

## 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee (SC10)

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SC-10-50-Rev1

## Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment for Hapuka Fishery

The Union of Comoros

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Abstract	

On February 7, 2025, the Union of Comoros has submitted to the secretariat a Fisheries Operation Plan for Hapuka Fishery in accordance with CMM17 (2024). However, after carefully studying the CMM 17 (2024) we concluded that Hapuka fishery cannot be considered a new or exploratory type of fishery by a definition because:

A) It is listed as an established fishery in Annex 1 of CMM 17 (page 7).

B) The fishing activity is planned to be conducted within the SIOFA bottom fishing footprint (subareas 2, 3a, 3b and 4).

C) The Union of Comoros plans to engage in a fishing activity targeting hapuka by using an established method of dropline.

D) That last activity for hapuka fishery in SIOFA was conducted in 2021 (less than 10 years ago)

Therefore, according to SIOFA rules and regulations, we would like to submit to the secretariat the Bottom Fishing Impact assessment report for hapuka fishery.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Documents available only to members invited to closed sessions.

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## Recommendations

It is recommended that the SC:

- Notes the BFIA for Hapuka Fishery provided by the Union of Comoros
- Notes that the Union of Comoros is acting according to SIOFA rules and regulations