

The Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties  
25-29 June 2018

Cape Panwa Hotel, Phuket, Thailand

MoP5-Doc10

IOC request for SIOFA Observer Status

*Relates to agenda item: 1.4*

Proposal ☐ Other Document ☒ Info Paper ☐

SIOFA Secretariat

---

**Abstract**

Please find attached request as circulated to Official Contacts 24 April 2018.

---

Ebène, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018Mr Kristofer DU-RIETZ  
SIOFA ChairpersonN° 467 SG-COI/LR**Re: Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) – Observer status to SIOFA Meeting**

Dear Sir,

The Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) is an intergovernmental organization that brings together 5 countries including Comoros, France/Réunion, Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles. IOC's strategic orientations are part of a sustainable development and poverty reduction perspective.

IOC is strongly involved in fisheries resource management actions and the promotion of sustainable and responsible fisheries since 1987, by managing several fisheries projects. He adopted a regional fisheries and aquaculture strategy for 2015 - 2025.

The IOC also set up since 2007 a Regional Fisheries Surveillance Plan mechanism "Plan regional de surveillance des pêches" (PRSP) that involves not only the IOC countries but also the neighboring countries Kenya, Mozambique and Tanzania. The eight countries of PRSP decided last year to establish a sustainable operation structure for the PRSP mechanism. The processes of the institutionalization of the PRSP under the aegis of the IOC are started. The PRSP organizes several activities including joint patrols (maritime and air), the regional observer program, permanent data exchange (VMS, AIS, radar) and the regional web database StaRFISH, etc.

So, I have the honor to ask you to accept IOC (including all the fisheries projects and mechanism) as permanent observer status at the various SIOFA meetings (Commission, Compliance Committee, and Scientific Committee), in accordance with SIOFA RoP Rule 18.2, to better appreciate the situation of the fishery, particularly on the high seas and other species in accord.

The status of the IOC in SIOFA as observer will be benefit for our organizations and facilitate the exchange of information's.

Yours Sincerely,

**Luc Ralaimarindaza**

Officer in charge for fisheries matters

