



**8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Compliance Committee (CC8) and 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties (MoP11)**

*Seoul, Republic of Korea, 26–28 June 2024 and 01-05 July 2024*

**MoP-11-30 Rev1**

# SIOFA authorized vessels' data access request from INTERPOL

The SIOFA Secretariat

<b>Meeting</b>	Compliance Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting of the Parties <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Document type</b>	working paper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> information paper <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Distribution</b>	Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <sup>1</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> Closed session document <sup>2</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Abstract</b>	Interpol requested access to SIOFA RAV restricted data. <b>Rev1 of this paper annexes the request made by the Interpol, for the consideration of the MoP.</b>
<b>Recommendation</b>	The MoP to decide whether it authorizes the Secretariat to release/give access to all vessel data to INTERPOL.

<sup>1</sup> 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).

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

# Information notes on the SIOFA Database access request by Interpol

On April 30, 2024, the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) Secretariat received a formal request from Interpol seeking access to the SIOFA database (Annex 1).

According to this letter, Interpol is dedicated to bolstering fisheries law enforcement in all 196 member nations, holds a crucial role in identifying, monitoring, and tackling illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities and associated offenses.

Recognizing the significance of accurate and readily available data, especially regarding vessels operating under SIOFA jurisdiction, Interpol has submitted a request to access the SIOFA Secretariat's database.

Such access should be important for Interpol to enhance its support for any SIOFA member nation grappling with transnational fisheries incidents. By gaining entry to the SIOFA Secretariat's database, Interpol aims to notably elevate its operational assistance in the region and contribute to the fight against IUU fishing activities.

Assurances have been made that any accessed data will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and solely utilized to bolster operational support capabilities in the region.

The Secretariat has confirmed receipt of Interpol's request and instructed them to await the response from the MoP.

The Secretariat awaits a response from the MoP and assure all concerned parties that a formal response will be provided to Interpol once a decision is made.

## Annex 1: Request from Interpol.

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION  
ORGANIZACIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE POLICÍA CRIMINAL



ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE POLICE CRIMINELLE  
المنظمة الدولية للشرطة الجنائية

INTERPOL

**Mr Thierry Clot**  
**Executive Secretary**  
Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement  
13 Rue de Marseille  
97420 Le Port  
La Réunion

**Date:** 30 April 2024  
**Our Ref.:** 2024/227/OEC/ILM/ENS/RIM  
**Contact:** Ricardo Moraes  
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**Subject:** INTERPOL Login access to SIOFA Secretariat Databases

Dear Mr Clot,

The INTERPOL Environmental Security Programme (ENS) supports Fisheries law enforcement authorities in INTERPOL's 196 member countries in identifying, monitoring and addressing illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing incidents and associated crimes.

Our Programme delivers operational and analytical support to National agencies upon their request, as an integral component of our continuous endeavors. This support helps in the identification, monitoring, and inspection of vessels of interest. In the year 2024, our emphasis has transitioned towards combating IUU fishing and associated crimes in the Western Indian Ocean.

Accurate and accessible information is crucial for ensuring the precision of INTERPOL data crosschecks in the region, particularly concerning vessels operating under the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA).

INTERPOL is respectfully requesting access to the SIOFA Secretariat's database. We wish to assure you that all accessed data will be handled with the utmost confidentiality and used exclusively to enhance our operational support capabilities in the region. This access will allow us to retrieve information on authorized vessels, significantly boosting INTERPOL's ability to assist in the region.

Access to this information will be crucial for INTERPOL to enhance the support to any SIOFA member dealing with a transnational fisheries incident.

Yours sincerely,

**Cindy Buckley**  
Senior Operations Coordinator

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