

8th Meeting of the Compliance Committee (CC8) and 11th Meeting of the Parties (MoP11)

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

MoP-11-36-rev2

(ex MOP-11-INFO-03)

Report on SIOFA Staff Resources and Secretariat Activities

SIOFA Secretariat

Meeting	Compliance Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting of the Parties <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Document type	administrative paper <input type="checkbox"/> working paper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> information paper <input type="checkbox"/>
Distribution	Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Confidential 2 <input type="checkbox"/>
Abstract	
<p>Following Rule 8.1 (f) and (g) of the SIOFA Rules of Procedure, this document presents an annual report, compiled by the Secretariat, detailing its staffing resources and activities covering the period between MoP10 and MoP11.</p> <p>Rev1 has been issued following the incorporation of Annex 1. Rev2 correct a typo in table 1.</p>	

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² Documents available only to members invited to closed sessions as per SIOFA RoP 20.

Introduction

Following Rule 8.1 (f) and (g) of the SIOFA Rules of Procedure, this document presents an annual report, compiled by the Secretariat, detailing its staffing resources and activities covering the period between MoP10 and MoP11.

Updates to the Agreement

SIOFA's CCPs and signatories

The Contracting Parties to SIOFA are:

- Australia
- People's Republic of China
- Cook Islands
- European Union
- France (on behalf of its Overseas Territories)
- Japan
- The Republic of Korea
- Mauritius
- Seychelles
- Thailand

SIOFA's Participating Fishing Entity:

- Chinese Taipei

SIOFA's Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties:

- The Union of Comoros
- India

Signatories to the Agreement:

- Kenya
- Madagascar
- Mozambique
- New Zealand

Observers:

- The Republic of Kenya
- The Republic of Madagascar
- The Republic of Mozambique
- The Republic of South Africa
- *The United States of America*

- *The Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP)*
- *The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)*
- *Deep-Sea Conservation Coalition (DSCC)*
- The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS) of the United Nations
- The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)
- *The Indian Ocean Commission (IOC)*
- *The Joint Commission of the Mauritius-Seychelles Joint Management Area (JMA)*
- *The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO / ABNJ/ RSN / FIRMS)*
- *The Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC)*
- *Southern Indian Ocean Deep-sea Fishers' Association (SIODFA)*
- *International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)*

SIOFA Meeting of the Parties and subsidiary bodies chairpersons

Table 1 provides an overview of the Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of the Meeting of the Parties and its associated subsidiary bodies.

Table 1: Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of the SIOFA

Body	Chairperson	Vice-Chairperson
Meeting of the Parties	Tae-Hoon Won (jul 2023 to dec 2023) Dae-yeon Moon (jan 2024 to...)	Ichiro Nomura
Compliance Committee	Ichiro Nomura (Jul 2022 to Jul 2024)	Meera Koonjul
Scientific Committee	Alistair Dunn (Nov 2020 to Jul 2025)	Pavarot Noranarttragoon

SIOFA Staff Resources

The Secretariat staff currently consists of an Executive Secretary, a Data Officer (since January 2022), a Science Officer (since February 2022), a Compliance Officer (since February 2023) and an Intern (5-month term since April 2024).

For the Secretariat to function effectively, it is imperative that the Executive Secretary prioritizes good communication, transparency, human resources, and financial management.

With regards to communication and transparency, the Executive Secretary conducts depending on the Chairs availability, if possible monthly, a Chairs meeting with all SIOFA Chairs and vice chairs to discuss Secretariat operations and potential challenges that may require joint action.

Furthermore, weekly staff meetings are planned to stay updated on various matters, monitor progress, and identify any challenges that may require assistance. These meetings also serve as an opportunity for staff members to raise issues for resolution by the Executive Secretary.

Regarding human resources and financial management, The Secretariat now has 4 offices

1- A Scientific Office, which is responsible for all science-related matters and for preparing applications for European grants.

2- A Compliance Office, which has the main responsibilities of administering the compliance-related services provided by the Secretariat, overseeing programs and collaborations related to the fight against IUU fishing, and supporting endeavours in relations to the regional commissions, and other compliance related tasks as directed by the Meeting of the Parties.

3- An IT and Data Office, which is responsible for the database, archiving and management of the SIOFA website.

4. A Human Resources and Financial Office, which is responsible for recruitment, staff supervision and monitoring, and budget management.

The tasks of each office have been clearly defined.

Each office carries out its own tasks, but also participates in the Secretariat's collective discussions and tasks.

The Secretariat is thus set up to carry out the tasks assigned by the MoP, the SC or the CC and to respond to the various requests from the CCPs or other organisations.

Secretariat Activities

The main duties of the Secretariat from MoP10 to MoP11 included:

The realisation of the specific tasks required by the MoP10:

- Completion and opening of the new headquarters.
- Executing the designated tasks outlined in MoP10 (listed in **Annex 1**).
- Gathering and analysing data and generating data reports.
- Coordinating meetings.
- Collaborating with other organisations (including governmental and non-governmental organizations, FAO, etc.).
- Engaging in scientific endeavours (specified further below).
- Participating in meetings of adjacent RFMOs.
- Handling administrative duties (such as personnel management, financial tasks, and record-keeping).

The Secretariat has adhered to the directives outlined in the MoP10 decisions regarding the SIOFA Performance Review recommendations. A comprehensive summary detailing the completed actions and ongoing initiatives is available in paper MoP-11-02.

Compliance Activities

In addition to the Compliance services provided by the Secretariat, these are the other compliance-related activities undertaken during the last intersessional period include:

- Enhancing internal compliance related processes
 - Improvements to the management of the SIOFA IUU vessels list (ongoing)
 - Establishing procedures for the management of the Port Inspection Reports

- Improvements to the management of the SIOFA RAV, including aligning internal procedures with the CMM.

- Support to intersessional Processes:
 - VMS Working Group: The Secretariat has been responsible for supporting the intersectional processes related to the entry into operation of the SIOFA VMS, including
 - Grant application and management for the SIOFA VMS project (European Union grant)
 - Meeting organisation (3 Working groups)
 - Drafting of meeting papers, including the SIOFA VMS SSPs
 - Other tasks as directed by the SIOFA VMS WG Chair
 - Intersessional discussions on a new SIOFA CCR template: Following the agreement of the 10th Meeting of the Parties to continue discussions on the new SIOFA CCR template, the Secretariat has been acting as a facilitator to the process, which includes:
 - Meeting management and facilitation (2 Intersessional Meetings) incl. meeting planning and administration, facilitation and rapporteur
 - Drafting the new CCR template based on inputs gathered during the two meetings and comments received after these meetings.

- Networking

Since the recruitment of the Compliance Officer, there has been increasing interest from regional organisations in exploring potential collaboration opportunities on matters relating to Monitoring Control and Surveillance. These include:

- *Information Fusion Centre – Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR)*: The IFC-IOR is a regional maritime security centre hosted by the Indian Navy, with the mandate of enhancing maritime security and safety on the Indian Ocean. The Centre fuses, analyses and disseminates information on White Shipping in the Indian Ocean. The Centre fuses, analyses and disseminates information on White Shipping in the Indian Ocean. At the invitation of the IFC-IOR, two organisations met virtually in September 2023 so that the IFC-IOR could better understand the mandate and the work of SIOFA. The centre committed to providing information related to the work of SIOFA, notably potential IUU fishing, while the SIOFA secretariat informed the centre of its publicly available data on vessels that may be of interest to the centre, including the SIOFA IUU vessels list and the SIOFA RAV.

- *Interpol*: Interpol has expressed interest in working with the SIOFA Secretariat, notably in matters related to Illegal fisheries and fisheries-related crimes. There's been one bilateral discussion between the two organisations on the potential opportunities to collaborate with Interpol, indicating their interest in formalising relations with the SIOFA.
 - *Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)*: The SIOFA Secretariat welcomed some delegates from IORA member countries, who were introduced to the organisation, followed by discussions on SIOFA CMMs related to IUU fishing. The delegates were in La Reunion attending the 2nd Workshop to develop IORA Guideline to combat IUU Fishing in the Indian Ocean, where the SIOFA Secretariat also provided some expert input in this process. The two Secretariats also discussed the possibility of considering formal collaborations, and it was noted that the future plan of IORA is to formalise collaborations with all RFMOs in the Indian Ocean.
 - *IOC*: Engagements with the IOC have been unsuccessful. The Secretariat has sent official correspondence to the IOC Secretariat since August 2023 and has also engaged in other unofficial engagements with them.
- Participation in Regional Meetings
 - South-East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO) Compliance Committee Meeting
 - FAO and WIOMSA Fisheries-Related Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures in the Southwest Indian Ocean (SWIO) Workshop.
 - 21st Session of the Compliance Committee and the 28th Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
 - Others
 - Review of Report on RFMO Port State Measures: The SIOFA Secretariat was invited to contribute to a report on the review of port state *measures in RFMOs (including SIOFA) and their alignment with the FAO Agreement*. The report was commissioned by The Nature Conservancy (TNC).

Activities related to data and information technology include:

- Management of databases and data-related tasks:
 - Processing data submissions (templates, emailing, datasets recording, data verification and formatting).

MOP-11-36-rev2 Report on Staff Resources and Secretariat Activities

- Updating the Catch & Effort and the Observer databases with yearly data submissions.
 - Providing data for Scientific Committee papers, Scientific Reports, external consultant studies.
 - Compiling entry-exit notifications into the database.
 - Maintaining the SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels up to date, in the Secretariat database and on the SIOFA website.
- Attendance and Support to meetings:
 - Management of virtual meetings (Zoom), including registrations and invitations.
 - Preparation and management of meeting documents.
 - Attendance to other meetings and workshops.
- Website administration :
 - Performing backups and Drupal updates.
 - Updating website structure and pages.
 - Content addition and management (adding pages, meetings and uploading documents).
 - Managing users and access rights.
- IT activities :
 - Setting up Secretariat computers and installing software.
 - Managing software subscriptions and accounts.
 - Providing advice on purchasing hardware and peripherals.
 - Administration of SIOFA email accounts.
 - Communication with IT providers.

Science-related activities (2023-2024):

Science projects coordination (excluding projects led by CCPs)

Completed:

- PAE2021-01 Bioregionalisation and Management of Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs)
- SER2022-ORY1 and BYS1 orange roughy and alfonsino stock structure
- SER2022-BYS2 bomb radiocarbon ageing of alfonsino
- SER2022-TOP1 Genetic analysis to inform the stock structure of Patagonian toothfish (*Dissostichus eleginoides*)
- SEC2022-OBS1 Establish a framework for scientific observation of SIOFA fisheries
- PAE2022-MPA1 Protocols to designate and evaluate MPAs in the SIOFA Area

Contracted and ongoing:

- SER2022-TOP2 Stock structure of Patagonian toothfish (*Dissostichus eleginoides*)

MOP-11-36-rev2 Report on Staff Resources and Secretariat Activities

- ORY-2023-02 Orange roughy (*Hoplostethus atlanticus*) acoustics
- ORY-2023-01 Age and growth of orange roughy (*Hoplostethus atlanticus*)

EU grants coordination

- SIOFA-SC8
- SIOFA-SEAs
- SIOFA-PAM

Scientific reports preparation

- Overview of SIOFA Fisheries 2024
- SIOFA Ecosystem Summary 2024
- SIOFA Fisheries Summary: orange roughy (*Hoplostethus atlanticus*) 2024
- Fishery Summary: alfonsino (*Beryx* spp., *B. splendens*, *B. decadactylus*) 2024
- Fishery Summary: toothfish (*Dissostichus* spp., *D. eleginoides*, *D. mawsoni*) 2024
- Fishery Summary: oilfish (*Ruvettus pretiosus*) and escolar (*Lepidocybium flavobrunneum*) 2024
- SIOFA Fishery Summary: hapuka (*Polyprion* spp., hapuku wreckfish *P. oxygeneios*, wreckfish *P. americanus*) 2024
- Fishery Summary: common mora (*Mora moro*) 2024
- Seabird interactions and mitigation measures in SIOFA compared with other RFMOs and outstanding ACAP advice
- Recent levels of catch for SIOFA species of interest
- Guidelines for the standardization of catch per unit of effort (CPUE) in SIOFA fisheries
- Review of VME encounter thresholds, and methods for their definition, in other RFMOs
- Summary of transboundary CCAMLR and SIOFA toothfish tagging data

Scientific Committee processes and meetings

- Joint MoP-SC Workshop on Harvest Strategy Management Objectives (WS2023-HSMO)
- Scientific Committee Workshop on the Harmonisation of Scientific Observers (WS2024-OBS)
- 9th Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee (SC9)
- Joint MoP-SC Workshop on the Development of Harvest Strategies (WS2024-HSS)

Other tasks of the Science Officer

- Organization of coordination meetings with the SC Chairs (usually on a weekly or bi-weekly basis) and support for the SC Chairs activities
- Liaison with researchers, scientific stakeholders
- Support for other Secretariat activities
- CCAMLR toothfish tag data exchange
- RFMO scientific coordination (SEAFO (SC19, virtual), IOTC (WPEB, in person), and CCAMLR (SC-CAMLR-42, in person))
- FAO Fisheries and Resources Monitoring System (FIRMS) Coordination
- FAO Deep-sea Fisheries Project (DSF II) Coordination

For further details on the Science Officer tasks, please see paper [SC-09-INFO-03](#).

Scientific Committee Circulars

Table 2 contains a compilation of all Scientific Committee Circulars dispatched between MoP10 and MoP11.

All SC Circulars are available on the SIOFA website at <https://siofa.org/science/sc-circulars>.

Table 2: SC Circulars sent from MoP10-MoP11

SC CIRCULAR No.	TITLE	Date
2023-17	The 2023/24 SIOFA Scientific Committee work plan	2023-10-02
2023-18	Scientific Committee Workshop on the Harmonisation of Scientific Observers (WS2024-OBS)	?/?
2023-19	Workshop on the Harmonisation of Scientific Observers (WS2024-OBS) working arrangements	2023-12-18
2024-01	Invitation to the 9th Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee and meeting arrangements	2024-01-08
2024-02	Provisional Agenda of the 9th Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee	2024-01-08
2024-03	Revised Provisional Agenda of the 9th Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee	2024-01-31
2024-04	Logistics of the 9th Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee	2024-02-22
2024-05	Provisional Meeting Arrangements, Terms of Reference, Agenda and Timetable for the Joint Meeting of the Parties-Scientific Committee workshop on the development of harvest strategies (WS2024-HSS)	2024-04-15
2024-06	Final arrangements for the Joint Meeting of the Parties-Scientific Committee workshop on the development of harvest strategies (WS2024-HSS)	2024-05-06
2024-07	Resources for SIOFA Scientific Observers available on the website	2024-05-27

Preparation of SIOFA Meetings

A. Virtual meetings

- Monthly meetings were scheduled with the Chairs of the MoP, CC, and SC, where all Chairs and Vice-Chairs were invited. These sessions provided updates on ongoing work and addressed any emerging issues.
- Bi-weekly SC-related meetings were held with the SC Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to coordinate SC tasks, oversee consultancies, prepare working groups, and plan SC meetings.
- Additionally, frequent internal meetings were convened by the Executive Secretary to allow officers to report on their activities and address any challenges. These gatherings also facilitated discussions on Secretariat organization.
- Six workshops of the SIOFA SC were conducted virtually:
 - One Scientific Committee Workshop on the Harmonisation of Scientific Observers (WS2024-OBS).
 - Two Meetings of the Working Group to Support the Establishment of the SIOFA VMS (VMSWG01 and VMSWG02)
 - Three meetings of the Working Group to Support the Establishment of the SIOFA VMS (VMSWG01, VMSWG02 and VMSWG03).

B. Hybrid meetings

In accordance with the recommendation from MoP10 to prioritize face-to-face meetings, the Secretariat has aimed to minimize the use of hybrid meetings. Although Zoom access is available, it operates in a limited mode where participants cannot speak online.

Nevertheless, remote presentations by certain consultants are necessary, considering the significant travel expenses for the Secretariat. To address this, a collaborative effort with the host country has led to the implementation of a system enabling consultants' participation during the Joint MoP-SC Workshop on the Development of Harvest Strategies (WS2024-HSS) on Saturday, June 29th.

C. Annual meetings

3 annual meetings took place:

- CC7 in Mauritius: The 7th Meeting of the SIOFA Compliance Committee took place in Mauritius, Balaclava from Wednesday 28th to Friday 30th June 2023.
- MoP10 in Mauritius: The 10th Meeting of the Parties took place in Mauritius, Balaclava from Monday 3rd to Friday 7th July 2023.
- SC9 in Thailand: The Ninth Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee (SC9), was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from the 18th to the 27th of March 2024.

SIOFA IUU Vessel List

(i) IUU List Adopted during MoP10

The Secretariat effectively publicized the IUU vessel list, adhering to relevant confidentiality protocols. Consequently, the SIOFA IUU Vessel List, endorsed during the 10th Meeting of the Parties, was made accessible on the SIOFA website.

(ii) Draft IUU List

In accordance with CMM 2022/06 and following the receipt of evidence outlined in paragraph 2 of CMM 2022/06, the Secretariat compiled the Draft SIOFA IUU Vessel List. This draft, along with the current IUU Vessel List and all supporting evidence, was sent to all CCPs and Non-Contracting Parties with vessels listed, on April 30, 2024, via Circular 2024/13.

The Secretariat requested that any comments pertaining to the Draft IUU List be submitted by May 22, 2024. It was emphasized that all comments must be accompanied by verifiable evidence and additional supporting information demonstrating that the vessels listed on the Draft IUU vessel list did not contravene SIOFA CMMs nor had the opportunity to engage in fishing activities within the Agreement Area.

(iii) Cross-listing of IUU vessels from other organisations

Upon receiving the finalized IUU vessel lists from other organizations, the Secretariat distributed all relevant information to CCPs for the purpose of updating the SIOFA IUU Vessel List during the intersessional period. This communication was conducted through Circulars, with the specifics outlined as follows:

- Circular 2023/38 (Update on NPFC's IUU Vessel List) NPFC added the ZHONG FU HAO 111, GLORIWAVE, QIAN YUAN and SHUN HANG to its IUU Vessel cross list.
- Circular 2023/55 (Changes to the SIOFA cross-list of IUU vessels following updates from ICCAT and CCAMLR) removed from the ICCAT IUU Vessels Lists the HALIFAX (ex- MARIO 11) and the HALELUYA. The change of Flag State for the ISRAR 1, ISRAR 2 and ISRAR 3.
- Circular 2024/07 (Amendments to the SIOFA IUU Vessels List following updates from the North Pacific Fisheries Commission), transmitted on 18/03/2024 the change of name of the ZHONG FU HAO 111 to WAN TONG, the GLORIWAVE became the RIWA and the SHUN HANG is now the HAN.
- Circular 2024/13 (Provisional IUU Vessel List): Transmitted on 30/04/2024. The vessels IMULA 1655 MTR and IMULA 1783MTR are reported as Vessels Presumed to be Carrying Out IUU Activities.

Attending meetings of other organisations

The Secretariat has also participated in meetings held by other organizations, as detailed in **Table 3** below. Additionally, forthcoming meetings have been included for reference.

Table 3: Meetings attended by the SIOFA Secretariat (Since the MoP10)

Meeting Title	Host Organisation	Dates	Format
FAO DSF II Project technical meeting	FAO	28 June 2023	Online
IOTC WPEB meeting	IOTC	11-14 September 2023	In person
Fisheries Data Collection 20 th liaison meeting	EU Commission	26-27 September 2023	Hybrid (online participation)
CCAMLR SC- meeting	CCAMLR	16-20 October 2023	In person
CCAMLR- 42 meeting	CCAMLR	23-27 October 2023	Online
International workshop “Mainstreaming climate change into international fisheries governance”	FAO and Bay of Bengal Program	17-19 October 2023	In-Person (supported by FAO)
SEAFO SC19 meeting	SEAFO	20-23 November 2024	Online
SEAFO Compliance Committee meeting	SEAFO	27 November 2023	Online
SEAFO Commission	SEAFO	29 – 30 November 2023	Online
FAO DSF II Project Steering Committee meeting	FAO	5-7 December 2023	In person
Workshop on other effective area-based conservation measures in areas under the jurisdiction of Regional Fisheries Bodies	FAO	22-24 January 2024	In person
Regional Workshop to review the SOFIA analysis and status of stocks for FAO Area 51	FAO and Bay of Bengal Program	14-19 April 2024	In-Person (supported by FAO)
Workshop Series on Fisheries-Related Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures in the Southwest Indian Ocean	WIOMSA/ FAO	16 -18 April	In-person (supported by the FAO)
IOTC CoC21 and S28	IOTC	5-7 May, 9 May, 13-17 May 2024	In Person

SIOFA Circulars

The following Circulars were used to distribute information to SIOFA Official Contacts (**Table 4**). These Circulars are accessible via the internal communication section of the SIOFA website (<https://siofa.org/internal-communication>). Access to this section requires logging in.

Table 4: Compilation of all Circulars forwarded to SIOFA Official Contacts during the period between MoP10 and MoP11.

CIRCULAR No.	SUBJECT	Date
SIOFA Circular n°2023-34	Tentative Schedule Proposal for the MOP and Heads of Delegation Meeting	2023-06-27
SIOFA Circular n°2023-35	Head of Delegations Meeting	2023-06-30
SIOFA Circular n°2023-36	Mop10 Final Report Availability	2023-07-17
SIOFA Circular n°2023-37	Proposed Corrections to new or amended Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs)	2023-07-18
SIOFA Circular n°2023-38	Update on NPFC's IUU Vessel List	2023-07-26
SIOFA Circular n°2023-39	New address for SIOFA Secretariat	2023-08-02
SIOFA Circular n°2023-40	Provisional ToRs and Agenda for the MoP intersessional workshop (WS2023-HSMO)	2023-08-03
SIOFA Circular n°2023-41	Revised CMMs 2023	2023-08-07
SIOFA Circular n°2023-42	SIOFA Study on Observation framework and SIOFA 2022OBS1 request for CCP input for distribution	2023-08-08
SIOFA Circular n°2023-43	WS2023 HSMO	2023-09-18
SIOFA Circular n°2023-44	Inauguration of SIOFA's new headquarters premises	2023-09-26
SIOFA Circular n°2023-45	Entry into force MoP10 Decisions	2023-10-13
SIOFA Circular n°2023-46	Internship to SIOFA Secretariat (feb-Jul 2024)	2023-10-13
SIOFA Circular n°2023-47	Nomination of Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons	2023-10-18
SIOFA Circular n°2023-48	Toothfish transfer in Del Cano JPN to EU	2023-10-27
SIOFA Circular n°2023-49	Implementation of the Williams Ridge fishery 2023-2024 fishing season	2023-11-03
SIOFA Circular n°2023-50	Invitation to the 1st Meeting on the SIOFA CCR Template	2023-11-20
SIOFA Circular n°2023-51	Intersessional Working Group for the SIOFA VMS	2023-11-17
SIOFA Circular n°2023-52	Information letter on a transfer of quota in Del Cano Rise area	2023-11-24
SIOFA Circular n°2023-53	SIOFA Executive Secretary contract renewal	2023-12-08
SIOFA Circular n°2023-54	AUSTRALIA Intersessional Work on CMM 08 2020 Port Inspection	2023-12-13
SIOFA Circular n°2023-55	SIOFA IUU Vessel Cross List Update	2023-12-13

MOP-11-36-rev2 Report on Staff Resources and Secretariat Activities

SIOFA Circular n°2024-01	Nomination of new MoP Chairperson	2024-01-11
SIOFA Circular n°2024-02	Intersessional Work on the CMM Establishing a Port Inspection Scheme (CMM 08 (2020) Port Inspection) - Survey Summary and Proposed Approach	2024-02-21
SIOFA Circular n°2024-03	SIOFA CCR Template, Proposed Date for the Next meeting to discuss the New Proposed CCR Template	2024-02-26
SIOFA Circular n°2024-04	Letter of Invitation to attend to the Annual meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee	2024-02-29
SIOFA Circular n°2024-05	Template for the CCP Compliance Report (CCR)	2024-02-29
SIOFA Circular n°2024-06	Letter of Invitation to attend to the 8th Annual meeting of the SIOFA Compliance Committee (CC8) and to the 11th Meeting of the Parties (MoP11)	2024-03-13
SIOFA Circular n°2024-07	Amendments to the SIOFA IUU Vessels List following updates from the North Pacific Fisheries Commission.	2024-03-18
SIOFA Circular n°2024-08	Alleged involvement in Illegal Fishing by one Vessel on the SIOFA Record of Authorized Vessel	2024-04-12
SIOFA Circular n°2024-09	Invitation to attend SIOFA's 8th Compliance Committee and 11th Meeting of the Parties and Welcome guide	2024-04-17
SIOFA Circular n°2024-10	Call for Applications for Financial Assistance to Participate in the 8th Meeting of the Compliance Committee and the 11th Meeting of the Parties to the SIOFA.	2024-04-23
SIOFA Circular n°2024-11	Notification by China of intention to carry out Boarding and Inspection activities under CMM 14-(2021)	2024-04-26
SIOFA Circular n°2024-12	Transmission of the Provisional Agendas for the 11th Meeting of the Parties and the 8th Meeting of the Compliance Committee	2024-04-27
SIOFA Circular n°2024-13	Transmission of the Draft SIOFA IUU Vessels List, the Provisional IUU Vessel List, and the SIOFA IUU Vessels List	2024-04-30
SIOFA Circular n°2024-14	SIOFA Draft budgets	2024-04-30
SIOFA Circular n°2024-15	MoP11- Revised provisional agenda	2024-07-22
SIOFA Circular n°2024-16	Proposals CC8-MoP11 – availability on website	2024-05-27
SIOFA Circular n°2024-17	SIOFA IUU vessels cross-list update	2024-05-28
SIOFA Circular n°2024-18	Financial Reports availability	2024-05-31
SIOFA Circular n°2024-19	dSCR availability on SIOFA website	2024-05-11

Intersessional Decisions

(i) *Intersessional Decisions between MoP10 and MoP11*

There were no proposals for intersessional decisions made between MoP10 and MoP11.

Secretariat Staff

Currently, the Secretariat staff comprises an Executive Secretary, a Data Officer (since January 2022), a Science Officer (since February 2022), a Compliance Officer (since February 2023), and an Intern (serving a six-month term since April 2024).

Intern Assistant to the Secretariat

An Intern was recruited in March 2024 to support the Secretariat from April 2023 to September 2024.

Staff Management

The Secretariat has encountered a number of problems in applying Article 8 'Social Security' of the Staff Regulations, due to the fact that there is no agreement between SIOFA and the French social security system. (For more details, please look at MoP-11-Info-15)

Discussions have been ongoing between the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs and the French Social Security Department, but to date to no avail.

The Secretariat has therefore been obliged to take out private health, life and disability insurances in accordance with the provisions of the Staff Regulations.

This issue is now resolved, and all the staff are now covered by a Health, Hospital, life and disability insurance.

New premises for the SIOFA Secretariat

Following advice during MoP8, the SIOFA Secretariat collaborated with French authorities to locate new premises. In January 2023, a suitable building in Le Port, Reunion Island was identified but required significant renovations to meet standards. The French government agreed to provide the building and €175,000 for renovations, approved by all CCPs. Renovations began in March 2023 under the supervision of the Executive Secretary.

On September 7, 2023, the inauguration of the SIOFA Secretariat's new headquarters took place. The new headquarter has 5 offices, a small cafeteria, and a meeting room that can serve as venue for hosting small meetings (up to 16 persons).

A brief presentation of the SIOFA headquarters and Secretariat offices is available and could be presented during the MoP11.

Staff development and training

French lessons were given to non-French speaking staff

Training in first aid and the use of a defibrillator was held on 24 November 2023 at SIOFA's head office under the aegis of an emergency doctor.

Annex 1

Ref. (para)	Task required	Secretariat Actions
MoP10-21	The MoP developed and ADOPTED an implementation plan that includes the MoP's decision for each recommendation suggested by SIOFA performance review panel and the level of priority, the implementing party(ies)/body(ies), and the proposed timeline for the recommendations endorsed by MoP (Annex G)	In progress
MoP10-39	The MoP NOTED paragraph 59 of the CC7 report regarding the list of cross-listed IUU vessels from other RFMOs, and that the Compliance Committee had not made any recommendations to the MoP to remove any vessel from the cross-list but had requested the Secretariat to list one vessel , which had been listed twice under two names, ZHI MING and FREEDOM 7, only under the name FREEDOM 7.	Done
MoP10-40	The MoP NOTED paragraph 60 of the CC7 report regarding the provisional SIOFA IUU Vessel List and the recommendation to include the vessels from the provisional IUU vessel list (MoP-10-28) to the SIOFA IUU vessel list and held further discussions under agenda item 5.4.	Done
MoP10-45	The MoP NOTED paragraphs 77–78 of the CC7 report and ENDORSED the recommendation to make pictures of vessels on the Record of Authorised Vessels publicly available, and to consider amending CMM 2022/07 (Vessels Authorisation) at MoP11 so as to remove the cross-reference to 2a)i) of CMM 2016/03 (Data Confidentiality) and provide a more appropriate definition or reference for which vessel information can be made publicly available.	In Progress
MoP10-55	The MoP requested that, in future, the Secretariat take a more consistent approach to noting whether or not follow up responsive or corrective action is needed , such as recording 'no further action required' rather than leaving cells blank.	In progress
MoP10-64	The MoP REQUESTED the Secretariat to continue to communicate with Sri Lanka and to encourage it to provide the requested information, such as inspection reports, landing or sales notes , to demonstrate that the IMULA 1655 MTR and IMULA 1783 MTR did not engage in fishing for SIOFA resources.	Done

MoP10-65	The MoP NOTED that the Compliance Committee had considered the IMULA 1844 MTR, a Sri Lankan-flagged vessel that was on the draft IUU vessel list. The MoP NOTED that the vessel has been prosecuted and sanctioned by the Sri Lankan authorities, and that the Compliance Committee has requested the Secretariat to obtain further information from Sri Lanka to enable it to determine whether or not they are of adequate severity and consequently whether or not the vessel could be removed from the draft IUU vessel list in accordance with paragraph 14 of CMM 2022/06 (IUU Vessel List). The MoP AGREED to retain the vessel on the draft IUU vessel list for its consideration at CC8.	Done
MoP10-93	The MoP ENDORSED the recommendation in paragraph 196 of the SC8 report and AGREED to have an agenda item on harvest strategies at its next annual meeting and invite the Pacific Community (SPC) or other experts to give an overview of harvest strategies and appropriate software tools (such as the SPC AMPLE Shiny App or other similar HCR tool) at the next MoP-SC joint meeting. The MoP TASKED the Secretariat to make the necessary arrangements.	Done
MoP10-113	The MoP NOTED the recommendation in paragraph 93 of the SC8 report and INSTRUCTED the Secretariat to be the repository of the footprint, to provide it to CCPs on a request-basis and to utilise it , if required, for compliance purposes, accompanied by full documentation of the procedure for creating the footprint.	Done
MoP10-114	The MoP ENDORSED the recommendation in paragraph 94 of the SC8 report that the data layer of the footprint, along with the SIOFA Subareas, should be made available in the SIOFA Secretariat GitHub account: (https://github.com/SIOFASecretariat).	Done
MoP10-118	The MoP NOTED the recommendation in paragraph 83 of the SC8 report, ENDORSED the SIOFA ecosystem summary (MoP-10-10), and REQUESTED the Secretariat to make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.	Done

MoP10-119	The MoP NOTED the recommendation in paragraph 84 of the SC8 report, ENDORSED the SIOFA fisheries Overview (MoP-10-11 rev1), and REQUESTED the Secretariat to make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.	Done
MoP10-123	The MoP NOTED the recommendation in paragraph 129 of the SC8 report, ENDORSED the fishery summary for orange roughy (MoP-10-09), and REQUESTED the Secretariat to make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.	Done
MoP10-196	The MoP AGREED to authorise and request the Executive Secretary to sign the MoU with the Government of the French Republic, on behalf of SIOFA.	Done for the inauguration Doc available as Info Paper XXX
MoP10-219	The MoP expressed disappointment that no progress has been made since MoP9 and that the IOC has not reciprocated the Secretariat's efforts to engage with it. The MoP REQUESTED the Secretariat to continue to try to engage with IOC on potential collaboration.	Done
MoP10-226	The MoP reaffirmed the importance of SIOFA's cooperation with CCAMLR and REQUESTED the Secretariat to continue to engage with CCAMLR and attend its meetings in person for matters of particular interest to SIOFA.	Done but suggesting to follow the next one by visio
MoP10-230	The MoP requested the Secretariat to send the amended Cooperation Arrangement , as outlined in MoP-10-22 rev1 (Annex Q), back to the IOTC for its consideration. The MoP requested the Secretariat to liaise with the IOTC and CCPs to finalise the Cooperation Arrangement as soon as possible in the intersessional period.	Done