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Hapuka Fisheries Operation Plan

The Union of Comoros

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Abstract	
<p>The Union of Comoros intends to engage in hapuka fishery in 2025 and decided to submit to the secretariat a Fisheries Operation Plan in accordance with CMM17 (2024). However, we believe that hapuka fishery cannot be considered a new or exploratory type of fishery by a definition because:</p> <p>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)</p> <p>Therefore, according to SIOFA rules and regulations, we would like this document to be treated as a Bottom Fishing Impact assessment report for hapuka fishery.</p>	

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² Documents available only to members invited to closed sessions.

Recommendations
<p>It is recommended that the SC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notes that a Fisheries Operation Plan for Hapuka Fishery has been provided by the Union of Comoros. However, according to SIOFA rules and regulations it should be treated as a BFIA.• Notes that the Union of Comoros is acting according to SIOFA rules and regulations