



9th Meeting of the Compliance Committee (CC9) and 12th Meeting of the Parties (MoP12)

Ebene, Mauritius, 25–27 June 2025 and 30 June – 04 July 2025

MOP-12-07

Report and Recommendations of the 10th Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee

The SIOFA Secretariat on behalf of the SIOFA Scientific Committee

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Abstract	<p>The 10th Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee (SC10) was held at the Concarneau Marine Station, Concarneau, France, 17–26 March 2025.</p> <p>The meeting was an in-person meeting, with an online streaming (listen only) service provided for delegates that were unable to attend.</p> <p>The following paper contains the recommendations of the SC10 relevant to the MoP, including their original paragraph numbering from the SC10 report. To aid the reading of SC recommendations, square brackets were used for editorial additions and strikethrough for editorial deletions. Verbs in bold underline direct recommendations to the MoP and original agenda items headings are kept to provide further references. A list of acronyms used is provided at the bottom of the recommendations and report Annexes, referred to in these recommendations, are also included here for easier reference.</p> <p>The full meeting report was circulated and published on the meeting page of the SIOFA website on 3 April 2025, and can be found here: https://siofa.org/sites/default/files/2025-04/SIOFA-SC10-Report.pdf</p>

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² Documents available only to members invited to closed sessions.

Recommendations

The SIOFA Scientific Committee recommended that the Meeting of the Parties:

Agenda Item 3 – Fisheries Reports

3.1.2 Guidelines for the submission of National Reports

72. **note** the revised guidelines for the Submission of Annual National Reports given in SC-10-INFO-01-Rev1 and **request** the Secretariat make it available on the SIOFA website.

3.1.4 Overview of SIOFA fisheries 2025

78. **endorse** the Overview of SIOFA Fisheries 2025 (SC-10-14-Rev1) and **task** the Secretariat to make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.

3.2 Ecosystem and Fisheries Summaries 2025

84. **endorse** the SIOFA Ecosystem Summary 2025 (SC-10-15-Rev1) and **task** the Secretariat to make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.

Agenda Item 4 – Data standards, access and dissemination

4.6 Proposals for revisions to CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards)

118. **adopt** the proposed amendments to CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards) to cover squid jigging vessel logbooks and observer logbooks shown in Annex D.3.

122. **adopt** the proposed amendments to CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards) for trap and pot fisheries as shown in Annex D.3.

Agenda Item 5 – SIOFA Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment

5.2 Review of new BFIA's

137. **note** that the SC did not consider that this [the proposed Comoros hapuka fishery] was an established fishery and **requested** that the MoP provide further guidance.

154. **note** that the SC had difficulties interpreting the current provisions that define established fisheries and new and exploratory fisheries, in the case of Mauritius' planned bottom trawling activities. The SC noted that the planned activities appeared to meet the species, fishing gear and CCP criteria for being considered an established fishery, but fishing has not taken place in more than 10 years. The SC **requested** that the MoP provide further guidance on the definitions of established fisheries and new and exploratory fisheries.

Agenda Item 6 – SIOFA Precautionary Approach and Management (PAM)

6.3 Joint MoP-SC Workshop on the Development of Harvest Strategies (WS2024-HSS) and SC Workshop to progress the SIOFA Precautionary Approach and Management Projects (WS2025-PAM)

179. The SC recommended that additional PAM workshops be held, including joint workshops with the MoP along with technical ad-hoc meetings with experts from the SC and MoP, to ensure that the work was appropriately developed and fully considered by the SC and MoP.

180. The SC recommended that the development of BRPs and harvest control rules (HCRs) should be evaluated with consideration to their robustness to the effect of climate change on stock productivity and distribution. Further, the SC recommended that the precautionary approach framework should include consideration of the value of monitoring of, for example, age and length distributions, spatial distribution, etc, for evidence of changes in productivity or spatial distribution that would indicate if climate change effects would impact the scientific advice for managers.

181. The SC recommended that exceptional circumstance rules be developed for the HCRs include guidelines for management if such climate change effects on spatial distribution or productivity that would affect the management advice were detected.

Agenda Item 7 – Stock Assessments and Advice

7.1 Orange roughy

7.1.3 Stock assessment

223. **note** that:

- a. for all stock structure assumptions tested, the current stock status [of orange roughy] is well above the target 40%B₀ level, and the exploitation rates are currently below F₄₀%.
- b. the biomass [of orange roughy] is not predicted to drop below 40%B₀ under projection of continuing current catch.
- c. for some potential scenarios, however, the exploitation rates [of orange roughy] could increase in future for some stocks.

224. **continue** the current approach of maintaining [orange roughy] catch at 2015-2020 levels. Should the MoP wish to establish a catch limit for orange roughy, the SC recommended a catch limit consistent with the average catch from 2015-2020 which equates to 1010.75 t for the SIOFA Area (which includes catch outside the assessment areas). The SC recommended that the MoP **note** that currently there is no proposal to split any catch limit between or within areas.

7.1.4 Updates to the fisheries summary

236. **endorse** the SIOFA Fisheries Summary: orange roughy 2025 and **task** the Secretariat to make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.

7.2 Alfonsino

7.2.4 Updates to the fisheries summary

245. **endorse** SIOFA Fisheries Summary: alfonsino 2025 and [**task** the Secretariat to] make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.

7.3 Toothfish

7.3.1 Descriptive characterisation

248. The SC noted that the study in SC-10-38 indicated a single panmictic population of Patagonian toothfish in the SIOFA Area. The SC therefore recommended that the MoP:

- a. **harmonise** management measures across toothfish management units, and
- b. **continue** to maintain management approaches that were consistent with the management framework of CCAMLR.

7.3.2 Stock monitoring and data collection

255. **note** that the main purpose of the line spacing requirements [on Del Cano Rise] is to spread the tagging and recapture effort for stock assessment/monitoring purposes. In addition, the SC noted that a minimum line spacing could help mitigate depredation of toothfish on the line by marine mammals.

257. **note** that, in the interim, CMM 15(2024) paragraph 19 should be interpreted as specifying that the line spacing should apply at the trip level, until further advice from the SC has been formulated.

7.3.3 Stock assessment

264. The SC reaffirmed its recommendation (para 211, SC9 Report) that the MoP **establish** a new Management Area for toothfish, South Indian Ridge (SIR), which should be the area bounded by the box defined in Table 2 below.

Table 1: The proposed South Indian Ridge (SIR) area

Latitude	Longitude
40°00' S	43°30' E
44°00' S	43°30' E
44°00' S	40°55' E
43°47.2' S	40°30' E
40°00' S	40°30' E

267. The SC recommended a catch limit of 52.8 t for the DC[R] Management Area for 2026, based on the SIOFA trend analysis.

270. The SC recommended a catch limit of 83.4 t for the proposed SIR Management Area for 2026, based on the SIOFA distance-based trend analysis.

7.3.4 Updates to the fisheries summary

282. **endorse** the SIOFA Fisheries Summary: Toothfish 2025 and **task** the Secretariat to make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.

7.4 Oilfish

7.4.4 Updates to the fisheries summary

294. **endorse** the SIOFA fisheries summary for oilfish (*Ruvettus pretiosus*) and escolar (*Lepidocybium flavobrunneum*) 2025 and **task** the Secretariat to make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.

7.5 Other species

7.5.3 Other species

311. **note** that China’s historical squid fishing footprint spans SIOFA Subareas 1, 4, 7 and 8.

312. **note** that squid are mobile and may be distributed beyond Subareas 1, 4, 7 and 8.

313. The SC requested the MoP **reconsider** the operational scope of squid fisheries.

7.5.4 Updates to the fisheries summaries

318. **endorse** the SIOFA Fisheries Summary: hapuka (*Polyprion* spp., hapuku wreckfish *P. oxygeneios*, wreckfish *P. americanus*) 2025 and **task** the Secretariat to make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.

322. **endorse** the SIOFA Fisheries Summary: common mora (*Mora mora*) 2025 and **task** the Secretariat to make a public version of it, with confidential information removed, available on the SIOFA website.

Agenda Item 8 – Bycatch and incidental captures

8.1.1 Review of progress against CMM 12(2024) (Sharks), including development of precautionary bycatch limits

347. **add** *Bythaelurus naylori* to Annex 1 of CMM 12(2024) (Sharks) and that smooth lanternshark (*Etmopterus pusillus*) should be considered a species at “high risk” (Annex D.2).

358. Consistent with previous advice from SC8 and SC9, the SC recommended that the MoP **take** urgent action to limit the catch of deepwater sharks associated with the bottom longline fishery in Subareas 2, 4 and 5.

a. Subarea 4: The SC recommended as a precautionary measure that bottom longline fishing in subarea 4 be managed on a set-by-set basis. Consistent with the SC definition of targeted species, in each set where the catch composition is over 50% of deepwater sharks, the vessel will apply the 5 nm move on rule.

b. Subarea 5: The SC also recommended as a precautionary measure that bottom longline fishing in Subarea 5 be temporarily prohibited until a Portuguese dogfish stock assessment in the whole SIOFA Area is presented.

c. Subarea 2: The SC recommended the retention of the existing catch limit in Subarea 2 on Portuguese dogfish.

360. Due to the increased catch of deepwater sharks and the unavailability of the results of the wire trace trial, SC10 re-iterated the SC8 (para 230) advice, which recommended restricting bottom longlines to nylon trace, until such time the results of the proposed trial on trace type is analysed by SC.

8.2 Development of a SIOFA skate tagging programme

374. **adopt** a skate tagging rate that is based on a level of observer coverage as high as opportunity allows.

8.4.2 Seabird mitigation measures

419. The SC noted that currently CMM 13(2022) (Mitigation of Seabirds Bycatch) did not contain specifications nor guidance for the mitigation of seabird bycatch from trawl vessels. The SC recommended that the MoP **correct** this oversight with an update to CMM 13(2022).

Agenda Item 9 – Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME)

9.3 Revisions of the list of VME taxa and to the VME taxa ID guides

426. The SC endorsed the revised version of CMM 01(2024) Annex 1 proposed in SC-10-26, and recommended that the MoP **amend** CMM 01(2024) accordingly (Annex D.1).

Agenda Item 10 – Marine protected areas

10.2. Protected area designation

443. **designate** Atlantis Bank as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing due to the presence of unique habitats, VME indicator taxa, and endemic species.
445. **designate** Coral as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing, except bottom longlining, due to the presence of unique habitats, VME indicator taxa, and endemic species.
447. **designate** Fools Flat as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing due to the presence of VME indicator taxa and potential unique habitats.
449. **designate** Middle of What as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing due to the presence of unique habitats, VME indicator taxa, endemic species and long history of closure following high historic fishing effort.
451. **designate** Walter's Shoal as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing, except longlining, due to the presence of unique habitats, the area's recognition as a VME and endemic species.
453. **designate** Banana as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing due to the presence of unique habitats, VME indicator taxa, and endemic species.
455. **designate** Bridle as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing due to the presence of VME indicator taxa and endemic species.
457. **designate** East Broken Ridge as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing due to the presence of VME indicator taxa.
459. **designate** Glden Draak as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing due to the potential presence of VME indicator taxa, potential unique habitats, and sensitive geology.
461. **designate** Mid-Indian Ridge as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing due to the sensitive geology of the area, the likely presence of VME indicator taxa, and the remote and pristine nature of this area.
463. **designate** Rusky Knoll as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing due to the presence of VME indicator taxa, potentially unique habitats, and long period of closure following historic fishing effort.
465. **designate** South Indian Ridge as a BPA and close it to bottom fishing, except longlining, due to the presence of potential VME indicator taxa, potential unique habitats, and potential sensitive geological features.
466. The SC noted that the establishment of a new toothfish management area under the same name (South Indian Range[Ridge]) has been proposed to and is being considered by the MoP. The SC recommended that the MoP rename the proposed South Indian Ridge BPA if it is designated. The SC suggested the new name be Magneto to reflect the magnetic anomaly found in that area.
467. The SC recommended that these BPAs, if designated, should undergo collective or individual implementation reviews by 2035 (i.e., within 10 years) or as new information comes to light.

Agenda Item 11 – New and Exploratory Fisheries and Research cruises

11.2 Research Cruises

496. The SC reviewed the revised draft ~~work~~ [Nansen research cruise] plan (SC-10-59-Rev1) and recommended that the MoP **note** that the SC approved the draft ~~work~~

[Nansen research cruise] plan subject to further development in collaboration with the EAF Nansen programme and key scientists.

497. **note** that the *R.V. Dr Fridtjof Nansen* will operate according to the conditions approved by the MoP (para 108, MoP11 Report), including that:

- a. the data are submitted to SIOFA within 9 months of the cruise (i.e. by October 2026).
- b. information placed in the public domain must be in accordance with SIOFA data rules.
- c. CCPs participate in work and capacity building.

500. The SC noted the MoP's initial discussions on the development of a specific research cruise CMM and reaffirmed the SC9 recommendation that such a CMM be developed (para 105, SC9 Report).

Agenda Item 12 – Scientific Observers

12.1.1 Presentation of the report of the Workshop on Scientific Observers forms (WS2024-OBS2)

530. **adopt** the proposed changes to CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards) as shown in Annex D.3.

12.2 E-monitoring

541. **consider** adopting the IOTC e-monitoring standards (IOTC Resolution 23/08) for collecting scientific data on pelagic longline fisheries in SIOFA.

542. **task** the SC to develop e-monitoring standards for gear types other than pelagic longlines, using the IOTC e-monitoring standards as a basis and that the MoP **note** the SC's intention to hold a Workshop on the Development of E-Monitoring Standards in early 2026.

Agenda Item 15 – Future work

15.3 The SIOFA Performance Review

569. **note** that the SC had provided a summary of progress on the recommendations of the SIOFA Performance Review Panel in 2024 that were adopted at MoP11 (Annex I).

15.3.1 Capacity building

578. The SC requested further guidance from the MoP on a number of aspects:
- a. Areas in which a certain level of capacity would be desirable/required (as it can be difficult for CCPs that lack capacity in a certain area to recognise and/or convey that lack of capacity);
 - b. Timelines and prioritisation; and
 - c. Potential funding sources beyond CCPs, such as multilateral banks.

15.6 The 2026 meeting of the Scientific Committee

585. The SC recommended to the MoP that the next SC meeting, including any focused agenda topics, be held for 7 days from 23 to 31 March 2026.

586. **note** that a 7-day meeting would be 1 day shorter than in recent years and that there is a risk of the SC not completing its agenda. However, the SC believed that this risk was a low one.

Agenda Item 16 – Other business

16.1 Elections of the SC Chairperson and vice-chairperson

597. The SC recommended that the MoP note that the SC agreed to elect Ms Charlotte Chazeau (France (OT)) as an SC Vice-Chairperson.

600. As there were no nominations for a new SC Chairperson from among CCPs and recognising the significant progress that the SC has made under the leadership of the current SC Chairperson, Mr Alistair Dunn, the SC recommended that the MoP **extend** his term for two years as this would ensure stability and continuity in advancing the SC's work over this time period.

16.2 Other business

602. **note** that the creation of the Science Officer position has greatly enhanced the SC's ability to conduct its work and provide advice. The SC strongly recommended that this position be renewed when the existing contract expires in 2026 and that Dr Marco Milardi be retained in that position.

List of acronyms used in these recommendations:

BPA – Benthic Protected Area

BRP – Biological Reference Point

DCR – Del Cano Rise toothfish management area

Annex D – SC10 recommendations on CMMs for consideration by the CC and MoP

D.1. Amendments to CMM 01(2024) (Interim Management of Bottom Fishing) Annex 1

CMM 01 (2024) Annex 1 - SIOFA VME indicator taxa (in bold)

Taxonomic level	Taxon name	FAO Code
Domain	Bacteria	
	Chemosynthetic organisms	CXV
Phylum	Bryozoa	BZN
Phylum	Xenophyophorea	XEF
Phylum	Brachiopoda	BRQ
Phylum	Porifera	PFR
Class	Hexactinellida	HXY
Class	Demospongiae	DMO
Phylum	Cnidaria	CNI
Order	Actiniaria	ATX
Order	Alcyonacea	AJZ
Order	Anthoathecata	AZN
Order	Antipatharia	AQZ
Order	Gorgonacea	GGW
Order	Scleractinia	CSS
Order	Pennatulacea	NTW
Order	Zoantharia	ZOT
Family	Stylasteridae	AXT
Phylum	Echinodermata	
Class	Crinoidea	CWD
Order	Euryalida	OEQ
Order	Cidaroida	CVD
Phylum	Anellida	
Family	Serpulidae	SZS
Phylum	Arthropoda	
Family	Bathylasmatidae	BWY
Phylum	Tunicata	
Class	Ascidiacea	SSX
Phylum	Hemichordata	
Class	Pterobranchia	HET

D.2. Amendments to CMM 12(2024) (Sharks) Annex 1

CMM 12(2024) Annex 1: List of “**high risk**” (highlighted in bold) and “of concern” deep sea shark species

FAO code	English common name	French common name	Scientific name
APD	Smallbelly catshark	Holbiche artouca	<i>Apristurus indicus</i>
BZL	Narrowhead catshark		<i>Bythaelurus tenuicephalus</i>
BZO	Bach’s catshark		<i>Bythaelurus bachi</i>
CYO	Portuguese dogfish	Pailona commun	<i>Centroscymnus coelolepis</i>
CYP	Longnose velvet dogfish	Pailona à long nez	<i>Centroselachus crepidater</i>
DCA	Birdbeak dogfish	Squale savate	<i>Deania calceus</i>
DWG	Cristina’s skate		<i>Bathyraja tunae</i>
ETP	Smooth lanternshark	Sagre nain	<i>Etmopterus pusillus</i>
EZT	Blue-eye lanternshark		<i>Etmopterus viator</i>
EZU	Whitecheek lanternshark		<i>Etmopterus alphas</i>
ETB	Blurred smooth lantern shark		<i>Etmopterus bigelowi</i>
GUP	Gulper shark	Squale-chagrin commun	<i>Centrophorus granulosus</i>
GUQ	Leafscale gulper shark	Squale-chagrin de l’Atlantique	<i>Centrophorus squamosus</i>
CPU	Little gulper shark	Petit squale-chagrin	<i>Centrophorus uyato</i>
HCR	Pacific longnose chimaera	Chimère à nez rigide	<i>Harriotta raleighana</i>
HXC	Frilled shark	Requin lézard	<i>Chlamydoselachus anguineus</i>
HXN	Bigeyed sixgill shark	Requin-vache	<i>Hexanchus nakamurai</i>
JBY	Dusky snout catshark		<i>Bythaelurus naylori</i>
LMO	Goblin shark	Requin lutin	<i>Mitsukurina owstoni</i>
QUK	Shortspine spurdog	Aiguillat épinette	<i>Squalus mitsukurii</i>
RFI	Paddlenose chimaera		<i>Rhinochimaera africana</i>
SDQ	Longsnout dogfish	Squale-savate à long nez	<i>Deania quadrispinosa</i>
SDU	Arrowhead dogfish	Squale-savate lutin	<i>Deania profundorum</i>
SCK	Kitefin shark	Squale liche	<i>Dalatias licha</i>
SSQ	Velvet dogfish		<i>Zameus squamulosus</i>
RZZ	Southern sleeper shark		<i>Somniosus antarcticus</i>
YSM	Largespine velvet dogfish	Pailona austral	<i>Scymnodon macracanthus</i>
ZZC	Dark-mouth chimaera		<i>Chimaera buccanigella</i>
ZZD	Falkor chimaera		<i>Chimaera didierae</i>
ZZE	Seafarer’s ghost shark		<i>Chimaera willwatchi</i>

D.3. Amendments to CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards)

CMM 02(2023)³

Conservation and Management Measure for the Collection, Reporting, Verification and Exchange of Data relating to fishing activities in the Agreement Area (Data Standards)

The Meeting of the Parties to the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement;

RECALLING that Article 6(1) (f) of the *Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement* (the Agreement) calls on the Meeting of the Parties to develop rules for the collection and verification of scientific and statistical data, as well as for the submission, publication, dissemination and use of such data;

FURTHER RECALLING that Articles 10(1)(c) and 11(3) set out the duties relevant to the collection and provision of data and related processes for Contracting Parties and flag CCPs respectively;

RECOGNISING the importance of developing comprehensive arrangements for data collection, reporting, verification and exchange of data to assist the Scientific Committee in performing its functions as outlined in Article 7 of the Agreement;

NOTING the relevance of Articles 10(e) and 14 of the *Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks* (UNFSA) which call on States to cooperate through regional fisheries management organisations to agree on the standards for the collection, reporting, verification and exchange of data on fisheries for the stocks, and the specifications and format for the data to be provided and to cooperate in their scientific research;

CONSIDERING the provisions set forth in the *Resolution on data collection concerning the high seas in the Southern Indian Ocean*, adopted by the Conference on the *Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement* in the Seychelles from 13-16 July 2004;

NOTING the importance of data collection and catch reporting for the purposes of ensuring scientific stock assessment and implementing an ecosystem approach to fisheries management;

NOTING the recommendation by the Third meeting of the Scientific Committee to improve the collection of sharks catch information and the submission of scientific observer data; and

FURTHER NOTING that the Meeting of Parties has adopted policies and procedures for the maintenance of data confidentiality (CMM 03(2016));

³ CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards) supersedes CMM 2022/02 (Data Standards).

ADOPTS the following conservation and management measure (CMM) in accordance with Article 6 of the Agreement:

Application

1. This CMM applies to all Contracting Parties, cooperating non-Contracting Parties and participating fishing entities (CCPs).
2. This CMM prescribes the standards for the collection, reporting, verification, and exchange of data related to fishing activities by vessels fishing in the SIOFA Area of Application (the Agreement Area) that are flying the flag of a CCP. These data standards shall assist the Meeting of the Parties to fulfil its objectives under the Agreement insofar as it relates to assessing the state of the fisheries within SIOFA's competence, including the status of target and non-target species and the impact of fishing on the marine environment.

Terminology

3. The following definitions apply to this CMM including its annexes:
 - 'other species of concern' means those species as may be defined by the Scientific Committee from time to time.
 - 'National Report' means the report defined in paragraph-9 of this CMM.

Vessel Catch and Effort Data

Collection of data

4. CCPs shall ensure that data on fishing activities, including for target, non-target and associated and dependent species such as marine mammals, marine reptiles, seabirds or 'other species of concern', are collected from vessels flying their flag that are fishing in the Agreement Area in accordance with the relevant sections of Annex A.
5. CCPs shall collect vessel catch and effort data on a haul-by-haul basis, with the exception of handline fishing, where CCPs shall collect vessel catch and effort data on an operation⁴ basis.

Data collection and submission

6. CCPs shall report to the Secretariat, by 31 May each year, the data collected under paragraphs 4 and 5 for the previous calendar year, in accordance with the format prescribed in the corresponding annexes.
7. CCPs shall provide to the Secretariat, by 31 May each year, annual catch summaries for all species/groups caught in the Agreement Area during the previous calendar year. The catch summaries shall include the following information:
 - a. Calendar year (e.g. 2015)
 - b. FAO statistical area (e.g. FA087)
 - c. Species/group name (common name and scientific name)
 - d. Species/group code (FA03-alpha code 19, EG ORY) (if available)
 - e. Annual catch total - tonnes raised to 'live' weight.
8. To assist in data collection CCPs engaged in, or intending to engage in, fishing

⁴ An operation is the daily activity of a main vessel (including its dories), where catch is the daily catch and effort is the number of active fishers per day and the number of lines fished per day.

pursuant to CMM 01(2024) shall implement on-board all fishing vessels flying their flag the FAO Identification guide to the deep-sea cartilaginous fishes of the Indian Ocean⁵. Where available the use of Smartforms may be considered.

National report

9. Following the entry into force of this CMM, CCPs shall provide to the Scientific Committee, at least 30 days prior to the commencement of each ordinary meeting, an annual National Report of their fishing, research and management activities in accordance with the following:

- a. For the first report: the National Report shall include details of activities of the previous five calendar years;

For all reports thereafter: the National Report shall include details of activities of the previous calendar year; and

In either case, the National Report shall take into account the guidelines prepared by the Scientific Committee for the preparation of such reports.

Historical Data

10. To assist with the development of a bottom fishing footprint and stock assessments, each CCP shall provide the Secretariat with all historical catch and effort, and if available observer data for vessels flying their flag and fishing in the Agreement Area at any time during period 2000-2015 and any previous years where available in accordance with annex A and annex B to the extent applicable. Any State or fishing entity that becomes a Party to the Agreement, a CNCP or PFE after the date this CMM is adopted shall provide their historical data to the Secretariat within 12 months of becoming Party to the Agreement, or becoming a CNCP or PFE.
11. Where possible, CCPs are encouraged to provide relevant, reliable historical data for species caught in waters under their national jurisdiction where such information would assist in understanding the status of the stocks and the impacts of fishing on all target species, non-target and associated and dependent species and the marine environment within the Agreement Area.

Scientific Observer Data

12. All CCPs shall implement national scientific observer programs to collect from activities undertaken by vessels flying their flag:
- a. Vessel information, effort and catch data for its fishing activities in the Agreement Area, including target, non-target and associated and dependent species including marine mammals, marine reptiles, seabirds or 'other species of concern';
- b. Biological or other data and information relevant to the management of fishery resources in the Agreement Area, as specified in this CMM, or as identified from time to time by the Scientific Committee or through processes identified by the Meeting of the Parties; and
- c. Relevant scientific information related to the implementation of the provisions of the CMMs adopted by the Meeting of the Parties.
13. The function and tasks of the scientific observer are described in Annex D.

⁵ Ebert, D.A. and Mostarda, E. 2013. Identification guide to the deep-sea cartilaginous fishes of the Indian Ocean, FishFinder Programme, FAO, Rome. 76 p

14. CCPs shall, through their National Report, provide to the Scientific Committee an annual observer programme implementation report which should include summary sections covering: observer training, program design and coverage, type of data collected, and any problems encountered during the previous calendar year.
15. CCPs shall, for all observed trips, collect observer data in accordance with the relevant sections of Annex B. All observer data collected by CCPs shall be reported to the Secretariat by 31 May each year for the previous calendar year.
16. By 2023, the Scientific Committee shall develop and adopt a template for the observer reports, and a template for an observer data collection form that may be used by observers in subsequent years.
17. By 2023, the Meeting of the Parties, based on recommendations from the Scientific Committee and the Compliance Committee shall adopt a SIOFA framework for scientific observation clarifying all the aspects related to the role.

Data Verification

18. CCPs shall:
 - a. ensure that fishery data are verified through an appropriate system of data verification mechanisms;
 - b. develop, implement, and improve data verification mechanisms, which may include:
 - i. Position verification through vessel monitoring systems;
 - ii. Independent monitoring, including scientific observer programs and approved electronic observer programs,⁶ to verify industry data on catch, effort, catch composition (target and non-target), discards and other details of fishing operations;
 - iii. Vessel trip, landing and transshipment reports; and
 - iv. Port sampling.
 - c. provide to the Scientific Committee, through their National Report, an annual data verification report which should provide information regarding their development and implementation of data verification mechanisms.

Format for data submission

19. CCPs shall report all data required to be reported by this measure to the Secretariat in accordance with the formats described in this CMM, including its annexes.
20. Specifications for the submission of data:
 - a. times, latitudinal /longitudinal/ information and units of measure are to be reported in accordance with the format described in Annex C;
 - b. Species are to be described using the FAO 3 letter Species Codes;⁷
 - c. Fishing methods are to be described using the International Standard Classification of Fishing Gear (ISSCFG - 29 July 1980) codes;⁸ and

⁶ Approved electronic observer programs refers to those programs that meet the SIOFA agreed standard and have been reviewed by the Scientific Committee and approved by the Meeting of the Parties as being capable of meeting the data requirements in this CMM.

⁷ <https://www.fao.org/fishery/en/collection/asfis/en>

⁸ <https://www.fao.org/cwp-on-fishery-statistics/handbook/capture-fisheries-statistics/en/>

d. Types of fishing vessels are to be described using the International Standard Classification of Fishery Vessels (ISSCFV) codes.⁹

Review

21. This CMM should be reviewed periodically by the Scientific Committee and the Meeting of the Parties, taking into account new information or data requirements as may be decided.

⁹ <https://www.fao.org/cwp-on-fishery-statistics/handbook/capture-fisheries-statistics/en/>

**Standards for the Collection, Reporting, Verification and Exchange of Data
Annexes**

List of Annexes:

Annex A - Vessel Catch and Effort Data

Annex B - Observer Data

Annex C - Specifications for the Exchange of Data

Annex D - Function and tasks of the scientific observer

Annex E - Protocol for documenting whale interaction in deep-sea demersal longline fisheries

Annex A

Vessel Catch and Effort Data

1. Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall ensure that the following data on fishing activities are collected in the Agreement Area:

For all demersal fishing vessels flying their flag:

<p>Data Set - Fishing activities General (Trip) Vessel flag CCP (ISO 3-apha) Name of vessel International radio call sign (if any) Vessel Registration number (flag CCP) Lloyd's / IMO /IHS Fairplay Number (if allocated) Vessel size: Gross Tonnage (Gross register tonnage may be used if GT is not available, or both) Name of person filling in the data</p>
<p>Weight Conversion Factor Species Processing type Conversion factor = live weight/processed weight</p>
<p>Haul Information Intended Target species (FAO code) Type of fishing (C)ommercial; (R)esearch; (S)urvey data Haul ID number</p>
<p>Set Start date and Time (Based on Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)) Recorded at start and end of fishing For longline vessels - record at start and end of setting, in addition to start and end of haul Date format (YYYY.MON.DD) Time format (hh.mm)</p>
<p>Position at start and end of fishing Latitude Longitude</p> <p>For longline vessels: position is recorded at the start and end of setting For bottom trawl fishing: "start" is defined as when the groundrope first touch the bottom, and "end" is when the groundrope leaves the bottom at the beginning of hauling. For midwater trawl: "start" is defined as when the fishing gear is at target fishing depth, "end" is when the tow haul begins.</p> <p>For handline fishing: record the position of the vessels at the start and at the end of the fishing operation</p>
<p>Bottom Depth (m) As recorded at the start and end of fishing.</p>
<p>Fishing / gear depth (m) As recorded at the start and end of fishing. For trapping/potting, Actual Fishing / gear depth (m) as recorded at start is required.</p>
<p>Species retained Estimated catch retained on board by taxa (FAO species/group code/scientific name) in green</p>

weight (kg).
Species Discarded An estimation of the amount of living marine resources discarded by taxa, if possible, in green weight (kg)
Incidental bycatch of marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles and 'other species of concern' Presence: Yes / No For each species caught <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxa name • Number alive • Number dead or injured
Incidental bycatch of VME indicator taxa Presence: Yes / No For each species caught <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxa name

For all pelagic fishing vessels targeting SIOFA species flying their flag:

Data Set - Fishing activities General (Trip) Vessel flag CCP (ISO 3-apha) Name of vessel International radio call sign (if any) Vessel Registration number (flag CCP) Lloyd's / IMO /IHS Fairplay Number (if allocated) Vessel size: Gross Tonnage (Gross register tonnage may be used if GT is not available, or both) Name of person filling in the data
Weight Conversion Factor Species Processing type Conversion factor = live weight/processed weight
Haul Information Intended Target species (FAO code) Type of fishing (C)ommercial; (R)esearch; (S)urvey data Haul ID number
Set Start date and Time (Based on Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)) Recorded at start of fishing Date format (YYYY.MON.DD) Time format (hh.mm)
Position at start of fishing Latitude Longitude
Species retained Estimated catch retained on board by taxa (FAO species/group code/scientific name) in live weight (kg)
Species Discarded An estimation of the amount of living marine resources discarded by taxa, if possible, in live weight (kg)
Incidental bycatch of marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles and 'other species of concern' Presence: Yes / No For each species caught <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxa name

- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number alive• Number dead or injured |
|---|

2. Contracting Parties, CNCs and PFEs shall ensure that the following gear-specific data on fishing activities, as applicable, are collected from all fishing vessels flying their flag in the Agreement Area.

Data Set - Gear
<p>Trawl Cod end mesh Size (mm) Trawl technique: Type of trawl: (S)ingle, (D)ouble or (T)ripple</p>
<p>Demersal Longline Type of longline (Spanish, Trotline, Autoline) Total length (m) Type of bait Hook size (mm) Hook spacing (m) Hook code or make Length of line (m) Number of hooks set Number hooks per cluster (if Trotline) Number of hooks lost (attached to lost sections of line)</p>
<p>Pelagic Longline Total length (m) Total number of hooks in the set Number of hooks between floats Number of light-stick used in the set Type of bait used in the set Sea surface temperature at noon (Length of floating line) (Length of branch line) (Distance between branch lines)</p>
<p>Trap/Pot Pot type Type of line: Dropline or longline Length of line (m) Pot spacing (m) Number of pots set Number of pots lost Type of bait</p>
<p>Dahn/Drop Line/ Total number of hooks in the set Total number of line lifts in the set Number of hooks lost Hook code or make Type of leader used Type of bait used</p>
<p>Handline Number of fishers involved Number of lines per fisher Number of hooks per line</p>

Squid Jigging

Power of fish lamp (kw)

Use of the fish finder (Y/N)

Number of fishers

Number of line machines

Fishing duration by hand (h)

Fishing duration by machines (h)

Number of hooks on per line

Annex B

Observer Data

1. Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall, for all observed trips, collect and provide to the Secretariat the data contained in this Annex in accordance with the format set out below.
2. Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall, where appropriate, ensure that observers are briefed and provided with documented length-frequency and biological sampling protocols and the specific priorities for the trip for the sampling activities documented below.
3. Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall endeavour to collect tissue, otolith and/or stomach samples in accordance with any research programs developed by the Scientific Committee.

Hierarchies for Observer Data collection

Fishing Operation Information

All vessel and tow / set / effort information.

Reporting of Catches

Record time, weight of catch sampled versus total catch or effort (e.g. number of hooks), and total numbers of each species caught

Identification and counts of endangered, threatened or protected species (ETP), seabirds, mammals, reptiles (e.g., turtles), sensitive benthic species and vulnerable species

Record numbers or weights of each species retained or discarded Record instances of depredation, where appropriate

Biological Sampling

Check for presence of tags

Length-frequency data for Target species (FAO species code)

Basic biological data (sex, maturity) for Target species (FAO species code)

Length-frequency data for main bycatch species

Otoliths (and stomach samples, if being collected) for Target species (FAO species code)

Basic biological data for bycatch species

Biological samples of bycatch species (if being collected)

Take photos

Observer Data Sections Common to all fisheries

Data Set - Observer data
Trip Details
Trip Number

<p>Cruise details (start and end dates - YYYY.MON.DD) Date report is generated (UTC) Current vessel flag CCP (ISO 3-apha) Name of vessel</p>
<p>Observer Details</p> <p>Observer name and ID Nationality (ISO 3-apha) Employing organisation Contact name in organisation (Address/email/fax) Boarding location (UNLOCODE, if applicable or Latitude/Longitude) Boarding Date (UTC:YYYY.MON.DD) Disembarkation location (UNLOCODE, if applicable or Latitude/Longitude) Disembarkation date (UTC:YYYY.MON.DD) Time Zone (UTC +/-)</p>
<p>Length Frequency Data</p> <p>Representative and randomly sampled length-frequency data shall be collected for the target species (FAO species code)</p> <p>Length data shall be collected and recorded at the most precise level appropriate for the species (cm or mm and whether to the nearest unit or unit below) and the type of measurement used (total length, fork length, or standard length) shall also be recorded.</p> <p>Where possible, total weight of length-frequency samples should be recorded, or estimated and the method of estimation recorded</p> <p>Where possible, Observers should determine and record sex of measured fish to generate length-frequency data stratified by sex</p> <p>Where possible, representative and randomly sampled length-frequency data should be collected for other main bycatch species</p>
<p>Biological Sampling</p> <p>Species Length (mm or cm) and the type of length measurement used. Skates and rays:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maximum disk width shall be measured <p>Sharks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appropriate length measurement to be used should be selected for each species. As a default, total length should be measured. <p>Weight (kg) Sex (male, female, immature (optional), unsexed (optional)) Maturity stage (optional) and criteria/schedule used (optional) Gonad weight (g) (optional) Otoliths</p>

Seabird & Marine Mammals abundance observation (to be recorded for each operation and for all gears/fisheries):

Operation ID (Set ID, tow ID)
At Setting or At Hauling (At setting/At hauling/Not applicable)
Seabirds present in observation area? (Yes/No/Not Observed)
Species
Estimated numbers of abundance (by species)

Operation ID (Set ID, tow ID)
Marine Mammals present in observation area? (Yes/No/Not Observed)
Species
Estimated numbers of abundance (by species)

Observed catch (to be recorded for each operation and for all gears/fisheries, record weight or number according to the fishery)

Operation ID (Set_ID, Tow_ID)
Observer ID

FAO ASFIS Species code

Species retained

Total Number retained

Weight retained (kg)

Species

Total Number discarded

Weight discarded (kg)

Number discarded alive

Number discarded dead

discarded

Number or weight of fish lost (if applicable)

Number or weight of fish cut off (if applicable)

Number of fish depredated (if applicable)

Comments

Incidental bycatch of ETP species (seabirds, mammals, turtles or 'other species of concern')

The following data shall be collected for all seabirds, mammals, turtles, and other species of concern caught in fishing operations as much as possible:

- Species (identified taxonomically as far as possible, or accompanied by photographs if identification is difficult) and size
- Estimated species abundance around fishing vessel
- Species interactions with fishing gear
- Count of the number of each species caught per tow or set
- Fate of bycatch animal(s) (retained or released/discarded)
- If released, life status (vigorous, alive, lethargic, injured, dead) upon release
- If injured, what was the cause of injury?

- If dead, then collect information or samples for onshore identification in accordance with pre-determined sampling protocols. Where this is not possible, observers may be required to collect sub-samples of identifying parts, as specified in biological sampling protocols
 - Record the type of interaction (hook/line entanglement/warp strike/net capture/other) if other, describe
- Sex of each individual for taxa where this is feasible from external observation, e.g. pinnipeds, small cetaceans or *Elasmobranchii* species
- identify any circumstances or actions that may have contributed to the bycatch event? (E.g. tori line tangle, high levels of bait loss)

Tag releases

The following data shall be reported for all tagged fish, seabird, mammal, or reptile

Tag type, wording, and colour

Tag number

Date and time of tagging

Species

Animal length

Type of length

Animal sex (F=female, M=male, I=indeterminate, D=not examined)

Position (Lat/Lon) of release

Animal status at release (injured/uninjured)

Tag Recoveries

The following data shall be collected for all recovered fish, seabird, mammal or reptile tags if the organism is dead, to be retained, or alive:

- Name of observer
- Name of vessel
- International radio call sign (if any)
- Vessel flag CCP (ISO 3-apha)
- Collect, label (with all details below) and store the actual tags for later return to the tagging agency
- Species from which tag recovered
- Tag colour
- Tag wording and type of tag (spaghetti, archival)
- Tag numbers
- Date and time of capture (UTC)
- Location of capture (Lat/Lon, to the nearest 1 minute)
- Animal length / size (cm or mm) with description of what measurement was taken (such as total length, fork length, etc.)
- Sex (F=female, M=male, I=indeterminate, D=not examined)
- Maturity stage
- Gonad weight (g)
- Tag Site Condition
- Samples retained
- Tag photo (include in cruise report)
- Whether the tags were found during a period of fishing that was being observed (Y/N)

Bird Bands

The following data shall be reported for all seabird bands retrieved or spotted

- Species
- Band identifier
- Date and time of observation (UTC)
- Location of observation (Lat/Lon, to the nearest 1 minute) or Operation ID
- Type of interaction (with gear, with vessel, no interaction with gear or vessel)
- Photo taken? (Yes/No)
- State (likely to survive, injured, dead)

Bird interaction with vessel and collisions (excluding fishing gear)

- Species
 - Number of birds
 - Date and time of observation (UTC)
 - Location of observation (Lat/Lon, to the nearest 1 minute)
- Photo taken? (Yes/No)
- State (likely to survive, injured, dead)
 - Vessel activity (steaming, fishing, other)
 - Type of interaction (collision, entanglement, bird found landed)
 - Description of the interaction (including location of the bird on the vessel)
 - Presence of fog (yes/no)
 - Wind speed (kts) and bearing (°)
 - Sea state (Beaufort)
- Description of vessel lighting at the moment of the observation

Bycatch mitigation gears details

Streamer line

General Streamer Line Description

Number of streamer lines regularly set
Streamer line position (port, starboard, stern)
Streamer line length (m)
Streamer length min/max (m)
Attached height above water (m)
Distance between streamers (m)
Number of streamers
Streamer design (single or paired)
Aerial extent of line (m)
Method used to assess aerial extent
Streamer material
Streamer line diameter (mm)
Streamer colours

Streamer line over bait entry position? (y/n/u)
 Distance from stern to bait entry point (m)
 Towed object (Y/N)
 Horizontal distance from bait entry point to streamer line (m)

Bird baffler

Other bycatch mitigation device

Trotline cetacean exclusion device

Photo taken of the mitigation gear?

Interactions with Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME)

General information

Name of observer

Name of vessel

Date

Trip number

Set number

VME location

Start and end positions of all gear deployments and/or observations.

(Latitude/longitude)

Depth(s) fished (m)

Fishing Gear

Indicate fishing gears used at each location

VME Taxa

Presence: Yes/No

- a) Species (identified taxonomically as far as possible or accompanied by a photograph where identification is difficult).
- b) An estimate of the quantity (weight (kg) or volume (m³)) of each listed benthic species caught in the tow (and the unit of measurement).
- c) An overall estimate of the total quantity (weight (kg) or volume (m³)) of all invertebrate benthic species caught in the tow (and the unit of measurement).
- d) Where possible, provide the live or dead status for corals
- e) Where possible, and particularly for new or scarce benthic species which do not appear in ID guides, whole samples should be collected and suitably preserved for identification on shore.

e) Collect representative biological samples from the entire VME catch. (Biological samples shall be collected and frozen when requested by the scientific authority in a Contracting Party). For some coral species that are under the CITES list photographs should be taken.

Other sessile benthos taxa

Presence: Yes/No

For each catch of taxa

Scientific names (identified to the finest taxon level possible)
FAO code (if available)
Estimation of the amount caught

Processing Details and Conversion Factors (CF)

Operation ID (setID, towID)
Name of observer
Species Code (FAO species code)
Processing Code
Length Type
Minimum Length (cm)
Maximum Length (cm)
Number of individuals
Total Green Weight (kg)
Weighting Method
Processed Weight (kg)
Size Grade
Quality Grade
Conversion Factor

Observer data sections that are gear and fishery specific

For trawl fishing activities ONLY

Gear details

Net ID
Gear type (ISSFCV)
Headrope length (m)
Ground rope length (m)
Ground rope bobbins present?
Ground rope bobbins material (steel or rubber)
Ground rope bobbins weight (combined)
Bobbin diameter (cm)
Otter board to wing length (m)
Horizontal Opening, i.e. wingspread (m)

Vertical Opening (m)

Codend mesh

Mesh size (cm),
codend circumference (cm),
Orientation
Mesh type (diamond, square, etc)

Otter board

Type, weight (kg)

Net design

Net design description including make, model etc

Selectivity device present? (Y/N)
Selectivity device description
Net monitoring cables present? (Y/N)

Trawl details

Trawl Number
Bycatch Mitigation Gear used (Y/N)
Bycatch Mitigation Gear 1 ID
Bycatch Mitigation Gear 2 ID
Bycatch Mitigation Gear 3 ID

Trawl type: Research or Commercial (R/C)
Observed (Yes/No)
Target Species (FAO species code)
Date Start (YYYY.MON.DD)
Date Finish (YYYY.MON.DD)
Time net deployed (hh:mm)
Time net retrieved (hh:mm)

Start and End Fishing

For bottom trawl "start" is defined as when the groundrope is on the bottom, "end" is when the hauling starts.

For midwater trawl "start" is defined as when the fishing gear is at target fishing depth, "end" is when the hauling starts.

Time (hh:mm)

Latitude

Longitude

Trawl Depth (m)

Bottom Depth (m)

Other

Offal discharged during shooting (Y/N)

Offal discharged during hauling (Y/N)

Trawl speed (knots)

Total catch (kg)

Was Haul observed for fish/invertebrate bycatch (Y/N):

Record the total weight of all sub-samples for this shot (kg):

Trawl gear strike (to be monitored for 15 minutes immediately after the net has been deployed) (optional):

Start observation time (hh:mm) (optional)

End observation time (hh:mm) (optional)

Species

Nb of light strikes

Light strikes contact place:

Number on windward ward

Number on leeward ward

Number on monitoring cable

Number on net

Nb of heavy strikes

Heavy strikes contact place:

Number on windward ward

Number on leeward ward

Number on monitoring cable

Number on netHeavy strike fate:

Number aerial

Number sea surface

Number submerged

State of the bird(s) after strike

Number Likely to survive

Number Injured

Number Dead

Number Unknown

For Longline fishing activities ONLY

Longline Description:

Longline Type (ISSCFG codes)

Period in which the gear was used (YYYY.MON.DD)

Start and end date (YYYY.MON.DD)

Target Species (FAO species code)

Main Line:

Material
Diameter (mm)

For Integrated Weight Lines (IWL):

Integrated weight (g/m)

For non-IWL:

Weight spacing (m)
Number of measured weights
Weight type
Average weight (kg)
Standard deviation (kg)

Branch Lines:

Material
Length (m)
Spacing (m)

Branchline weights (kg)
Branchline weight distance from hook (m)

Hooks

Type (e.g.: J shaped, Circular, etc.)
Manufacturer
Marking (vessel mark, leave blank for none)
Model name
Size (mm)
Shank (mm)
Gape (mm)
Usual setting position
Line off bottom (m) (optional for pelagic longline)
Hooks off bottom (m) (optional for pelagic longline)
Method of baiting (manual/automatic)
Automatic baiting equipment (make and model)

Hook sinkers

Size (g)
Position from hook (mm)
Offal dumping position (port, starboard, stern)
Longline setting position (port, starboard, stern)
Offal dumping during hauling (never, occasionally, always)
Propeller rotation direction (clockwise/anti-clockwise)
Detail the weight and distance between the line weights for the longline system used
Single (Auto) Line (kg:m)
Double (Spanish) Line (kg:m)
Trotline (vertical droppers/trots attached to a mainline) (kg:m)

Daily setting observations

Set Number (as referenced in catch and effort log)
Set Type: Research or Commercial (R/C)
Bycatch Mitigation Gear used (Y/N)
Bycatch Mitigation Gear 1 ID
Bycatch Mitigation Gear 2 ID
Bycatch Mitigation Gear 3 ID

Longline Type Code (FSSCV)
Date of observation (YYYY.MON.DD)

Setting information

Vessel setting speed (knots)
Number sets unobserved since last set

Start and End setting for each haul

Date (YYYY.MON.DD)
Time (hh:mm)
Latitude
Longitude
Bottom Depth (m)
Total length of longline set (km)
Total number of hooks for the set

For each Observation

Start date (YYYY.MON.DD)
Start time (hh:mm)
End date (YYYY.MON.DD)
End time (hh:mm)

Details of Longline Setting

Main line length (m)
Number of hooks set
Number of Baskets/Magazines Set
Number of hooks per Basket/Magazine
Percentage hooks baited
Distance between branches (m)
Distance of hooks off bottom (m) (optional for pelagic longline)
Bait species (FAO species code)
Deck lights during setting (On, Off)
Streamer lines used (Yes, No)
Number of streamer lines used Offal dumping during setting (Yes, No)
Bait entry position (Port, Starboard, Stern)
Clip on Interval (seconds)
Setting Speed (Line setter)

Daily hauling observations

Set number

Date of observation (YYYY.MON.DD)

Hauling Information

Number of hooks observed for seabird and fish bycatch (tally period)

Offal dumped during hauling (Yes / No)

Interactions with marine mammals

Data is to be collected in accordance with the protocol set out in annex E. For each haul and each species of depredating whales (killer whales *Orcinus orca* and sperm whales *Physeter macrocephalus*):

- Priority 1 data to be collected include:

1. Presence/absence data: Presence / Absence / Not observed;
2. When presence, photo-identification data: photographs of specific body parts (for killer whales: dorsal fin, saddle patch and eye patches; for sperm whales: tail flukes) visible when whales come to the surface.

- Priority 2 data to be collected include:

1. Estimates of the number of individuals present around the vessel in the vicinity of the fishing gear.

- Priority 3 data to be collected include:

1. Information about whether or not whales interact with the gear;
2. Estimate of the time of arrival of whales in the vicinity of the gear.

Gear lost

Number of sections lost

Number of hooks lost that were attached to lost sections of the longline
Number of other hooks lost (excluding hooks attached to lost sections)

Was Haul observed for fish/invertebrate bycatch (Y/N):

Estimate percentage of the haul observed for bycatch (%)

For Trapping/Potting Fishing Activities ONLY

Gear type

pot type (with drawing)

mesh size (mm)

Material

Funnel position

Orientation

Aperture (cm)

Number of chambers

Escape port present (y/n)

Dimensions (cm) of escape port
Weights attached?
Min Weight (kg)
Max Weight (kg)

Set and haul details

Set Number
Bycatch Mitigation Gear used (Y/N)
Bycatch Mitigation Gear 1 ID
Bycatch Mitigation Gear 2 ID
Bycatch Mitigation Gear 3 ID

Date of observation (YYYY.MON.DD)
Set Type: Research or Commercial (R/C)
Target species (FAO species code)
Offal dumped during setting (Yes / No)
Offal dumped during hauling (Yes / No)

Start and End setting. Repeat for hauling

Date (YYYY.MON.DD)
Time (:mm)
Latitude
Longitude
Bottom depth (m)

Gear Details

Length of line (m)
Type of line Pot spacing (m)
Bait type

Setting

Number of pots set
Number of pots observed

Hauling

number of pots hauled
number of pots observed

Was Haul observed for fish/invertebrate bycatch (Y/N):
Estimate percentage of the haul observed for bycatch (%):

For Dahn/Drop lining activity ONLY

Dahn/Dropline Description

Line Type
Period in which the gear was used () Start and end date
Target species (FAO species code)

Main Line

Material

Diameter (mm)

Integrated weight (g/m)

Hooks

Type (e.g.: J shaped, Circular, etc.)

Manufacturer

Marking (leave blank for none)

Model name

Size (mm)

Shank (mm)

Gape (mm)

Usual setting position

Line off bottom (m)

Hooks off bottom (m)

Method of baiting (manual/automatic)

Automatic baiting equipment (make and model)

Offal

Offal dumping position (port, starboard, stern)

Offal dumping during hauling (never, occasionally, always)

Propeller rotation direction (clockwise/anti-clockwise)

Details of Dahn/Dropline Setting

Bycatch Mitigation Gear used (Y/N)

Bycatch Mitigation Gear 1 ID

Bycatch Mitigation Gear 2 ID

Bycatch Mitigation Gear 3 ID

Main line length (m)

Number of hooks set

Percentage hooks baited

Distance between branches/snoods (m)

Distance of hooks off bottom (m)

Bait species

Bait size

Bait proportion

Deck lights during setting (On, Off)

Streamer lines used (Yes, No)

Number of streamer lines used Offal dumping during setting (Yes, No)

Daylight period

Moonlight

Bait entry position (Port, Starboard, Stern)

Vessel setting speed (knots)

Start and End setting. Repeat for Start and End of hauling

Date (YYYY.MON.DD)

Time (hh:mm)

Latitude

Longitude

Bottom Depth (m)

Gear lost

Number of sections lost
Number of hooks lost that were attached to lost sections of the dahn/dropline
Number of other hooks lost (excluding hooks attached to lost sections)

Was Haul observed for fish/invertebrate bycatch (Y/N):
Estimate percentage of the haul observed for bycatch (%)

Handline fishing activity

Handline Description

Main Line

Material
Diameter (mm)

Hooks

Type (e.g.: J shaped, Circular, etc.)
Manufacturer
Marking (leave blank for none)
Model name
Size (mm)Shank (mm)
Gape (mm)Usual setting position
Line off bottom (m)
Hooks off bottom (m)

Offal

Offal dumping position (port, starboard, stern)
Offal dumping during hauling (never, occasionally, always)
Propeller rotation direction (clockwise/anti-clockwise)

Details of Handline Operation

Target species (FAO species code)
Operation type: Research or Commercial (R/C)
Bycatch Mitigation Gear 1 ID
Bycatch Mitigation Gear 2 ID
Bycatch Mitigation Gear 3 ID

Number of fishers operating handlines
Number of line lifts per fisher (average)
Number of hooks per line
Percentage hooks baited
Bait species
Bait size
Bait proportion
Deck lights during setting (On, Off)

Start and End time of operation.

(An operation is a defined period of fishing between start and end date)
Date (YYYY.MON.DD)
Time (hh:mm)

Time Start (YYYY.MON.DD hh:mm)

Time Finish (YYYY.MON.DD hh:mm) Operation Latitude
Operation Longitude
Bottom Depth (m)

Gear lost

Number of hooks lost

Was Haul observed for fish/invertebrate bycatch (Y/N):
Estimate percentage of the haul observed for bycatch (%)

Squid Jigging operation details:

Squid Jigging (operation) Number
Observed (Yes/No)
Target Species (FAO species code)
Time Start (YYYY.MON.DD hh:mm)
Time Finish (YYYY.MON.DD hh:mm)
Latitude of operation
Longitude of operation
Number of fishers
Number of jigging machines
Fishing duration by hand (h)
Fishing duration by machine (h)
Fish lamp used during fishing (Y/N)

Was fishing observed for fish/invertebrate bycatch (Y/N):
Estimated percentage of the operation observed for fish/invertebrate bycatch (%)

Annex C

Specifications for the Exchange of Data

1. Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) shall be used to describe times, using the following submission format: YYYY-MON-DDThh:mm:ss where:

- a. YYYY - represents a 4-digit year e.g. "2007"
- b. MON - represents a 3-character month abbreviation e.g. "APR"
- c. DD - represents a 2-digit day e.g. "05"
- d. T - is a space separator
- e. hh - represents hours based on the 24hr clock (length = 2 digits) e.g. "16"
- f. mm - represents minutes (length = 2 digits) e.g. "05"
- g. ss - represent seconds (length = 2 digits) e.g. "00"

Example: 2003-JUL-17T13:10:00 = 1.10pm (1310h), 17 July 2003

2. Coordinates are to be used to describe precise locations and the following standards shall be used:

Degrees minutes seconds (DD°MM'SS") or Degrees minute decimal (DD°MM.XX) or Decimal degrees (DD.XXXX)

Add N or S to indicated North or South for latitudes. Add E to indicate the Eastern longitude (the SIOFA Area is always in the Eastern longitudes), for decimal degrees, add minus for southern latitudes.

Examples:

Latitude=	42°37'06"	S	Longitude=	48°03'58"	E
Latitude=	35°09.70"	S	Longitude=	51°12.94"	
Latitude=	-10.0386		Longitude=	61.7088	

3. Metric units of measure be used, specifically:

- a. kilograms are to be used to describe catch weight
- b. Metres are to be used to describe height, width, depth, beam, or length
- c. Cubic metres are to be used to describe volume
- d. Kilowatts are to be used to describe engine power

Annex D

Role and tasks of the scientific observer

1. The function of scientific observers on board vessels engaged in harvesting of marine living resources is to independently observe and report on the operation of fishing activities in the SIOFA Area.
2. In fulfilling this function, scientific observers will undertake the following tasks:
 - a. Record details of vessel operations, including inter alia, times of, searching, fishing, transit etc., and details of hauls;
 - b. Take biological samples of catches;
 - c. Record biological data of species caught;
 - d. Record bycatch information, such as species, quantity, and other biological data [as specified in Annex B]
 - e. Record interactions with seabirds, marine mammals, and marine reptiles
 - f. Record information on catch including data relating to processed conversion factors;
 - g. prepare reports of their observations for their respective national authorities;
 - h. collect and report data on sightings fishing vessels, unmarked fishing gear, and recovery of fishing gear in the SIOFA Area, including vessel type identification, vessel position and activity and gear type;
 - i. collect information on fishing gear loss and waste disposal by the fishing vessels at sea.

Protocol for documenting whale interaction in deep-sea demersal longline fisheries

Priority 1 Data to be collected

Presence

For every haul and for each species:

Haul	Fish Waste discharge	Presence ?	Comment
1	Yes/No	Absent	
2	Yes/No	Present	
3	Yes/No	Present	Night-time, but clearly see them in projectors
4	Yes/No	Not observed	Night-time, can't see them but can't say they are not present around.

Requirement: data mandatory and must be collected for every haul.

“Presence”: Favourable conditions (visibility is at least several hundred meters with sufficient light) and observation by the observer (observer can be alerted by the crew when whales are sighted). The presence of whales is confirmed by direct observation of at least one individual at the surface in the vicinity of the vessel at least once during 1 haul. Note that presence can also be observed at night when killer whales come very close to the boat.

“Absence”: Favourable conditions and no odontocete spotted at any time during the entire haul.

“Not observed” is used either if the observer did not have time to gather information (e.g. if line broke), or if conditions are too bad to observe (either weather conditions, or hauling at night).

Photos

For every haul and for each species:

Haul	Presence?	Photos?	Comment
1	Absent	No	
2	Present	Yes	
3	Present	No	Night-time: too dark for pictures
4	Not observed	No	Night-time: too dark for pictures

Requirement: data mandatory and must be collected for every haul.

With this additional field, observers indicate whether they took pictures of whales for photo-identification purposes or not during the haul of the set.

Priority 2 Data to be collected

Number of individuals

For every haul and for each species:

Haul	Presence?	minimum	maximum	comment
1	Absent	0	0	
2	Present	15	22	
3	Present	1		At least one but too dark for accurate estimate
4	Not observed			

Requirement: data should be collected for every haul to the extent possible.

Providing exact counts of individuals from the surface may be difficult for observers as whales can dive for long periods of time. To account for uncertainty around counts, observers may fill in two fields:

- Minimum estimate of the number of individuals,
- Maximum estimate of the number of individuals.

Priority 3 Data to be collected

Interaction with fishing gear

For every haul and for each species:

Haul	Presence?	Interaction with fishing gear?	Comment
1	Absent	No	
2	Present	Yes	Saw them diving close to the line
3	Present	Yes	Head of fish were observed
4	Not observed		

Requirement: data should be collected for every haul to the extent possible.

When Presence, interaction with fishing gear is taken into account if whales are diving close to the lines or directly observed with fish in their mouths.

Estimated Time of Arrival (ETA)

For every haul and for each species:

Haul	Presence?	ETA	Comment
1	Absent	NA	Not applicable
2	Present	0:30	We were able to haul 30 minutes before they arrive
3	Present	0:00	Saw them in projectors even before first hook came on board
4	Not observed	NA	Not applicable

Requirement: data should be collected for every haul to the extent possible.

The Estimated Time of Arrival here corresponds to the time between the first hook of the line hauled on board and the arrival of sperm whales / killer whales. If whales are already present when hauling starts, then ETA is zero.

Annex I – Implementation plan of the recommendations of the SIOFA Performance Review Panel updated with SC10 comments

No	Performance Review Recommendations	Review Panel Priority (H/M/L)	SC Recommendations (from SC-EXTRA1)	CC07 Recommendations	MoP10 Decision	MoP 10 Priority	Implementing Party(ies) / Body(ies)	Proposed Timeline at MoP10	Notes and Current Status
1	The Panel recommends that the SIOFA SC is tasked with conferring high priority to the improvement of stock assessments in order to reduce uncertainty as a necessary basis for the adoption of harvest strategies. This task should be subject to a target timeline and include a process for an independent peer review of assessment methods and results.	H	<p>11. Regarding Recommendation Nr 1, the SC noted that it has made recommendations to the MoP on the development of harvest strategies and related data collection and stock assessment work at the Joint MoP-SC Harvest Strategies Workshop and at the SC8 meeting including the necessary steps and timelines for the stock assessments of the key SIOFA stocks.</p> <p>12. The SC recommended that the MoP consider Recommendation Nr 1 in conjunction with paragraphs 166–197 and Annex F (Medium-Term SC8 Workplan) of the SC8 Report.</p> <p>13. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 1 but recommended that the MoP note that it may be difficult to improve some stock assessments and reduce their uncertainty, because even though the catch and effort data collected are accurate, there may only be a limited amount of data available because of the small size of those fisheries. However, it is still possible to develop useful harvest strategies based on stock assessments with a higher level of uncertainty, provided adequate management procedures are used to mitigate the risk and uncertainty.</p> <p>14. The SC endorsed the high priority assigned to this recommendation.</p>		MoP endorses recommendation 1 as commented by the SC in particular difficulties of improving SA and reducing uncertainty	H	SC	Ongoing, ref timeline recommended	See ORY, TOT, ALF projects in the SC workplan. Note the new (2024-2025) assessment of ORY (SC-10-40). Note new assessment of toothfish biomass (SC-10-23).

No	Performance Review Recommendations	Review Panel Priority (H/M/L)	SC Recommendations (from SC-EXTRA1)	CC07 Recommendations	MoP10 Decision	MoP 10 Priority	Implementing Party(ies) / Body(ies)	Proposed Timeline at MoP10	Notes and Current Status
2	The Panel recommends that SIOFA CCPs task the Scientific Committee with assessing the status of key shark stocks in the Area and that their status be kept under constant review over the coming years.	H	<p>15. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 2 and noted that it has conducted discussions on assessing the status of key shark stocks in the SIOFA Area.</p> <p>16. The SC recommended that the MoP consider Recommendation Nr 2 in conjunction with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the outcomes of the Intersessional Workshop on Deepwater Sharks in SIOFA Area, particularly the updated ecological risk assessment for deepwater chondrichthyan species (paper SC-08-29 Update on the ecological risk assessment of deepwater chondrichthyan species); b. paragraphs 224–257 of the SC8 Report, noting in particular the limited ability to conduct a stock assessment on shark species in the short-term, especially since the planned measures to reduce shark bycatch will result in less data being available; c. the shark-related scientific work in the Medium-Term SC8 Workplan (Annex F, SC8 Report). <p>17. The SC endorsed the high priority assigned to this recommendation.</p>		MoP supports this recommendation, work is already ongoing. Key shark stocks for assessment to be defined by SC.	H	SC	ongoing	Task considered, ref SC9 report. Future SC meeting will need to define “key shark” species. Note the update in the shark ERA (SC-10-49).
3	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs ensure that the fisheries summaries developed by the Scientific Committee contain clear information on the stock status of species caught in the SIOFA Area, and that this information is promptly made available to the general public.	M/L	<p>18. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 3. The SC noted that stock status will be included in the fisheries summaries and will be reported to the MoP. The SC also noted that the fisheries summaries should be made available to the public (paragraph 129, SC8 Report) and that the continued development of the fisheries summaries is a priority in the Medium-Term SC Workplan (Annex F, SC8 Report).</p> <p>19. The SC endorsed the medium/low priority assigned to the recommendation.</p>		MoP endorses this recommendation, work is ongoing	M/L	SC / Secretariat	3 - 5 Years	See the fisheries summaries updated in 2025 (SC10 Report)

No	Performance Review Recommendations	Review Panel Priority (H/M/L)	SC Recommendations (from SC-EXTRA1)	CC07 Recommendations	MoP10 Decision	MoP 10 Priority	Implementing Party(ies) / Body(ies)	Proposed Timeline at MoP10	Notes and Current Status
4	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs assess the use of the VME Guide by observers and take action to ensure its use as required, and also implement awareness programmes targeting observers.	M	20. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 4 and noted that work is ongoing to make this information available on the SIOFA website and that the SC has discussed developing the VME Guide further with additional species. 21. The SC endorsed the medium priority assigned to this recommendation.		MoP endorses this recommendation	M	SC Secretariat for publication CCPs for implementation	3 - 5 Years	Note work on the SIOFA VME Classification Guide (SC-10-26).
5	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs finalise the protocol on VME and protected area designation and speed up the process of progressing the agreed protected areas from their interim nature and identify any further areas in need for protection.	H/M	22. Regarding Recommendation Nr 5, the SC endorsed the recommendation and noted that related work is underway as part of the "PAE2022-MPA1 Protocols to designate and evaluate MPAs" EU funded project, which focuses on the designation and assessment of marine protected areas, and whose outcomes are expected to be delivered at the end of 2023. 23. The SC endorsed the high/medium priority assigned to this recommendation.		MoP endorses this recommendation	H/M	SC MoP	1 - 3 Years	Complete, see SC10 Report on revised protocol and proposed BPAs
6	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs consider capacity building activities for developing States to undertake BFAs as per the SIOFA standards.	M	24. The SC noted that Recommendation Nr 6 should be considered in conjunction with Recommendation Nr 31. 25. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 6 but recommended to the MoP that broader capacity building, particularly data capture, data quality, and data reporting, rather than specifically to BFAs, would be of greater use to developing States. 26. Regarding the priority assigned to this recommendation, the SC considered it to be of a low priority if it only pertained to BFAs, but a high/medium priority if it pertained to broader capacity building that included data capture, data quality, and data reporting.		MoP endorses this recommendation	H/M H on data capacity building	SC / Secretariat	1 - 3 years	The Observers' harmonisation framework partially addresses the data capture and quality improvement (SEC2022-OBS1) The MoP tasked the Secretariat for developing a paper on options for facilitating and addressing Capacity Building needs of CCP development states for consideration at its next CC and MoP. The scope of the paper should encompass the broad range of areas as commented by the SC in

No	Performance Review Recommendations	Review Panel Priority (H/M/L)	SC Recommendations (from SC-EXTRA1)	CC07 Recommendations	MoP10 Decision	MoP 10 Priority	Implementing Party(ies) / Body(ies)	Proposed Timeline at MoP10	Notes and Current Status
									relation to recommendation 6. See paper SC-10-24.

No	Performance Review Recommendations	Review Panel Priority (H/M/L)	SC Recommendations (from SC-EXTRA1)	CC07 Recommendations	MoP10 Decision	MoP 10 Priority	Implementing Party(ies) / Body(ies)	Proposed Timeline at MoP10	Notes and Current Status
7	The Panel recommends either the deadlines for data submission under relevant CMMs or the schedule of the annual meeting of the Scientific Committee be revised to ensure the SC has the most recent data available ahead of its annual meeting.	H	<p>27. Regarding Recommendation Nr 7, the SC noted that it had discussed this issue and reached the conclusion that:</p> <p>a. the current data submission deadline is the only feasible deadline for CCPs, as it comes after the end of the fishing season and that obtaining, entering and checking the data before submission to SIOFA would not be possible at an earlier date. The SIOFA Secretariat noted that, once received, these data are entered into the SIOFA databases, checked and validated, and that final versions of these data are only available for analysis around September, which would be after the MoP.</p> <p>b. rescheduling of the SC to a later date would therefore also not be a feasible option, as there would not likely be enough time to hold the MoP meeting within the same year.</p> <p>28. The SC noted that it had previously discussed and requested the MoP to consider mechanisms to enable CCPs to submit data on a more frequent basis (e.g., monthly or quarterly reporting) where CCPs were able to (paragraph 64, SC7 Report).</p> <p>29. The SC noted that the annual national reports provide a mechanism for the SC to have a summary of the most recent data and “could be used to support more informed discussions at the SC meeting” (SC8 para 52). The SC further noted that when conducting stock assessments on long-lived fish, the long-term trend is more important than the terminal year, and not being able to use the most recent data in a stock assessment is therefore not a major issue.</p> <p>30. The SC recommended that the MoP note that it disagreed with Recommendation Nr 7.</p>		<p>MoP agrees with the concerns expressed by SC.</p> <p>MoP does not endorse this recommendation</p> <p>The MoP would however consider mechanisms to enable CCPs to provide data on a more frequent basis.</p>				N/A

No	Performance Review Recommendations	Review Panel Priority (H/M/L)	SC Recommendations (from SC-EXTRA1)	CC07 Recommendations	MoP10 Decision	MoP 10 Priority	Implementing Party(ies) / Body(ies)	Proposed Timeline at MoP10	Notes and Current Status
--	Recommendation Nr 34 on the implementation of reporting requirements, specifically on the development of an IT-platform for the management of data and information submissions also apply to the issues assessed under this criterion.	--							See recommendation 34
8	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs task the Scientific Committee to develop a long-term strategic plan with identified priorities for its work and options for the use of independent consultants, academic institutions, private/public organisations and/or CCP expertise resources as feasible, taking into account funding requirements.	M	31. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 8. 32. The SC recommended that the MoP note that the SC is prepared to develop a long-term strategic plan with guidance from the MoP, and that a medium term plan had been prepared at SC8 for consideration by the MoP. 33. The SC recommended that the MoP hold a broader discussion on options for the use of independent consultants, academic institutions, private/public organisations and/or CCP expertise resources as feasible. 34. The SC endorsed the medium priority assigned to this recommendation.		MoP encourages SC to develop a long-term strategic plan. Topic will also be addressed at MoP10 under agenda item XX	M	SC	3 years	Complete. Note the SC workplan with priorities developed for up to 5 years

No	Performance Review Recommendations	Review Panel Priority (H/M/L)	SC Recommendations (from SC-EXTRA1)	CC07 Recommendations	MoP10 Decision	MoP 10 Priority	Implementing Party(ies) / Body(ies)	Proposed Timeline at MoP10	Notes and Current Status
--	Recommendations nr 7, 10 and 46 concerning, respectively, the scheduling of SC meetings, the development of a framework for Scientific Advice and the management of human and funding resources for its work apply also to the issues assessed under this criterion.	--							
9	The Panel recommends CCPs to launch an exercise of consolidation of the various CMMs into a corpus of SIOFA rules and regulations, with the aim of codifying the applicable rules to make them clearer, easier to interpret and easier to control in terms of compliance. This exercise should identify existing gaps and possible contradictions, issues of interpretation in need of resolving, and a future structure of the corpus that allows the different actors on whom the various obligations fall (from SIOFA's own bodies, to CCP authorities, to fishers) to have a clear and user-friendly access to their applicable rules	M	35. Regarding Recommendation Nr 9, the SC endorsed the need to identify existing gaps and possible contradictions, and issues of interpretation in need of resolving, but did not consider there to be a strong need to consolidate the various CMMs. 36. The SC endorsed the medium priority assigned to this recommendation. 37. The SC recommended that the MoP consider changing the naming convention for the CMMs so that the CMM number precedes the year the CMM was updated, e.g., CMM 2020-01 would become CMM 01-2020.	82. Regarding Recommendation Nr 9, the Compliance Committee endorsed the recommendation to identify existing gaps and possible contradictions, and issues of interpretation in need of resolving, while noting that this is part of the ongoing work of the Compliance Committee. The Compliance Committee did not endorse the recommendation to consolidate the various CMMs into a corpus of SIOFA rules and regulations.	MoP does not endorse the recommendation to consolidate the various CMM into a corpus of SIOFA measures. The MoP noted that the CC is continuously revising the CMM. MoP adopts the renaming convention of the CMM.	M	CC / Secretariat	ongoing Oct 2023 for CMMs renaming	A change to the CMM naming convention was adopted at MoP10, and this was implemented by the Secretariat in October 2023 MoP11 notes that the recommendation has been implemented.

No	Performance Review Recommendations	Review Panel Priority (H/M/L)	SC Recommendations (from SC-EXTRA1)	CC07 Recommendations	MoP10 Decision	MoP 10 Priority	Implementing Party(ies) / Body(ies)	Proposed Timeline at MoP10	Notes and Current Status
	and discipline.								

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10	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs undertake the development of a framework for the provision of Scientific Advice that takes into account best international practices, whether or not combined with a framework for decision-making at managerial level in accordance with the Precautionary Approach. This could accompany or complement the already decided work line dedicated to the development of harvest strategies but would provide the basis for an urgent consideration of precautionary measures in the short term.	M	38. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 10 and noted that, with the adoption of harvest strategies and defined management targets and risk thresholds, the SC would be able to develop more formal decision-making tools that would be useful for the MoP. 39. The SC endorsed the medium priority assigned to this recommendation. 40. The SC noted that the FAO DSF project is compiling information on how advice is requested and provided at different RFMOs as a way to share ideas and methods among RFMOs. 41. The SC noted that it would also be useful to develop a template or agreed language for framing stock assessment or ecological advice to the MoP.		MoP endorsed recommendation 10.	M	SC	1 - 3 years	Ongoing. See the SC workplan for proposed projects relating to the precautionary approach framework and harvest strategies (SIOFA-PAM)
11	The Panel recommends SIOFA discusses with CCAMLR concrete options to co-manage toothfish stocks shared between the 2 organisations, and establishes either a prohibition of fishing for this resource outside established toothfish management units or revised the units as required so no activities escape the conservation measures established	H	42. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 11 and noted that it is consistent with its discussions at SC8 (paragraphs 143–155, SC8 Report). 43. The SC endorsed the high priority assigned to this recommendation.		MoP endorsed recommendation 11.	H	MoP	ongoing	SC has recommended the establishment of a new South Indian Ridge (SIR) management area with an associated catch limit (para 211 of the SC9 report) MoP11 notes that CMM15 was amended in 2023, to extend the scope of the application of provisions concerning observer coverage and toothfish tagging to the all SIOFA area.

No	Performance Review Recommendations	Review Panel Priority (H/M/L)	SC Recommendations (from SC-EXTRA1)	CC07 Recommendations	MoP10 Decision	MoP 10 Priority	Implementing Party(ies) / Body(ies)	Proposed Timeline at MoP10	Notes and Current Status
	for this resource.								
12	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs to urgently agree on precautionary measures regarding alfonsino in light of the significant level of catches, second in the Area by weight, and of the fact that the stocks' biological complexity makes it challenging to adopt measures other than precautionary, at least in the short-to-medium term. Effort and catches should be constrained to the lowest possible levels.	H	44. The SC disagreed with Recommendation Nr 12 and recommended that the MoP note that this recommendation was inconsistent with the previous alfonsino stock assessment advice (SC-05-29 Age-Structured Production Model assessments of the Alfonsino, and summarised in paragraphs 116–119 of the SC5 Report) and with the CPUE analyses conducted at SC8 (paragraph 130 and Figure 1, SC8 Report), which indicated that “the stock is fluctuating without trend in recent years”. 45. The SC noted that it discussed planned and ongoing alfonsino-related scientific work at SC8 (paragraphs 131–140, SC8 Report).		MoP does not endorse Recommendation 12. MoP noted the lack of management measures for Alfonsino, and requests SC9 to propose potential management measures for Alfonsino				N/A

No	Performance Review Recommendations	Review Panel Priority (H/M/L)	SC Recommendations (from SC-EXTRA1)	CC07 Recommendations	MoP10 Decision	MoP 10 Priority	Implementing Party(ies) / Body(ies)	Proposed Timeline at MoP10	Notes and Current Status
13	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs adopt precautionary measures for target stocks other than the three key stocks of toothfish, orange roughy and alfonsino.	H/M	46. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 13 and noted that it had discussed and recommended interim Harvest Control Rules (HCRs) for the key SIOFA stocks (paragraph 178, SC8 Report). 47. The SC endorsed the high/medium priority assigned to this recommendation.		MoP endorsed recommendation 13	H/M	SC / MoP	ongoing	Note the development of harvest strategies for key stocks and note the ERA and proposed updates for future meetings (SC workplan). Note the work on CPUE for oilfish and escolar. Note the catch limits on species not otherwise assessed based on the average catch of a reference period already adopted by the MoP.
14	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs engage in discussions towards a future regime for the allocation of fishing rights.	L			MoP endorsed recommendation 14	L	MoP	5 years	MoP11 had discussion on this topic under the SC agenda items. CKI to propose a paper on allocation framework for MoP12.
15	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs agree on a definition of new fisheries and discuss a regulatory framework for new and exploratory fisheries incorporating the highest standards derived from international best practices. The framework should make proper use of tools already developed by SIOFA such as the fishing footprint, BFAs and VME mapping.	H/M	48. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 15 and noted that there had been previous work on this matter, although not in recent years. The SC noted that it had recommended an updated bottom fishing footprint to the MoP and recommended that the MoP consider the implications of the bottom fishing footprint once it is agreed, including how new fishing should be considered (paragraphs 95 and 277, SC8 Report). 49. The SC endorsed the high/medium priority assigned to this recommendation.		MoP endorses recommendation 15 Work in ongoing	H/M	SC and MoP	1 - 3 years	Completed. A new CMM has been adopted MoP11 (CMM 17 (2024)).

No	Performance Review Recommendations	Review Panel Priority (H/M/L)	SC Recommendations (from SC-EXTRA1)	CC07 Recommendations	MoP10 Decision	MoP 10 Priority	Implementing Party(ies) / Body(ies)	Proposed Timeline at MoP10	Notes and Current Status
--	Recommendations nr 10, 12 and 13, above on the implementation of the Precautionary approach apply also for the purposes of the issues assessed under this criterion.	--							
16	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs to make every effort to progress from the current interim arrangements for bottom fishing to permanent rules, retaking discussions on this issue from the proposal tabled in 2019 or an updated version of it. Recommendation nr 9 above, on a corpus of SIOFA rules, applies also for the purposes of the issues at stake here.	H	50. The SC noted that, with the provision of BFIA's in the past years and of an updated footprint presented this year, the MoP could decide to move towards a more permanent management of bottom fishing. 51. The SC also noted its recommendation to the MoP noting that new fishing would need to be considered when the bottom fishing footprint is agreed (paragraph 95, SC8 Report).		MoP endorses recommendation 16 Work in ongoing	H	SC and MoP	1 - 3 years	MoP11 notes that SC9 provided some details on how to address new and exploratory fisheries. By adopting the bottom fishing footprint many provisions in the CMM 01 should not be interim anymore. A new CMM has been adopted MoP11 (CMM 17 (2024)).
17	The Panel recommends the MoP requests from the SC an evaluation of the frequency of VME encounters and of the compliance of fishing vessels with the reporting and move-on rule requirements.	H	52. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 17. 53. The SC recommended that the MoP consider this recommendation in conjunction with the outcomes of the VME workshop (paper SC-08-25), the analysis of available VME indicator taxa accidental captures data from the Observer and CatchEffort databases and their usability for setting VME encounter thresholds (paper SC-08-26) presented by the Secretariat at SC8, and the related discussions at SC8 (paragraphs 290-292, SC8 Report). 54. The SC endorsed the high priority assigned to this recommendation.		MoP endorses recommendation 17	H	CC and SC	1 - 3 years	See the SC workplan and the SC VME focused session at SC in 2025. Note the revised guidelines for annual national reports 2025 recommending higher resolution of VME incidental captures reporting. CC notes that this work is ongoing

No	Performance Review Recommendations	Review Panel Priority (H/M/L)	SC Recommendations (from SC-EXTRA1)	CC07 Recommendations	MoP10 Decision	MoP 10 Priority	Implementing Party(ies) / Body(ies)	Proposed Timeline at MoP10	Notes and Current Status
18	The Panel recommends that SIOFA CCPs expand their consideration of actions aiming at the conservation of biodiversity to fishing activities other than those using bottom gears, extending the concept of Impact Assessment to such activities as well.	M	55. Regarding Recommendation Nr 18, the SC agreed that fishing activities other than those using bottom gears may affect biodiversity and noted that it could include such considerations in its workplan if requested by the MoP.		MoP endorses recommendation 18	M	SC	3 - 5 years	Note the proposal of new observer logbooks for squid fishing from SC10.
19	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs to agree urgently on measures to reduce shark by-catches, in particular by implementing any mitigation measures that identified as effective by the 2023 specific workshop on sharks to take place under the aegis of the Scientific Committee, including precautionary catch limits for Portuguese dogfish. Recommendation nr 2 on the assessment of the status of shark stocks is also relevant for the issues discussed under this criterion.	H	56. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 19 and noted that it held extensive discussions on measures to reduce shark by-catch measures at SC8, including the outcomes of the Intersessional Workshop on Deepwater Sharks in SIOFA Area and the SC recommendations to the MoP (paragraphs 225–257, SC8 Report). 57. The SC endorsed the high priority assigned to this recommendation.		MoP endorses recommendation 19	H	SC and MoP	1 - 3 years (work ongoing)	Note the projects in the SC workplan and discussions in the SC10 report

No	Performance Review Recommendations	Review Panel Priority (H/M/L)	SC Recommendations (from SC-EXTRA1)	CC07 Recommendations	MoP10 Decision	MoP 10 Priority	Implementing Party(ies) / Body(ies)	Proposed Timeline at MoP10	Notes and Current Status
20	The Panel recommends the SC effectively use the focused agenda item on seabird by-catch, decided by SC 8 in 2023 for future sessions, to identify necessary by-catch mitigation measures, including in trawl fisheries, as originally proposed at the time CMM 13 was adopted. SIOFA's cooperation arrangements with ACAP, but also with CCAMLR, should be strengthened including for the purposes of this work.	M/L	58. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 20 and noted that it plans to hold a focused agenda item on seabird data collection and bycatch mitigation measures at SC9 (paragraphs 265 and 268, SC8 Report). 59. The SC endorsed the medium/low priority assigned to this recommendation.		MoP endorses recommendation 20	M	SC and MoP	3 - 5 years	This is now a standing item of the SC agenda. Work has substantially progressed during SC10.
21	The Panel recommends SIOFA carries out a review of the effect of effort limits applicable to relevant fleets to determine whether such limits constrain the fishing activity or not, and that a clear determination is made on the potential use of capacity or effort limits as a fishery management tool, especially with regard to fisheries conducted with gears other than bottom gears.	M	60. The SC noted Recommendation Nr 21 and that it could conduct the relevant analyses if requested by the MoP.		MoP endorses recommendation 21	M	SC and MoP	3 - 5 years	[The implementation of this recommendation has not started yet]

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22	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs consider incorporating the principles of a flag State performance self-assessment into their compliance monitoring scheme, including by tasking the CC with reviewing the annual national reports submitted by CCPs and currently reviewed only by the SC.	H/M	61. Regarding Recommendation Nr 22, the SC noted that it reviews CCPs' annual national reports to obtain the most recent information fisheries data and to identify any potential new trends or scientifically relevant issues.	83. Regarding Recommendation Nr 22, the Compliance Committee noted that flag State performance self-assessment is already part of the CMS, and that the Secretariat identifies any potential compliance issues from the annual national reports and replies to compliance questionnaire and presents these to the Compliance Committee for its consideration.	MoP endorses the recommendation and notes the comments of the CC and the SC that such assessments are already performed.	M	SC CC MoP	1 - 5 years (and ongoing)	Annual reports are reviewed annually at SC. The SIOFA CMS captures this recommendation
23	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs consider the adoption of binding application of the Port Inspection Scheme to all ports of every CCPs, without the condition to apply to those having areas of national jurisdiction adjacent to the Agreement Area.	H/M		84. Regarding Recommendation Nr 23, the Compliance Committee expressed its general support for reviewing the scope of the Port Inspection Scheme. 85. One CCP supported expanding the scope of the Port Inspection Scheme but not to " all ports of every CCP" as stated in the Panel's recommendation, and cautioned that any potential amendment to the current scheme should be carefully considered to avoid adding unnecessary burden on ports not adjacent to the Agreement Area. 86. Australia expressed its intention to prepare a proposal to amend CMM 2020/08 (Port Inspection), based on Recommendation Nr 23 and the views expressed by CCPs, with the	MoP agrees to review the scope of the PI scheme, and noted the recommendations by the CC	M	CC and MoP	1 - 3 years	CC notes the ongoing work led by Australia on the port inspection scope [MoP notes the ongoing work being led by Australia on the port inspection scope]

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				aim to present this proposal at CC8.					
24	The Panel recommends SIOFA adopts at least a minimum standard regarding inspection coverage of all fishing vessels carrying or landing resources of its competence which enter their ports.	H		87. Australia expressed its intention to consider Recommendation Nr 24 when preparing its aforementioned proposal to amend CMM 2020/08.	MoP agrees to consider minimum standards for PI coverage and noted the recommendations from the CC	M	CC and MoP	1 - 3 years	CC notes the ongoing work led by Australia on the port inspection scope [MoP notes the ongoing work being led by Australia on the port inspection scope]

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25	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs investigate possible landings or transshipments of SIOFA species at ports placed under the jurisdiction of non-CCPs, and if this is found to happen, initiate demarches with the relevant port States to request they become CCPs or cooperate with SIOFA as appropriate.	H		88. The Compliance Committee expressed its general support for Recommendation Nr 25. Some CCPs had different interpretations of the definition of “demarches” but agreed that, if possible landings or transshipments of SIOFA species are found to have occurred at ports placed under the jurisdiction of non-CCPs, the Secretariat should contact the relevant port States to request they become CCPs or cooperate with SIOFA as appropriate. 89. The Chairperson of the Review Panel clarified that the key element of the investigation is the need to investigate possible landings or transshipments of SIOFA species at ports placed under the jurisdiction of non-CCPs.	MoP endorses the recommendation, noting the comments of the CC	M/L	Secretariat CC MoP	3 - 5 years	The Secretariat sends annual invitations to coastal states to join the Agreement as CP or CNCP. The Secretariat reviews the inspections reports that are provided by other parties CC recommends that the Secretariat widens the scope of information it collects to conduct this analysis, including information already available from other organisations (e.g. FAO statistics)
26	The Panel recommends and encourages SIOFA CCPs to continue their efforts to agree on a SIOFA VMS in order to verify vessels activity in the Agreement Area. The Panel also recommends that CCPs adopt rules for the submission VMS data until such scheme is adopted.	H/M	62. Regarding Recommendation Nr 26, the SC noted that the sharing of VMS data with the SC could be useful for enabling the verification fishing location data for its data checking procedures.	90. Regarding Recommendation Nr 26, the Compliance Committee endorsed the recommendation to continue efforts to agree on a SIOFA VMS and noted that this work is ongoing. 91. One CCP suggested that Recommendation Nr 26 should be assigned a priority of ‘H’ rather than ‘H/M’. 92. Another CCP suggested that the second recommendation, to adopt rules for the submission of	MoP endorses the recommendation, noting the statements of some CCPs that the rule of submission of VMS data, should only be considered if and when a SIOFA VMS is agreed upon	H	CC and MoP	1 - 3 years (ongoing)	MoP10 established the VMS WGs, the WGs met several times in the intersessional period. CC8 and MoP11 are reviewing the SSPs

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				VMS data, should only be considered if and when a SIOFA VMS is agreed upon.					
27	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs urgently seek to clarify the various issues of interpretation affecting the implementation of several MCS measures, in particular those related to CMM 06 on the IUU vessel list, CMM 07 on Vessel authorisation and CMM 14 on the HSBI procedures, including by seeking independent legal or technical advice if necessary.	H		93. The Compliance Committee did not express any views regarding Recommendation Nr 27.	MoP endorses the recommendation, and notes that there may not be a need to seek independent legal or tech advice	M	SC CC MoP	ongoing (3 - 5 years)	CMMs are reviewed by the MoP and its subsidiary bodies
--	With regard to SIOFA's observer programme, and in general with regard to possible technical improvements for the standing measures, Recommendation nr 9 on a corpus of SIOFA CMMs applies also for the purposes of the issues assessed under	--							

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	this criterion								
28	The Panel recommends including in the agenda of the Compliance Committee a specific standing item on follow-up actions in the framework of the CMS for the previous year or years.	H		94. The Compliance Committee endorsed Recommendation Nr 28 and noted that the review of follow-up actions is already part of its CMS framework.	MoP endorsed the recommendation, and noted the comments made by the CC.	H	CC	ongoing	The CC included a dedicated item on its annual agenda. CC8 considered document CC-08-INFO-03.
29	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs agree on a review of CMM 11 on a Compliance Monitoring Scheme in order to facilitate its interpretation, taking into account the changes proposed by this Panel, including to the CCR template and the rules regarding follow up action on infringements identified in previous years.	H/M		95. The Compliance Committee noted Recommendation Nr 29 and that the review of CMM 2020/11 (Compliance Monitoring Scheme) is part of its ongoing work. The Compliance Committee agreed to consider the Review Panel's views as part of its CMS review process.	MoP endorsed the recommendation, and notes that work is ongoing.	H/M	CC MoP	1-3 years	A new template has been agreed by CC8. CC8 recognized the need for capacity building within CCPs' delegations on the usage of the new CCR template. This is envisaged to be undertaken within one month of the 2025 submission deadline.

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30	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs task the Secretariat with an assignment as high priority for the Compliance Officer the strengthening of the Secretariat's technical capacity to examine, analyse and verify the data collected for the purposes of the Compliance Monitoring Scheme.	H/M		96. The Compliance Committee expressed agreement with Recommendation Nr 30.	MoP endorses this recommendation.	H	Secretariat (ES and CO)	ongoing work (continuous)	CC8 is following this recommendation. A Compliance Officer has been recruited in 2023. CC8 noted that additional activities to enhance the Secretariat capacity in relation to the Compliance Monitoring Scheme would evolve over time.
31	The Panel recommends that SIOFA CCPs task the Secretariat to assess the capacity building needed in order to improve implementation of their obligations by the CCPs, prioritizing the most urgent and providing options to ensure appropriate assistance is provided to CCPs which so require.	M	63. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 31 and noted that it should be considered in conjunction with Recommendation Nr 6. 64. The SC endorsed the medium priority assigned to this recommendation.	97. The Compliance Committee endorsed Recommendation Nr 31 and noted that the identification of capacity gaps is an essential part of an effective CMS.	MoP endorses this recommendation. And notes that capacity building was already discussed	H	Secretariat CC SC MoP	1 - 3 years	CC8 recognized the need for capacity building within CCPs' delegations, which in part could be addressed by the workshop on the usage of the new CCR template. See paper SC-10-24.

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32	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs discuss the possible adoption of a new measure on a Catch Documentation Scheme, focusing, in particular, on CCAMLR's DCD, and explore options for its implementation. The Panel recommends SIOFA strengthens its cooperation with CCAMLR in this regard, including by requesting capacity building support for the Secretariat so that it can contribute to future joint work by the two organisations.	H/M		98. The Compliance Committee noted that Recommendation Nr 32 pertains to a Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) for toothfish, noted that all SIOFA CCPs fishing for toothfish are Members of CCAMLR, where there is already a CDS for toothfish, and are thus already required to document catches of toothfish in the SIOFA Area, and agreed that it is therefore not necessary to establish a SIOFA CDS for toothfish, rather, it is adequate to continue its ongoing cooperation with CCAMLR.	MoP agrees with the recommendation made by the CC, and noted that it is therefore not necessary to establish a SIOFA CDS for toothfish, rather, it is adequate to continue its ongoing cooperation with CCAMLR	H	SC, CC and MoP	ongoing	Collaboration with CCAMLR is ongoing under the SIOFA-CCAMLR Arrangement.
33	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs consider the option of developing a SIOFA Reporting Manual to replace the present table of reporting requirements provided for in the organisation's website. Suggestions as to the structure and contents have been provided in our assessment under this criterion.	M	65. The SC endorsed Recommendation Nr 33 and supported improving communication around data collection, noting that the currently ongoing project on Harmonisation of Scientific Observer Programmes (Annex F, SC8 Report) would address some aspects of this recommendation. 66. The SC endorsed the medium priority assigned to this recommendation.		MoP endorses the recommendation	M	Secretariat, CC, SC	3 years	Project SEC2022-OBS1 and the observer harmonisation workshops (WS2024-OBS and OBS2) have made recommendations for the consideration by SC10 on observer manuals and data reporting systems.

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34	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs consider the option of establishing an IT-based data management platform taking into account the experience gained in the design and use of such platforms in other organisations, including in-built protocols for data verification, quality checks and the protection of confidential data. A decision to explore this option should only be taken if CCPs accept and assume the need for investment on capacity building as required.	H	67. Regarding Recommendation Nr 34, the SC noted that it would welcome any systems and processes that would improve the quality of data and allow the SC to conduct verification and quality checks. 68. The SC further noted that it has discussed the protection of confidentiality of data in past SC meetings and that processes that would protect confidentiality would be in line with recommendations that the SC has made previously.		MoP endorses the recommendation. And request the Secretariat to prepare a paper describing implementation possibilities (to SC and MoP)	H	Secretariat, SC, CC	1 - 3 years	The Secretariat has an in-house IT-based platform for managing data, datasets (metadata), and the fisheries (C&E, observer, vessels) databases. This was not designed to have an interface from outside of the Secretariat. The Secretariat currently has a range of data related procedures: data submission, data checks, data release and data backup that could be shared through the SIOFA website.
35	The Panel recommends, in case SIOFA CCPs are not prepared to implement an IT data platform as per Recommendation nr 34, urgent action is taken to ensure appropriate data verification protocols and quality checks are established.	H	69. Regarding Recommendation Nr 35, the SC noted that data verification protocols and quality checks are already in place, but acknowledged that they could be enhanced.		The MoP notes the comments of the SC, and that the work is on-going	-		ongoing	The Secretariat notes that it currently has data check procedures for data submissions. Such procedures could be shared through the SIOFA website or circulated to CCPs.

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36	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs agree to share data regarding the implementation of their fisheries control obligations and utilise such data in the framework of CMM 11's Compliance Monitoring Scheme in order to assess whether SIOFA's control-related measures are effectively implemented.	H/M		99. The Compliance Committee did not express any views regarding Recommendation Nr 36.	The MoP endorses the recommendation. The MoP noted that further work was necessary on the CMS process.	H/M	CC Secretariat	1 - 3 years	Partially implemented by the Compliance Assessment Process. It will further be reinforced with the new CCR template.
37	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs consider strengthening the use of intersessional decision procedures or intersessional working groups to facilitate the work of SIOFA as appropriate, in order to focus MoP discussions and make better use of the time available.	M/L	70. Regarding Recommendation Nr 37, the SC noted that it has trialled and recommended the continuation of a new combined SC meeting format, supplemented by workshops and focused agenda items (paragraph 337, SC8 Report).		MoP endorses the recommendation, and notes that Inter-Sessional decision process should used only when exceptional	M / L	MoP	1-5 years	Ref MoP10 decision which address the recommendation.

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38	The Panel encourages SIOFA CCPs to continue and if needed intensify dialogue on matters of concern to different CCPs, where consensus has not been achieved in order to find a common view which can be satisfactory to all CCPs. In particular, the Panel recommends to address bottom fishing activities in the Saya de Malha Bank, the scope of boarding and inspection procedures under CMM 14 and the issue of managing overlapping obligations for vessels arising from both SIOFA and neighbouring RFMOs, in particular the IOTC.	M			MoP endorses the recommendation	M	MoP	ongoing	MoP11 notes that the issue of bottom fishing on Saya De Malha has been discussed at several MoPs without an agreed way forward.. SIOFA and IOTC have been working on establishing a formal cooperation framework but are already cooperating on several matters (data, IUU fishing)
39	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs continue to review, clarify and amend as appropriate the relevant data rules or provisions so that all CCPs as well as observers and the general public have better access to data and information for the purpose of discussion and decision-making.	M	71. The SC noted that it has held discussions on rules of data access and dissemination at SC8 (paragraphs 96–108 and 114–119 and Annex E, SC8 Report) and that the development of standardised reports such as fisheries summaries and ecosystem reports should also facilitate better access to data and information.		MoP endorses this recommendation, and notes that this work is ongoing	M	SC, CC and MoP	ongoing	Public data access is governed by CMM 03. Work has been done to improve the access to the RAV information, with the addition of vessels details pages

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40	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs task the Secretariat to review the documents and materials on the SIOFA website and make necessary tunings in accordance with any new data rules on dissemination and any relevant decisions of the MoP.	M			MoP supports the recommendation	M	Secretariat	ongoing	The Secretariat notes that the titles and abstracts of all SC restricted access documents have been made public on its website. In addition, versions of SC project reports (where appropriate) have also been made available publicly on the SIOFA website.
41	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs engage in discussion on the rules, standards and procedures regarding the granting of CNCP status, including the clarification of the requirements for admission or CNCPs status renewal, in order to ensure a consistent reviewing approach. The adoption of clear rules as well as an application template is also recommended, providing CNCP with general instructions on the required information, actions, and any other criterion.	M			MoP notes that the procedure for becoming CNCP is in the SIOFA RoP, and notes that further discussion would continue if necessary.	L	Secretariat MoP	ongoing	To date, the MoP assesses the CNCP status at its annual meetings. The SIOFA RoP are currently used for this task. MoP recommends that CNCPs attend to the Compliance Committee meetings.
--	Recommendations nr 11, 20 and 32 on the strengthening of cooperation between SIOFA and CCAMLR also apply to the issues assessed under this	--							

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	criterion.								
42	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs consider strengthening cooperation with the IOTC, SWIOFC, SEAFO, SPRFMO, and CCSBT, as appropriate.	H	72. Regarding Recommendation Nr 42, the SC noted that for some stocks in some areas, the scientific information and methods applied by these regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs) may be relevant to SIOFA and cooperation with them would be beneficial.		MoP endorses this recommendation, the MoP notes that cooperation with CCAMLR and other bodies (eg FAO) is also necessary.	H	SC, CC, MoP Secretariat	ongoing	Secretariat has been working intersessionally to conclude the formalisation of cooperation between SIOFA and IOTC. The Secretariat has been working to formalize cooperation with IOC, however its endeavour has not been successful. The Secretariat participates in meetings remotely or in-person of neighbouring RFMOs and CCAMLR to the extent possible.
43	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs include a prerequisite in their consideration of CMM new or amended proposals the review of relevant measures adopted by neighbouring international organizations in order to promote a coherent approach and compatibility of fisheries management across RFMO boundaries.	M			MoP does not endorse the recommendation, and notes that SIOFA should develop its measures independently, especially if they are more effective than those of other RFMOs.				N/A

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44	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs consider setting up a section on the SIOFA website dedicated to SIOFA's implementation of Article 13 of the Agreement, presenting the assistance that may be provided individually or collectively by CCPs to meet the special requirement of CCP developing States including, in particular, the least developed among them, and small island developing States.	M	73. Regarding Recommendation Nr 44, the SC noted that it could be tasked with capacity building in scientific areas. The SC noted that the FAO DSF Project may also share objectives that are aligned with this recommendation.		MoP endorsed this recommendation, and notes the comments provided by the SC	M	SC, CC, MoP Secretariat	3 years	The Secretariat notes that the SIOFA website is capable of supporting a dedicated section for the implementation of article 13 of the Agreement, and can be implemented once the content is advised by the MoP. CC8 recommends that the Secretariat develop a paper for CC9 to identify areas where developing states require technical assistance or otherwise in the implementation of obligations arising from the Agreement. This should include the identification of mechanisms to provide such assistance. The Secretariat should consult CCPs for the development of this paper.
45	The Panel Recommends that SIOFA CCPs agree on a periodical review by the MoP of the organisation's implementation of Article 13 of the Agreement and encourage CCP developing States to proactively express their needs, challenges and special requirements affecting their contribution to SIOFA's work. The MoP	M/L			MoP endorses this recommendation, and notes that CCPs should report issues in regard to the implementation of article 13	L	MoP	ongoing	Some financial support is provided to developing CCPs under article 13 for attendance to SIOFA meetings. No specific support from SIOFA is provided to developing States bordering the Area that are not CCPs. The MoP will establish a standing agenda item relevant to article 13, and tasked the Secretariat to provide a paper on this

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	may thereafter consider establishing a fund dedicated to these purposes or expanding the scope of the current one.								topics at its SC/CC/MoP meetings.
--	Recommendations nr 6, 31 and 34 on various areas where capacity building assistance could be provided by SIOFA also apply to the issues assessed under this criterion.	--							
46	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs urgently agree on a strategic financial planning for the medium term taking into account the costs incurred over recent years for the funding of the Scientific Committee work, and commit to a fairer sharing of these costs, including by contributing in kind CCP scientific resources.	H/M	74. Regarding Recommendation Nr 46, the SC noted that strategic financial planning for the medium-term would allow the SC to plan and prioritize its work and that the Medium-Term SC Workplan (Annex F, SC8 Report) contributes to the achievement of this recommendation.		MoP endorses this recommendation	H	CCPs MoP	1 - 3 years	At its annual meeting, the MoP adopts the budget for the coming year and considers the forecast budget for at least one additional year. The SC has extended its workplan and associated budget to cover a 3-year timeframe.

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47	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs discuss in depth the strategic plan presented by the Executive Secretary in 2022 but extend their discussions not just to the funding aspects of it, but also to its role. For this purpose, an analysis should be carried out of the Secretariat's degree of autonomy to identify areas where it could be allowed to operate in a more agile way.	M	75. Regarding Recommendation Nr 47, the SC noted that the creation of the Science Officer position and the appointment of Dr Marco Milardi has greatly enhanced the ability of the SC to advance its work programme.		MoP endorses this recommendation, MoP notes that is it part of an ongoing process, and notes that the addition of one SO and one CO enhanced the capacity of the Secretariat	M	SC, CC, MoP Secretariat	ongoing	Note the SC workplan CC8 notes that this recommendation is more relevant to the MoP. The role of the Secretariat is determined by the MoP, and the SIOFA RoP. The RoP relevant to the Secretariat have not changed.
48	The Panel recommends SIOFA CCPs work towards a clear agreement on the use of consultants – or not – for the offices of subsidiary body chairpersons. Were the decision taken to continue using the current contractual arrangements a robust evaluation of the workload and appropriate funding should be agreed, in order to ensure these offices can be effectively and efficiently discharged.	H	76. Regarding Recommendation Nr 48, the SC noted the decisions by the MoP to appoint Mr Alistair Dunn as an independent SC Chair and to extend his term, as well as SC8's recommendation that his term be further extended for two years (paragraphs 361– 363, SC8 Report). 77. The SC had no advice regarding Recommendations Nrs 14, 23–25, 27–30, 32, 36, 38, 40–41, 43, 45, and 49.		MoP has so far agreed to this arrangement, and also notes that further discussion on the workload and appropriate funding is necessary.	H	SC, CC, MoP	ongoing	CC8 notes that this recommendation is more relevant to the MoP. The SIOFA budget provides defined funding for the use of external consultants.

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49	The Panel recommends that the term of office of the MoP Chairperson be extended to 2 years at least, to ensure continuity in proceedings.	M/L			The MoP notes this recommendation, and notes that further discussions are planned during the MoP10.				There is no record about this recommendation in MoP10 report To be potentially discussed by MoP11 (RoP)
0	As a general procedural consideration, the Panel recommends that SIOFA CCPs agree on a clear process for the follow-up of this Performance Review Including the following elements: 1. A formal decision on which Recommendations are accepted; 2. a plan for implementation with time targets; 3. a regular, periodical review of implementation of such accepted Recommendations; 4. a renewal of the Performance Review process within an appropriate time frame, which we would recommend could be 5 years from now, given the fact this Review is the first such process carried out by the organisation.				MoP will review the implementation of the 1st SIOFA performance review at MoP12.				N/A