

SC-06-10

6th Meeting of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) Scientific Committee

Annual National Report - Seychelles

Please note that National Reports and SC Working Group reports shall be classified as working papers

Relates to agenda item: 3

Working paper ☒ Info paper ☐

Delegation of Seychelles

Abstract

This paper is submitted as part of Seychelles obligation to report on fishing activities within the SIOFA area.

Recommendation

The meeting is invited to consider the Seychelles Annual National Report.

Description of Fisheries

The Seychelles has no locally flagged vessels operating in the SIOFA area. Seychelles flagged vessels operating on the high seas consists of mostly purse seiners and longliners that targets tuna and tuna-like species and are therefore operating in the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) area of competence. The majority of local vessels operates within the Seychelles EEZ and targets mostly demersal and pelagic species using a range of fishing gears such as traps, handline, dropline and pelagic longlines.

Relevant social and economic information

With the increasing pressure on the inshore resources and Seychelles focus on Blue Economy growth and diversification, it is envisaged that in future, fishers could potentially venture into deep-sea fishing activities beyond its EEZ. Furthermore, with the newly established Joint Management Area (JMA) between Mauritius and Seychelles for the continental shelf in the Mascarene Shelf Plateau (396,000 square kilometres), there could be future potential for exploration of deep sea resources in this region.