

# 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) Scientific Committee

21-14 March 2015, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle

SC-01-05 (06)

## National Report – Comoros

*Relates to agenda item: 5*

Working paper ☒ info paper ☐

## Delegation of Comoros

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### Abstract

Comoros has submitted its national report.

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### Recommendations *(working papers only)*

1. That the Scientific Committee consider the national report provided by Comoros
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# **NATIONAL REPORT (JAPAN)**

March, 2016

Submitted to SIOFA SC01 (March 21-24, 2016)

(Fremantle, WA, Australia)

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

As the first national report, we describe Japanese fisheries in the SIOFA area of the competence in the past using available logbook data and other data sources (1975-2014). We have two different types of fisheries, i.e., trawl fisheries and bottom longline fisheries.

## **2. TRAWL FISHERIES**

There were 10 years of trawl fishing operations in three separate periods, i.e. 1977-1978, 2001-2002 and 2009-2014. Table 1 shows annual catch (tons) by species including numbers of fishing vessels operated. As indicated in Table 1, there were commercial and exploratory trawl fishing operations. Exploratory fishings were conducted by JAMARC (Japan Marine Fishery Resources Research Center) using chartered commercial vessels. One or two trawlers have been operating.

Target species during 1977 and 1978 were Lizardfish/Snakefish (203 and 53 tons respectively) and Jacks/Scads (418 and 229), where fishing operations were conducted in the shallower waters (depth less than 200m) in Saya de Malha Bank or Madagascar Bank. Target species in later years (2001-2014) was alfonsino (287-2,987 tons).

The second largest catch is other demersal species (1-813 tons) exploited as bycatch which species are shown in Table 2. In 2001, 600 tons of orange roughy catch was recorded in a single year, while nil catch in other years. Small amount of southern boarfish (Pelagic armorhead) has been exploited (0-68 tons).

Table 1 Catch (tons) by species exploited by Japanese trawl fisheries (1977-2014)

Year (Japan year)	(No of commercial vessels operated)	(No of exploratory fishings vessels operated)	Japanese	キンメダイ	オレンジラ フィー	ミナミクサカリツボダイ	底魚類 (その他)	えそ類	あじ類	その他	Total
			English	Alfonsino	Orange roughy	Southern boarfish (Pelagic armorhead)	Other demersal fish (see Table 2)	Lizardfish Snakefish	Jacks and Scads	Others	
			Scientific	<i>Beryx splendens</i>	<i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i>	<i>Pentaceros richardsoni</i>		Synodontidae	Carangidae		
			FAO-ASFIS code	ALF	ORY	EDR		LIX	CGX		
1977 (S_52)		(2) (*)		0	0	0	5	203 (***)	418 (***)	96	722
1978 (S_53)		(2) (*)		0	0	0	2	53 (***)	229 (***)	70	354
1979-2000 (S_54 - H_12)	(no operations for 20 years)										
2001 (H_13)	(2)			2,987	600	17	813	0	0	0	4,417
2002 (H_14)	(1)			286	1	6	119	0	0	0	412
2003-2010 (H_15-H_20)	(no operations for 6 years)										
2009 (H_21)		(1)		1,205	0	68	136	0	0	77	1,486
2010 (H_22)		(1)		976	0	32	224	0	0	0	1,232
2011 (H_23)	(1)			612	0	0	104	0	0	0	716
2012 (H_24)	(1) (**)	(1) (*)		295	0	39	40	0	0	1	375
2013 (H_25)	(2)			1,265	0	14	387	0	0	1	1,667
2014 (H_26)	(2)			452	0	9	1	0	0	45	507

Note

- (1) Information are based on the **logbook data** except catch data in 2009-2010 and 2012, which are from the reports of the exploratory fishings by JAMARAC (Japan Marine Fishery Resources Research Center).

- (2) (\*) Bottom trawl fishings and all other trawls are mid-water trawl fishings.
- (3) (\*\*) 50% by commercial fishings and the other 50% by exploratory fishings by JAMARC.
- (4) (\*\*\*) Shallower water fish species (Lizardfish/Snakefish + Jacks/Scads) were exploited in Saya de Malha Bank or Madagascar Bank (depths less than 200m).

Table 2 List of bycatch species in other demersal fish (Table 1)

Japanese name	Common (English) name	Scientific name
めだい類、	Hyperoglyphe	<i>Hyperoglyphe</i>
やせむつ類、	Deepwater cardinalfish	Epigonidae
クロシビカマス	Roudi escolar	<i>Promethichthys prometheus</i>
ミナミクロメダイ	Violet warehou	<i>Schedophilus velaini</i>
ナンキョクメダイ	Antarctic butterfish	<i>H. Antarctica</i>
おおはた類	Hapuku wreckfish	<i>Hyperoglyphe antarctica</i>
ナンヨウキンメ	Alfonsino	<i>Beryx decadactylus</i>
かさご類	Scorpaeniformes	<i>Scorpaeniformes</i>
たちうお類	Hairtail	<i>Trichiurus</i>
オオヤセムツ	Black cardinal fish	<i>Epigonus telescopus</i>

### 3. BOTTOM LONGLINE FISHERIES

There were 8 years of Japanese bottom longline fishing operations in 2004-2010 and 2013. Table 2 shows annual catch (tons) by species including numbers of fishing vessels operated. One longliner has been operating and targeting Patagonian toothfish (4-72 tons) with bycatches including rattail (0-15 tons) and blue antimora (deep sea cod) (0-2 tons). Japanese bottom longline fishing in the SIOFA are has been opportunistically conducted when fishings primarily operated in the CCAMLR water adjacent to its south.

### 4. OTHER INFORMATION

JAMSTEC (Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology) conducted deep sea surveys (1999-2000) in the Indian Ocean using its *SHINKAI 6500* (manned submersible). The data might be useful to understand the deep sea ecology.



Table 3 Catch (tons) by species exploited by Japanese bottom longline fisheries  
(2004-2014) (based on the logbook information)

	(No of vessels operated)	Japanese	メロ (マジエ ンアイナメ)	そこだら類	チゴダラ	その他	Total
		English	Patagonian toothfish	Rattails	Blue antimora (deep sea cod)	Others	
		Scientific	<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>	<i>Macrouridae spp</i>	<i>Antimora rostrata</i>		
		FAO-ASFIS code	TOP	GRV	ANT		
2004	(1)		72	15	0	0	87
2005	(1)		32	6	0	0	38
2006	(1)		4	1	0	0	5
2007	(1)		4	0	0	0	5
2008	(1)		40	3	2	0	46
2009	(1)		7	1	1	0	9
2010	(1)		19	4	1	0	24
2011							
2012							
2013	(1)		5	1	0	0	7
2014							

Note: blank = no operations