

To: Parties to the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement and invited Observers

## **NOTICE OF MEETINGS**

### **Sixth Meeting of the Parties to the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA), and Third Meeting of the Compliance Committee of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA)**

#### **Meeting dates**

Third Meeting of the Compliance Committee: Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June – Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June – registration open from 20:00 on Wednesday 26 June, HoD meeting 20:30-21:00

Sixth Meeting of the Parties: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July – registration open from 20:30 Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>, HoD meeting 25 20:45-21:15

It is expected that the meetings will run from 9am to 5:30pm each day.

#### **Meeting venue**

Pearle Beach Resort & Spa conference centre  
Belle Beach Coastal Rd,  
Flic en Flac  
Mauritius  
+230 401 6300

<https://pearlebeachresort.com/en/>

#### **SIOFA Capacity Building Opportunities**

##### **Rapporteur Training (26<sup>th</sup> June - 5<sup>th</sup> July)**

With the financial support of FAO ABNJ Deep Sea Project and in collaboration with NAFO Secretariat, SIOFA Secretariat is pleased to offer the following training opportunity for persons keen to develop rapporteur skills. Training will be provided 'on the job' during the course of CC3 and MoP6 meetings.

Objective of the training is to encourage and provide support for potential candidates interested in providing rapporteur services for SIOFA Committees and subsidiary bodies.

NAFO Secretariat is kindly providing the services of one of their experienced staff members, who under the instruction of SIOFA Executive Secretary, will lead rapporteur duties and provide on the job training and guidance for trainee rapporteurs. FAO will cover attendance costs of the lead rapporteur provided by NAFO Secretariat.

FAO are also able to offer travel and accommodation costs for up to two trainee rapporteurs from SIOFA developing countries. Salary costs cannot be covered. Candidates from the Cook Islands, Seychelles, Thailand and Mauritius would be eligible for assistance. Developed countries are also encouraged to participate and SIOFA budget allows for covering the travel and accommodation costs of one additional trainee rapporteur.

Candidates should ideally have some rapporteur/reporting or similar experience and good English skills. Candidates with fisheries experience, in particular fisheries science, will be very welcome. Nominations should be submitted accompanied with a brief cv summarising relevant experience. An assessment will be made of all received applications and the most suitable candidates will be offered the opportunity. CPs are requested to put submit candidatures of interested individuals to SIOFA Secretariat by **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019**.

#### **Chairperson Training Course (26<sup>th</sup> June)**

Unfortunately, this proposed training has had to be cancelled owing to insufficient numbers.

#### **Meeting Agendas**

A provisional agenda for the Third Compliance Committee (CC3) meeting is provided on the CC3 page of the SIOFA website. We request that Parties provide their comments on this agenda to the Secretariat by **8 May 2019**. A revised agenda will be circulated by **17 May 2019**.

A provisional agenda for the Sixth Meeting of Parties (MoP6) is provided on the MoP6 page of the SIOFA website. We request that Parties provide their comments on this agenda to the Secretariat by **12 May 2019**. A revised agenda will be circulated by **21 May 2019**.

#### **Registration**

All delegates, including observers, are asked to register their attendance to both meetings by **17 May 2019** by completing the form provided on the MoP6 page of the SIOFA website and emailing it to [pierre@siofa.org](mailto:pierre@siofa.org).

#### **Meeting Papers**

All Meeting papers should be submitted with a cover page. Template cover pages can be downloaded from CC3 and MoP6 pages on the SIOFA Website <https://www.apsoi.org/meetings>.

#### **Compliance Committee Meeting Papers**

Proposals and Working Papers to be discussed at the Compliance Committee should be submitted to the Secretariat by **27 May 2019**. These documents will be made available to official contacts no later than **01 June 2019**.

Information Papers and any other documents to be considered at the Compliance Committee should be submitted to the Secretariat by **12 June 2019**. These documents will be made available to official contacts no later than **17 June 2019**.

### Meeting of the Parties Meeting Papers

Proposals and Working Papers to be discussed at the Meeting of the Parties should be submitted to the Secretariat by **31 May 2019**. These documents will be made available to official contacts no later than **05 June 2019**.

Information Papers and any other documents to be discussed at the Meeting of the Parties should be submitted to the Secretariat by **16 June 2019**. These documents will be made available to official contacts no later than **21 June 2019**.

### Observers Information Papers

Consistent with the SIOFA Rules of Procedure, observers may submit relevant documents to the Executive Secretary for distribution to the Compliance Committee and the Meeting of the Parties as information papers. Information papers should be submitted in accordance with the deadlines provided below with advice on the specific agenda item the paper relates to. A list of observers to be notified of the meeting will be circulated to SIOFA Official Contacts.

### Proposed Submission Deadlines

#### *Comments on Agendas and Registration*

Comments due on Compliance Committee Agenda	08 May 2019
Comments due on Meeting of the Parties Agenda	12 May 2019
Registration deadline	17 May 2019

#### *Proposals and Working Papers*

Compliance Committee Proposals due to Secretariat	27 May 2019
Meeting of the Parties Proposals due to the Secretariat	31 May 2019

#### *Information Papers and Other Documents*

Any Other Papers for Compliance Committee due to Secretariat	12 June 2019
Any Other Papers for Meeting of the Parties due to Secretariat	16 June 2019

### Meeting documents available on the SIOFA website

- Provisional agenda Compliance Committee
- Provisional agenda Meeting of the Parties
- Meeting Registration form
- Template for submission of Compliance Committee papers
- Template for submission of Meeting of the Parties papers

### Confidentiality and Transparency

Delegates are requested to identify any papers being submitted which contain data subject to rules of confidentiality that necessitate restricted access. By default, all documents submitted which have not been identified as restricted will be made available on the publicly accessible part of the SIOFA website.

### Access to Meeting Documents

Documents for each meeting will be provided on the relevant meeting page on the SIOFA website

<https://www.apsoi.org/meetings>.

In order to improve security SIOFA has now implemented individual usernames and passwords to access restricted and working documents on the SIOFA website. Observers may request login details by contacting SIOFA Data Manager Pierre PERIES [pierre@siofa.org](mailto:pierre@siofa.org).

To access restricted documents, registered meeting participants and SIOFA official contacts, must first login with their individual password and login details, then access the meeting page as normal. Restricted documents will then be visible to those who have access.

Observers will be given access to all meeting documents and working documents not subject to rules relating to the confidentiality of certain data and commercially sensitive information. To access working documents through the course of the meetings, observers will need to first login with their individual password and login details, then access the meeting page as normal.

### **Terms of Reference Documents**

A copy of the Compliance Committee Terms of Reference may be found on the SIOFA website here <http://www.siofa.org/node/7>

A copy of the Rules of Procedure of meetings of the Parties may be found on the SIOFA website here <http://www.siofa.org/node/4>

### **Interpretation**

The meetings will be held in English and French and simultaneous interpretation in the other language will be provided.

### **Getting to Flic and Flac**

#### **1. Flights to Mauritius**

Mauritius Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam International Airport is linked by direct flights to major airports in Europe as well to South Africa, Seychelles, Madagascar, La Réunion, Dubai, Kenya, India, Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur.

#### **2. Airport to Flic and Flac**

- a) Taxi from Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam International Airport to Flic and Flac will cost approximately MUR 2500 (EUR 65) one way.

There is an Airport Taxi Service counter in the Tours Operator Hall at ground level and more information can be found on the official airport website <https://mauritius-airport.atol.aero/to-and-from-airport/airport-taxi>

- b) For bus options please consult the official airport website <https://mauritius-airport.atol.aero/to-and-from-airport/public-bus>

#### **3. Car Rental**

There are a number of companies offering car rental services from the airport. Their counters are located in the Tour Operators hall.

- ABC car rental
- ADA Co Ltd
- Avis
- Budget Car Rental
- Europcar
- First Car rental
- Hertz
- SIXT

Participants are requested to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements and fund the expenses incurred.

### Accommodation

**NOTE:** Owing to local traffic congestion around rush hours, it is strongly advised that meeting participants book accommodation in Flic en Flac, either at the meeting venue or within a short distance from the meeting venue.

It has not been possible to provide a list of recommended hotels for these meetings. However, a search for accommodation on search engines (such as booking.com) for accommodation in Mauritius, Flic and Flac, will provide a variety of options.

Those interested in staying at the meeting venue can contact reservations on [infopearle@intnet.mu](mailto:infopearle@intnet.mu) or make a reservation on the website <https://pearlebeachresort.com/en/>.

A price guide has been provided as follows;

- One Single Standard room on BB : Mur 3800 per night.
- One Double Standard room on BB: Mur 5800 per night.
- One Single Standard room on HB : Mur 5000 per night.
- One Double Standard room on HB: Mur 8200 per night.

### Visas

#### Citizens exempted of Visa

Holders of Diplomatic Passports other than those issued by the Government of Afghanistan, Algeria, Democratic Republic of Congo, Iran, Islamic Rep, Iraq, Libya, Liberia, Nigeria, Sudan, and Yemen.

Holders of Laissez-passer issued by the United Nations, SADC or from other internationally recognized organizations. Citizens from the following countries: Australia, Belize, China, France, India, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Republic of Malaysia, Maldives, Mozambique, Oman, Seychelles, Sierra, Leone, Tanzania, United Kingdom and Vanuatu.

#### Citizens who require a Visa

Citizens from the following countries will need a visa prior to their arrival: Bangladesh, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran, Islamic Republic of Korea, Democratic People's Republic of Myanmar (Burma), Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Taiwan/China and Yemen.

Citizens from the following countries can receive a visa on arrival, however it is recommended to confirm with the closest Mauritian Embassy or Consulate: Comoros, Guinea, Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, Russian Federation, Senegal, Spain, South Africa and Thailand.

For more information contact the Mauritius consulate or embassy in your country, please refer to the following website: <https://www.embassypages.com/mauritius>.

### ***General Information Mauritius***

#### **Electricity**

Electric Power is 230V running at 50Hz. The sockets used are usually British type.

#### **Currency**

The currency of Mauritius is the Mauritian Rupee (MUR). Current approximate exchange rates are (22/02/2019):

1 USD = 34 Rs

1 EUR = 38 Rs

There is no restriction on foreign currency, traveller's cheques and other banking instruments. Credit cards are widely accepted everywhere on the island.

#### **Climate**

Mauritius enjoys a mild tropical maritime climate throughout the year. The country has two seasons: a warm humid summer extending from November to April and a relatively cool dry winter from June to September. The month of October and May are commonly known as the transition months. In winter (June to September) temperatures are around 22°C on the coast and 19°C on the Central Plateau.

#### **Time**

Mauritius is four hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)

#### **Language**

Most people in Mauritius are bilingual and are equally fluent in English and French. Creole, French and English are the main languages in the everyday environment and several oriental languages are also spoken.

#### **Health**

No vaccinations are required to enter Mauritius. However, a yellow fever vaccination certificate is required for travellers over 1 year old arriving from areas where yellow fever cases are reported.

#### **Culture**

Mauritius is a blend of diverse cultures and religions. The population consists of Hindus, Creole, Chinese, Muslims and Europeans.

**Driving**

People in Mauritius drive on the left-hand side of the road and give way to the right. Foreigners with a driving license issued by a Competent Authority in their respective countries are allowed to drive during their stay in Mauritius.

**Geography**

Mauritius is located approximately 2000 kilometers to the south eastern coast of Africa and lies east of Madagascar on 20°S, 57.5E. The country covers an area of 1865km with 330 kilometres of coastline. Mauritius is 45km in width and 65km in length.

Information on tourism and information are available at <http://www.tourism-mauritius.mu/>

Please direct correspondence to [jon@siofa.org](mailto:jon@siofa.org)  
Executive Secretary of the SIOFA