

1st Meeting of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) Scientific Committee
21-14 March 2015, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle

SC-01-05 (03)

National Report – European Union_Rev 1

Relates to agenda item: 5

Working paper info paper

Delegation of the European Union

Abstract

The European Union has submitted its national report.

Recommendations (*working papers only*)

1. That the Scientific Committee consider the national report provided by the European Union.

National Report of the European Union to the 2016 SIOFA SC annual meeting (Fremantle, Australia, 20-24 March)

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1. Introduction

This report, as the first of this series, presents an overview of the fishery data available for EU fleets operating at SIOFA since 2000. This information should be considered provisional, as some inconsistencies were detected in relation to the species identification due probably to deficient use of FAO 3Alpha Code and the great variety of common names used for catches assignment.

The information is still valuable to provide a general overview of past and present of fishing activity and of the main marine resources with commercial interest in the area. Despite the effort to crosscheck this historical data set still needed, this should not divert attention from the principal task, which is to design and implement a system to collect the appropriated data to assess the fished populations, avoiding the errors that commonly arise with emerging organizations.

Also the design of an observation system should be a priority of SIOFA and a simple and clear framework has to be developed.

2. Summary of historical fishing activity in the SIOFA Area

At the time of presenting this report it only includes data from the EU member State active in SIOFA during the period indicated in Table 1. French vessels, that are registered in a French overseas territory and managed by France (Territories), are not reported here.

Table 1. Summary of Spanish fleet activity in the SIOFA Area. (Under review)

Year	Number vessels	Fishing period	Gear
2000	1	May - November	Bottom trawl / Midwater trawl
2001	1	October - November	Bottom trawl / Midwater trawl
2003	1	May - June	Bottom longline
2004	2	August - November September - December	Bottom longline
2005	2	August - November January-February & November - December	Bottom longline
2006	2	August - December January & November - December	Bottom longline
2007	2	January - December January-February & December	Bottom longline
2008	2	January - May January - December	Bottom longline
2009	1	January - March	Bottom longline
2013	1	January - December	Gillnet
2014	1	January - December	Gillnet
2015	1	January - December	Gillnet: January - March Bottom longline: April - December
2016	1	January up to date	Bottom longline

In this information, records of trawl, longline and gillnet fisheries have been identified. At the beginning, fishing activity of EU fleets were not continuous along the year, in fact it only took place during a few months per year. No more than 2 vessels per year were present in the region and the activity had a patchy pattern until 2007, when some vessels started working

during all the year in the region. Additionally, some misreporting regarding the use of pots by some vessels have been detected, once red crab catches were recorded by bottom longliners.

3. Target species, catch summaries

The target species of EU fleets operating in SIOFA seamount were: the alfonsinos (*Beryx* spp.); orange roughy (*Hoplostethus atlanticus*); Wreckfish (*Polyprion* spp.); Portuguese dogfish (*Centroscymnus coelolepis*); Southern boarfish (*Pseudopentaceros richardsoni*); and Toothfish (*Dissostichus eleginoides*). Despite the main species in the catches of current fleet is the Portuguese dogfish.

Within the by-catch species of commercial interest it can be highlighted: the bluenose warehou (*Hyperoglyphe antarctica*); blackbelly rosefish (*Helicolenus dactylopterus*); common mora (*Mora moro*); roudi escolar (*Promethichthys prometheus*); violet warehou (*Schedophilus velaini*); oreo dories (Oreosomatidae) and others (Table 2). Annex I shows catch proportion of main species or groups of species by year.

Table 2. Catches by species or group of species and year for the Spanish fleet. (Under review)

Species/Year	2000	2001	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total (kg)
<i>Beryx</i> spp	79253	3726	960	3050	17511	11143	10347			5820	1167	280		133257
<i>Centroscymnus coelolepis</i>				586621	154681			581208	139822	1084665	1128092	1763550	225060	5663699
<i>Chaceon</i> sp						9568	5084	11052	1377					27081
<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>			7077	992			2688			2310				13067
<i>Epigonus telescopus</i>	45266			2723	13685	6570	110			10017	10704			89075
<i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i>	272587	783						430						273800
<i>Hyperoglyphe antarctica</i>	35949		26558					5693						68200
Lithodidae										25767	40316	13424		79507
Macrouridae				825			119							944
<i>Mora moro</i>				6787	7166	5254	5501	43144	11271	94776	84202	107160	15750	381011
Oreosomatidae	98981													98981
<i>Palinurus</i> sp		74		352						430				856
<i>Polyprion</i> spp		505	54837	174762	156318	52194	80616					616		519848
<i>Promethichthys prometheus</i>				1230	5642	10037	7924							24833
<i>Pseudopentaceros richardsoni</i>	139577	7074		5554	13533	7519	9444	32247						214948
<i>Ruvettus pretiosus</i>								1615		825	284			2724
<i>Schedophilus velaini</i>				30586	114482	42395	41519							228982
<i>Trachyscorpia</i> sp		1242		14079	6338	3960	2376							27995
Total (kg)	671613	13404	89432	827561	489356	148640	165728	675389	152470	1224610	1264765	1885030	240810	7848808

4. Fisheries data collection

As it was already explained, the process of data recording seems not to be homogeneous and thus the quality and robustness of data are uncertain. Most of commercial trips carried observers on board. However, as the sampling program was not centralized and standardized, these data are scatter and the quality varies among them.

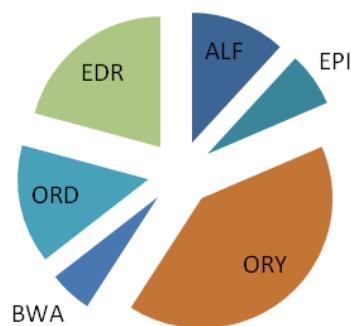
5. Research and scientific and technical papers

At the 1st SIOFA SC meeting, the EU representatives presented scientific papers already published, which refer to investigation on species of this region, with the aim of providing information and to contribute for a repository of scientific and technical papers regarding SIOFA species.

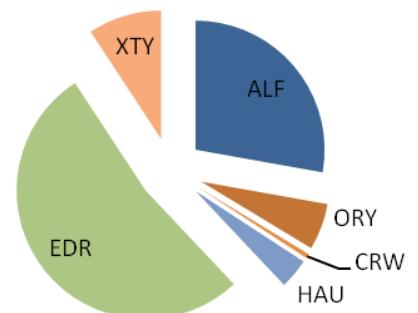
ANNEX I

Catches by year and species or group of species

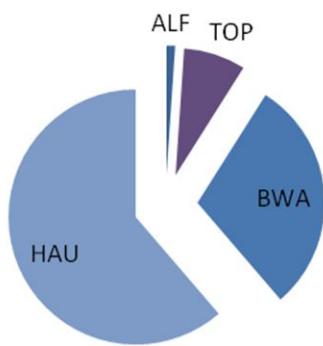
2000



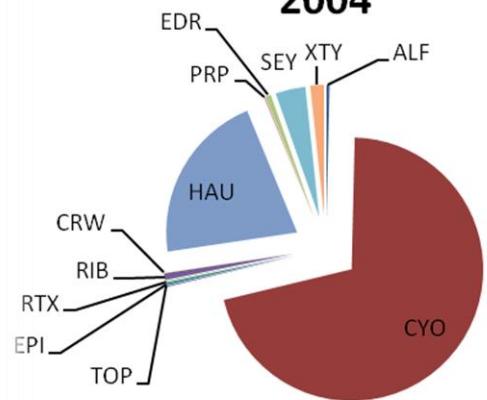
2001



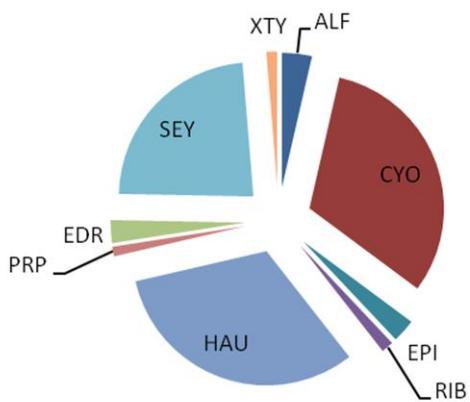
2003



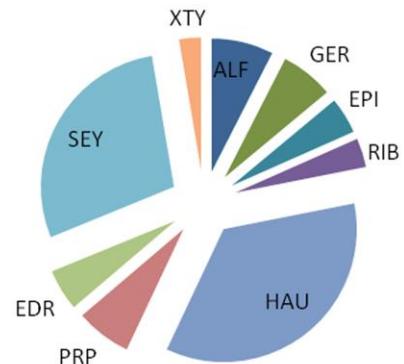
2004



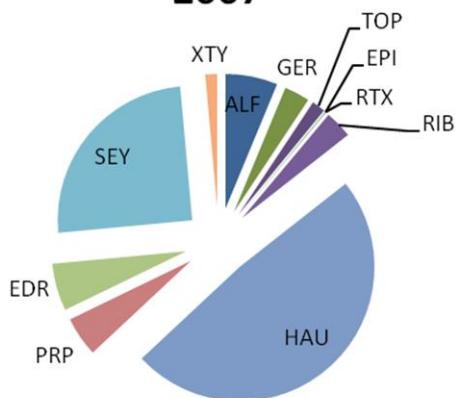
2005



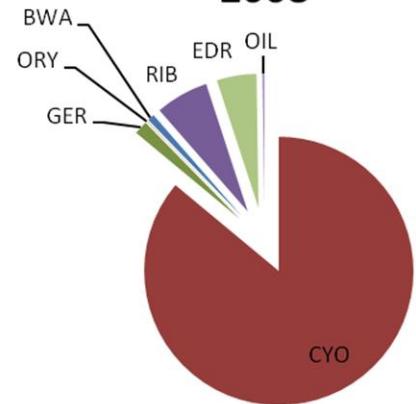
2006



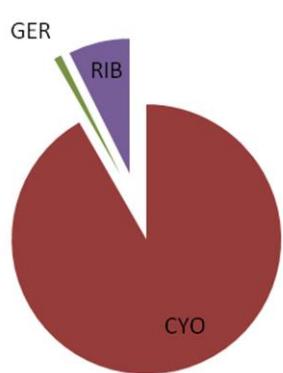
2007



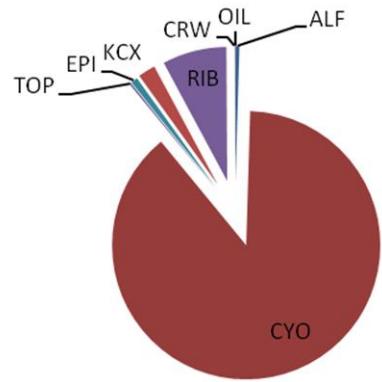
2008



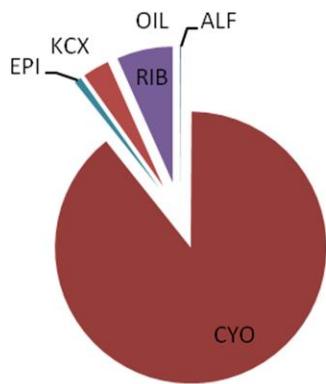
2009



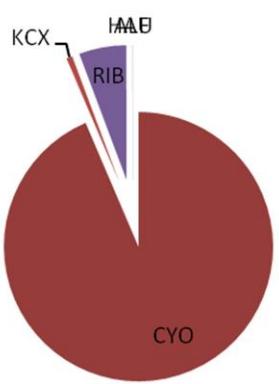
2013



2014



2015



<i>Trachyscorpia</i> sp	
<i>Schedophilus</i>	
<i>Ruvettus</i>	
<i>Pseudopentacero</i>	
<i>s. richardsoni</i>	
<i>Promethichthys</i>	
<i>macrourus</i>	
<i>Polypriion</i> spp	
<i>Palinurus</i> sp	
<i>Oreosomatidae</i>	
<i>Mura mura</i>	
<i>Macrouridae</i>	
<i>Lithodidae</i>	
<i>Hyperoglyphe</i>	
<i>atlanticus</i>	
<i>Hoplostethus</i>	
<i>Epigonus</i>	
<i>Dissostichus</i>	
<i>eleotridae</i>	
<i>Chaceon</i> sp	
<i>Centroscymnus</i>	
<i>coelolepis</i>	
<i>Beryx</i> spp	
ALF	CYO
GER	TOP
EPI	ORY
BWA	KCX
RTX	RTX
RIB	ORD
	CRW
	HAU
	PRP
	EDR
	OIL
	SEY
	XTY