stationary, printer ink, paper	1,600 €	1,680 €	1,764 €

		2026 ADOPTED	2027 Forecast	2028 Forecast
		to MoP12	for MoP13	for MoP14
2.6	Insurance	2,000 €	2,200 €	2,310 €
Item 3. Meeting Support - SC (7 days)		84,230 €	89,442 €	94,764 €
3.1	Venue, catering, goodies	32,000 €	35,000 €	38,000 €
3.2	Secretariat travel and accommodation to meetings	18,000 €	18,900 €	19,845 €
3.3	Support staff (rapporteur, assistant, tech)	13,000 €	13,650 €	14,333 €
3.4	SC Chairperson and Vice Chairperson Travel and Accommodation* (5)	13,230 €	13,892 €	14,586 €
3.5	Technical Service for meeting 6(a)	8,000 €	8,000 €	8,000 €
Item 4 Meeting Support - MoP (5 days) & CC (3 days)		93,000 €	98,650 €	104,433 €
4.1	Venue, catering, goodies	32,000 €	35,000 €	38,000 €
4.2	Secretariat travel and accommodation to meetings	23,000 €	24,150 €	25,358 €
4.3	Support staff (rapporteur, assistant, tech)	15,000 €	15,750 €	16,538 €
4.4	MoP and CC Chairperson Travel and Accommodation*	7,500 €	7,875 €	8,269 €
4.5	SC Chairperson Travel and Accommodation*	7,500 €	7,875 €	8,269 €
4.6	Technical Service for meeting 6(b)	8,000 €	8,000 €	8,000 €
Item 5 Representation		20,000 €	21,000 €	22,050 €
5.1	Secretariat travel, notably for representation purposes	20,000 €	21,000 €	22,050 €
Item 6 Administration of Article 13.4		20,000 €	21,000 €	22,050 €
6.1.1	Financial assistance for travel to meetings	10,000 €	10,500 €	11,025 €
6.1.2	Financial assistance for accommodation	10,000 €	10,500 €	11,025 €
Item 7 Communications and IT		14,900 €	15,645 €	16,427 €
7.1	IT related consumables (Printing, telephone and internet services)	5,500 €	5,775 €	6,064 €
7.2	Database, server management, external IT services and software subscriptions	4,400 €	4,620 €	4,851 €
7.3	IT hardware (computers, peripherals, etc.)	5,000 €	5,250 €	5,513 €

		2026 ADOPTED	2027 Forecast	2028 Forecast
		to MoP12	for MoP13	for MoP14
Item 8 Financial Services		19,900 €	20,895 €	21,940 €
8.1	Accounts and record keeping	13,400 €	14,070 €	14,774 €
8.2	Audit	3,500 €	3,675 €	3,859 €
8.3	Bank Charges	3,000 €	3,150 €	3,308 €
Item 9 Contracts for Specific Services		119,000 €	169,500 €	70,000 €
9.1	Research Activities	65,000 €	115,000 €	60,000 €
9.2	SC Chairperson (7)	44,000 €	44,000 €	0 €
9.3	Consultant / Expert / Service outsourced	10,000 €	10,500 €	10,000 €
Item 10 Miscellaneous		5,000 €	5,250 €	5,513 €
10.1	Miscellaneous	5,000 €	5,250 €	5,513 €
Item 11 SIOFA VMS Service		0 €	0 €	0 €
11.1	Annual Indicative OpExp	0 €	0 €	0 €
Sub-total		1,027,667 €	1,120,550 €	1,089,780 €
Emergency/contingency fund		10,000 €	10,000 €	10,000 €
INITIAL MOP contribution		1,037,667 €	1,130,550 €	1,099,780 €
Provisional Interest Livret A		1,929 €	1,929 €	1,929 €
Provisional Term Deposit Account		11,600 €	11,600 €	11,600 €
Reserve Fund Support (*)		103,564 €	109,892 €	119,310 €
MOP Contribution		920,574 €	1,007,129 €	966,941 €

(1)	In the event of involuntary separation from service with the Secretariat, staff member shall be compensated at a rate of one month base pay for each year of service beginning from the second year (if no renewal of SO and DO contract in 2026).
(2)	These costs have been assessed as nil considering the current situation. Assignment grant should be assessed if the MoP decides of an arrival of a new DO or SO in 2026. In this case it is suggested to be covered by Reserve Funds, as an exceptional expense. approximatively : (30 DSA + 2 month salary = 20000€) / for each new recruitment.

(3)	These costs have been assessed as nil considering the current situation. If one of the contracts is not renewed and if a new recruitment is required, this cost could be between 500€-16000€
(4)	These costs have been assessed as nil considering the current situation of the members of the secretariat Staff. If one of the contracts is not renewed and if a new recruitment is required, this cost could be between 12000-15000€
(5)	This budget line should be used to cover the expenses linked to the travels and accommodations of the Chairs and Vice Chairs if they come from a developping country.
(6)	Technical services for the meetings include audio, video, hybrid, and broadcast . It seems difficult to reduce the cost of this service, unless the MoP decides that face-to-face meetings are mandatory for any participant including observers.
(7)	As no nomination has been received to take the role of Scientific Committee Chairperson, it is suggested by the Scientific Committee to renew the contract of SC Chair for 2 supplementary years.
(8)	Interests of Livret A have decreased on 1st February from 3% to 2.4 %
(*)	Planned to be potentially fund by Reserve Fund excess, deduction done of previsionsal funds established by the Financial regulation

Annex B: 2026 Contributions

CCP	2026 contribution
Australia	40,304
China (People Republic of)	64,043
Cook Islands	183,315
European Union	139,564
France (OT)	36,408
Japan	106,915
Korea (Rep. Of)	28,118
Mauritius	21,851
Seychelles	20,384
Chinese Taipei	219,571
Thailand	60,100
TOTAL	920,574

Annex C – Predicted costs of SIOFA SC 2026-2028

	2026	2027 (indicative cost)	2028 (indicative cost)
9.1 Research activities	65,000 €	115,000 €	60 000 €
9.2 SC Chairperson	44,000 €	46.000 €	48 000 €
9.3 Consultant/ expert/ service outsourced ⁽¹⁾	10,000 €	10,000 €	10,000 €
Item 9 Total	119,000€	156,000€	118,000€

⁽¹⁾ Planned for the recruitment of short-term experts or outsourced to a specialised local company able to support the Secretariat, on specific issue that could scientific, but also lawyer or informatic

Item 9.1 (Research activities)

- The estimated cost of consultants for 2026 is 119,000€. The proposed budget funds the projects the projects- ALF-2025-01, CLI-2025-01 and OBS-2025-01 (Details in SC 10 Report)
- For 2027, the proposed budget funds the projects ALF-2026-01, ALF-2026-02, SAI 2026-01, HSS 2026-01
- For 2028, the proposed budget funds the projects ALF-2027-01, OBS-2027-01, OBS-2027-0

Item 9.2 (SC Chairperson)

- The MoP 10 decided to renew the role of SC Chairperson for 2 years (i.e., until the MoP12 , July 2025)
- The Executive Secretary suggests considering an average inflation costs of 5% to be allocated for the SC Chairperson, if in 2025 any SC Chairperson is not nominated by a CCP and if the MoP agrees to renew the SC Chairperson contract for 2 years more.

Item 9.3 (Consultant/Expert/Service Outsourced)

- Costs for contracting services that are not mandatory scientific in nature were estimated at 10,000€ for each year. This budget line has not been validated by MoP 11 and thus, there is no budget for any service outsourced in 2025.