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**Cc:** [admin1@tuna.org.cn](mailto:admin1@tuna.org.cn)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Historical catch by China on orange roughy in SIOFA Area  
**Date:** 09 March 2018 13:18:55

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Dear Jon,

Reference is made to the upcoming SC3 and the SAWG meeting in March.

As required by the Secretariat as per relevant provisions of the organization, we are pleased to provide historical catch data by China for orange roughy, and we hope that the data would be useful for assessment of the stock.

According to FAO statistics (FISH STATJ database), China harvested orange roughy in SIOFA area (FAO51) for 3 years (2000-2002). Regarding the data for 2002, which is 38 tons in the FISH STATJ database, I wish to clarify that the data did not reflect the right catch amount, as the 38 tons of catch was the fish after process. That is to say the weight (38 tons) excludes the head and viscera. Hence, the actual weight for 2002 as round fish shall be 72.3 tons.

Moreover, China conducted bottom longline fishery with 2~20 vessels in SIOFA area in 2004~2013 with orange roughy catch ranging from 2.3 to 38.7 tons.

In summary, the historical catch data on the orange roughy for Chinese fishery in the SIOFA area show in table 1.

Table 1 the historical catch data on the orange roughy for Chinese fishery in the SIOFA area

Year	Orange roughy( <i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i> )			Total catch (tons)	FAO database (tons)
	Bottom longline fishery(tons)	Demersal trawl fishery(tons)	SIOFA Location		
2000		623	3a	623	623
2001		710	3a	710	710
2002		72.3	3a	72.3 <sup>1)</sup>	38
2003					
2004	7.2		1,4	7.2	
2005	2.3		8	2.3	
2006	13.5		1, 4	13.5	
2007	21.4		1,4	21.4	
2008	22.8		1,4	22.8	
2009	19.2		1,4	19.2	
2010	35		1	35	
2011	38.7		1,4	38.7	
2012	29.3		1	29.3	
2013	7		4	7	
2014					

1) The figure submitted by China to FAO for 2002 fishery was 38 tons, however the figure should be 72.3 tons as the former data was the weight excluding the head and viscera, so the weight of round fish should be 72.3 tons.

Regarding the bottom line fishery data, kindly note that:

1) The historical total catch data of orange roughy

from 2004 to 2013 indicated in Table 1 were estimated according to calculating the proportion of orange roughy catch in the total catch which were recorded in the logbooks of the sampling vessels;

<!--[if !supportLists-->2) <!--[endif-->The identification of orange roughy was mainly done by the crew, which may result in the uncertainties on the catch data for this species.

In addition, kindly be advised that we are now preparing annual report as per required. However, as it is first time for China to do so, it does take time before we accomplish the report. Nevertheless we will submit the report as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely yours,

ZHAO Liling  
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Bureau of Fisheries  
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