



10th Meeting of the Parties (MoP10)

Ravenala Attitude Hotel, Balaclava, Mauritius

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MoP-10-26

Proposal for the Streamlining of Submission of Working Papers to be Considered by both the Meetings of the Parties and the Meetings of the Compliance Committee

SIOFA Secretariat

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Abstract	
<p>The Secretariat has observed that given proposals are discussed by both the Meeting of Parties (MoP) and the Meeting of the Compliance Committee (CC), CCPs are obliged to submit their proposals to both the MoP and the CC, while having to observed two different deadlines for these submissions. The Secretariat has also observed that this may create undue burden to both the CCPs and Secretariat to prepare, submit and circulate similar sets of documents <i>twice</i> as per adopted process by the MoP and the CC.</p> <p>Noting the above, the Secretariat is hereby proposing a more streamlined approach towards the submission of Working Papers, that are to be considered by both the MoP and the CC, that seeks to prevent double submission by the CCPs and facilitate the circulation of such proposal to the CCPs, as appropriate.</p>	

¹ Restricted documents may contain confidential information. Please do not distribute restricted documents in any form without the explicit permission of the SIOFA Secretariat and the data owner(s)/provider(s).

² Documents available only to members invited to closed sessions.

Recommendations

- That the MoP **notes** and **reviews** the proposed process, as necessary.
- That the MoP **adopts** a streamlined process with regards to the submission of proposals to be discussed by both the MoP and the CC

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Background

One of the functions of the Compliance Committee is to advise the Meeting of Parties on new management measures, which requires it to review all annual submissions related to new management measures, and amendments to current management measures, and provide necessary advice to the MoP thereon. The current rules of procedures require that working documents, which includes new CMMs and amendments to CMMs are submitted to the MoP 30 days prior to the commencements of its ordinary meetings. However, this rule is also applicable to the Compliance Committee *mutatis mutandis*. Recalling that the Agreement provides that the Compliance Committee shall meet, in conjunction with the Meeting of the Parties, this requires that CCPs are obliged to submit such proposal to both the MoP and the CC, while having to observe two different deadlines.

This process has the unintended consequences of:

- Requiring two submissions of the same proposal to two meetings:
- Secretariat is required to circulate the same proposal twice in respect to the two meetings.
- There are observed instances where CCP may omit to submit document to one meeting therefore requiring special exemption or derogation to the applicable rules.

Proposal to Streamline Submission Process

Noting the above, the Secretariat has found it necessary to suggest a process that will allow a more streamlined approach to submission of proposals. These shall have the aims of:

- Eliminating the need for CCPs to submit proposal twice to the CC and the MoP
- Reducing the task of the Secretariat having to post and circulate proposals twice.
- Reducing risks of CCPs not meeting deadlines of the CC, while submitting proposals for consideration of the MoP.

To achieve the above, the Secretariat in proposing that the MoP considers the following processes, that aims to simplify the submission of proposals to the CC and the Compliance Committee

- CCPs may submit their proposals to the MoP, observing the 30-days deadline agreed for such submissions. While the 30-days rule applies *mutatis Mutandis* to the Compliance Committee, the MoP can adopt alternate rules applicable to the proceedings of the meetings, as Rule 21 provides that these rules apply as such, except as provided Except as otherwise provided in the Agreement or specific provisions made in the Rules of Procedures. There are already existing precedents within the organization whereby the compliance committee considers matters, while submission dates are based around the commencement of the Meeting of Parties, nor does it require two separate submissions for consideration of the MoP and the CC.³
- Submissions shall be made to the Secretariat, and the Secretariat shall do the needful to notify the respective chairs of these submissions and circulate these submissions.
- The submissions shall be included in the respective agenda items by the secretariat, in consultation with the respective chairs, and circulated to **both** the MoP and the CC within 5 days of receiving the proposals, but not later than 25 days prior to the commencement of the Meeting of Parties.

³ SIOFA Compliance Reports and the SIOFA IUU Vessels list.

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The above proposal gives due regards to the Agreement, the *Terms of Reference* for the Compliance Committee, and the Rules of Procedures, while proposing a process that should be more convenient for all parties concerned.