



SIOFA | APSOI

Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
Accord relatif aux Pêches dans le Sud de l'Océan Indien

MoP-10-INFO-09

10th Meeting of the Parties (MoP9)

Mauritius, 3–7 July 2023

MOP-10-INFO-09

Correspondences and Exchanges with Sri Lanka: Review and Updates since the Previous Meeting of the Parties.

SIOFA Secretariat

Document type	administrative paper <input type="checkbox"/> working paper <input type="checkbox"/> information paper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Distribution	Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted ¹ <input type="checkbox"/> Confidential ² <input type="checkbox"/>
Abstract	
In accordance with Paragraph 55 of the report of MoP9, the Secretariat was instructed to establish contact with Sri Lanka and encourage the provision of relevant information in relation to the listing of IUU vessels. Having completed this directive, the Secretariat has compiled all the correspondences exchanged with Sri Lanka since the previous meeting of the parties into this information paper.	

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 as per SIOFA RoP 20.



SIOFA Circular n° 2022-34

SUBJECT: Response from Sri Lankan Officials regarding the SIOFA draft IUU Vessel List

Dear Official Contacts,

Please find attached communication from Sri Lankan Official Contacts, which was received by the Secretariat on Wednesday the 29th of June 2022.

The letter and logbook entries was sent to the Secretariat in response to Circular 2022-29 (the transmission of the SIOFA draft IUU Vessel List), which includes three vessels flagged to Sri Lanka.

Yours sincerely,

Thierry CLOT

Executive Secretary
SIOFA/APSOI



ධීවර හා ජලජ සම්පත් දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව
கடற்றொழில் நீரியல் வளத்துறை திணைக்களம்
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES & AQUATIC RESOURCES



web site : <http://www.fisheriesdept.gov.lk> E - mail : info@fisheriesdept.gov.lk

புதிய செயலகம், மாளிகாவத்தை கொழும்பு 10, இலங்கை තව මහ ලලසම් කාර්යාලය, මාලිගාවත්ත, කොළඹ 10, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව New Secretariat, Maligawaththa, Colombo 10

මගේ අංකය
எனது இல
My Ref



DFAR/DFO/SIOFA/2022

ඔබේ අංකය
உமது இல
Your Ref



දිනය
திகதி
Date



29.07.2022

Mr. Thierry Clot
Executive Secretary
South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA)
La Reunion, France.

Dear Mr. Thierry Clot

Circular SIOFA 2022-29 Transmission of the SIOFA draft IUU Vessel List and Inclusion of three Sri Lanka tuna fishing vessels in the draft SIOFA 2022 IUU

This is in addition to the letter N0. 2022-DFO-SIOFA 2022 dated 20th April 2022 forwarded by Sri Lanka on the three vessels IMULA 1783 MTR, IMULA 1844 MTR and IMULA 1655MTR currently included to the IUU vessels list of SIOFA.

Sri Lanka would like to provide the catch data reporting log sheets of the two vessels IMULA 1783 MTR and IMULA 1655 MTR as a proving document to emphasise that the two vessels operated for tuna and tuna like species and has not engaged in other fishery. (Annex- I).

Sri Lanka kindly request from the compliance committee of SIOFA to remove the two vessels IMULA 1783 MTR and IMULA 1655 MTR, taking into consideration the provided information and the clarification given in the previous communication.

The vessel IMULA 1844MTR is prosecuting at courts(Case No is BR1425/22) and the log book is in the custody. The next trial date is 15/07/2022. Sri Lanka will report the penalties imposed on this vessel once the prosecution is over.

In future Sri Lanka will timely update the Sri Lanka vessels in the authorised vessels list before departure for fishing preventing same incidents in future.

I appreciate if you would circulate this letter among the members of SIOFA.

Thank You

Yours sincerely,

Kalyani Hewapathirana
Director Fishing Operations
For Director General

கி.பி.பி.
த.பி.பி.
P.O.Box

} 531

සෞඳ්‍ය දුරකථනය
பொது தொலைபேசி
Gen. Telephone

} +94(0)112446183 (2 lines)

ෆැක්ස්
எந்திரமெய்தகை
Fax

} +94(0) 112449170



SIOFA | APSOI

Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
Accord relatif aux Pêches dans le Sud de l'Océan Indien

Ref: 2023-03-22-1/SIOFA/ES

Reunion Island, Wednesday 22nd March 2023

Ms Kalyani HEWAPATHIRANA

Director Fishing Operations Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources
New Secretariat
Maligawahththa
Colombo 10
SRI LANKA

Dear Ms Hewapathirana,

We would like to draw your attention to the vessel IMULA 1844 MTR. As per the last updated provided by the Sri Lanka on the 29th of July 2022, the SIOFA Secretariat was informed that the vessel was subject to ongoing legal proceedings and that it will inform the Secretariat of any disciplinary actions taken against it. The Secretariat was also advised that the vessel's logbook information could not be provided at the time of the request by the Secretariat due to the ongoing legal proceedings. We kindly request that you inform us whether there are any disciplinary actions taken against the vessel, or any other relevant information related to the case.

In addition, we would like to ask whether you would like to provide any further information regarding the other two vessels, IMULA 1655 MTR and IMULA 1783 MTR, as previously requested by the SIOFA Secretariat. .

Please be advised that the 3 vessels are currently on the draft SIOFA IUU Vessel List for consideration at the next meeting and hereby requests that Sri Lanka provide further information such as observer data, port inspection reports, landing/sale notes, and transshipment declarations.

Sincerely yours,

Thierry CLOT

SIOFA Executive Secretary

Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA)
Accord relatif aux Pêches dans le Sud de l'Océan Indien (APSOI)

Batiment B, Parc de la Providence, 97489 Saint-Denis Cedex, La Réunion, France
thierry.clot@siofa.org / www.apsoi.org / Tel : + 262 693 444 495



ධීවර කා ජලජ සම්පත් දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව
கடற்றொழில் நீரியல் வளத்துறை திணைக்களம்
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES & AQUATIC RESOURCES

web site : <http://www.fisheriesdept.gov.lk> E - mail : info@fisheriesdept.gov.lk

ප්‍රதிய සේ‍යලකම, මාලිකාවත්තේ කොමුමු 10, ඉලහකේ නව මහ රජමළු කාර්යාලය, මාලිගාවත්ත, රකාළුඩි 10, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව New Secretariat, Maligawaththa, Colombo 10

මගේ අංකය } DFAR/DFO/SIOFA/2023-1 } ඔබේ අංකය } 00.04.2023
எனது இல } } உமது இல }
My Ref } } Your Ref }
දිනය } }
திகதி } }
Date } }

Mr. Thierry Clot
Executive Secretary
South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA)
La Reunion, France.

Dear Mr. Thierry Clot

Ref: 2023-03-22-1.SIOFA/ES

Update of the status of legal actions taken against the Sri Lanka Vessel IMULA 1844 MTR

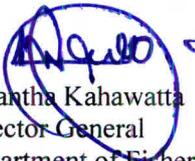
This is reference to your letter dated 22nd March 2023 requesting further information on the investigations conducted on the Sri Lanka fishing Vessel, IMULA 1844 MTR. The relevant information is provided in the table given below.

Date of arrival to Sri Lanka	Initial Actions taken by DFAR	Legal Actions taken	Current Status
15 th April 2022	(i) Detained the vessel after arrival to the port of SL and keep under the supervision of Department of Coast Guard (ii) Summon the skipper and crew to the District office Matara, DFAR and conduct and inquiry in the presence of the vessel owner. (iii) Suspend the fishing operation license, skipper license and seize the registration book and the log book issued to the vessel.	(i) Prosecuted in the Magistrate Courts of Matera District as per the section 14 (A) of FARA No. 2 of 1996 amended by FARA No.35 of 2013. Case No: BR/1425/22 on the date of 18.04.2022	i) At the trial conducted on 15 th July 2022, the accused pleaded guilty and agreed to settlement under the 52 (B) of FARA No. 2 of 1996. ii) Administrative penalty SLR 500,000 has imposed. ii) The administrative penalty SLR 500,000 is paid. (receipt attached- Annex -I) iii) Case is over. Suspensions lifted

Sri Lanka draw your attention to the previous letter sent on the date of 20th April 2022 on this regard (copy attached – Annex –II) and kindly request from the compliance committee of SIOFA to remove the three vessels IMULA 1783 MTR and IMULA 1655 MTR and IMULA 1844 MTR from the draft IUU list.

I appreciate if you could table this letter at the next compliance committee of SIOFA.

Thank You
Yours sincerely,


Susantha Kahawatta
Director General
Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources



SIOFA | APSOI

Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
Accord relatif aux Pêches dans le Sud de l'Océan Indien

Ref. 2023-06-05-1/SIOFA/ES

Ms Kalyani HEWAPATHIRANA
Director Fishing Operations
Department of Fisheries & Aquatic
Resources
New Secretariat
Maligawahththa
Colombo 10
SRI LANKA

Reunion Island, Monday 5th June 2023

Subject: Request for Information on Vessel IMULA 1655

Dear Ms Hewapathirana,

I hope this letter finds you well.

We would also like to inquire about your vessel, IMULA 1655. Our records indicate that this vessel has recorded catches of Mobula ray. We would be grateful if you could provide us with more information on the catches made by IMULA 1655, notably if these catches were kept onboard, and if there were landed and/or transhipped at the end of the concerned fishing trip.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to receiving your response, preferably before our upcoming Compliance Committee meeting, which is expected to take place between the 28th and the 30th of June 2022, and will be pleased to provide any further information or clarification as necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Thierry CLOT

SIOFA Executive Secretary



SIOFA | APSOI

Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
Accord relatif aux Pêches dans le Sud de l'Océan Indien



ධීවර හා ජලජ සම්පත් දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව
கடற்பொழில் நீரியல் வளத்துறை திணைக்களம்
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES & AQUATIC RESOURCES

web site : <http://www.fisheriesdept.gov.lk> E - mail : info@fisheriesdept.gov.lk

புதிய செயலகம், மாளிகாவத்தை கொழும்பு 10, இலங்கை නව මහ ලේකම් කාර්යාලය, මලිගාවත්ත, කොළඹ 10, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව New Secretariat, Maligawaththa, Colombo 10

මගේ අංකය
எனது இல
My Ref

} DFAR/DFO/SIOFA/2023-2

ඔබේ අංකය
உமது இல
Your Ref

}

දිනය
திகதி
Date

} 16 . 06. 2023

Mr. Thierry Clot
Executive Secretary
South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA)
La Reunion, France.

Dear Mr. Thierry Clot

Ref: 2023-06-05-1/SIOFA/ES

Request for information on Sri Lanka Fishing Vessel IMULA 1655 MTR.

This is reference to your letter dated 5th June 2023 requesting information on the Sri Lanka fishing Vessel IMULA 1655 MTR.

The vessel IMULA 1655 MTR arrived to Sri Lanka fishery harbour on 02nd May 2022. The vessel has been inspected on arrival by the DFAR harbour officer. The log sheet is collected and the catch landed is inspected. Thirty-Nine (39) numbers of mobulid rays were on board and the mobulid catch was taken to the custody of DFAR since catching of this species is prohibited as per the conditions of the fishing license.

Sri Lanka fishing vessels operate in the high seas for tuna and tuna like species subjected to the Conservation and Management Measures of IOTC. However, the resolution 19/03 on the conservation of mobulid rays caught in association with tuna fishery, which adopted in 2019 (on banning the retention of mobulids) is still in the drafting stage and not yet published. In absence of legal provisions prosecution was not possible and therefore the catch has been taken to the custody of DFAR and the master(skipper) warned for the first time for breaking of the license condition.

DFAR is in the process of expedite the publication of draft regulations and the regulation on conservation of Mobulid rays will be published.

This is for your information please.

Thank You
Yours sincerely,

Susantha Kahawatta
Director General
Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources

Susantha Kahawatta
Director General

Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources

වැ.පෙ.
த.பெ.பி.பெ.
P.O.Box } 531

පොදු දුරකථන
பொது தொலைபேசி
Gen. Telephone } +94(0)112446183 (2 lines)

වැ.කේ
தொலைநகல்
Fax } +94(0) 112449170