

RESOLUTION 12/10

TO PROMOTE IMPLEMENTATION OF CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES ALREADY ADOPTED BY IOTC

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

CONCERNED that IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (hereinafter referred to as “CPCs”), particularly developing CPCs, seem to find difficulties in implementing Conservation and Management Measures already adopted by the IOTC;

NOTING that among other things the major reasons for this situation could be:

- Lack of human and financial capacity to implement Conservation and Management Measures;
- Frequent addition of new such measures and modifications to existing ones;
- Complicated structure of Resolutions adopted by IOTC;
- Duplication of Resolutions on one subject.

CONSIDERING that streamlining of IOTC work and enhancement of capacity building are necessary to drastically promote implementation of Conservation and Management Measures;

FURTHER CONCERNED that little progress has been made by the Working Group on Compendium which was established by Resolution 11/01 ~~[superseded by Resolution 14/01]~~;

ADOPTS in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article IX of the IOTC Agreement, that:

ESTABLISHMENT OF FUND FOR CAPACITY BUILDING

1. The Commission shall establish a special fund for capacity building in order to ensure compliance with Conservation and Management Measures adopted by the IOTC. This special fund shall be financed by voluntary contributions. The IOTC Secretariat shall contact international organisations, donor agencies and non-governmental organisations to seek voluntary financial contribution.
2. Using the special fund, the Commission shall, during the next three years (2012–2014), focus on, inter alia, (i) how to improve data collection in developing CPCs and (ii) implementation of Conservation and Management Measures.
3. At its plenary meeting in 2015, the Commission shall decide the next priority area for the period from 2015 to 2017.

LIMITATION TO THE NUMBER OF PROPOSALS TO BE CONSIDERED

4. The Commission may consider limiting the number of new proposals to be considered at one plenary meeting.

STREAMLINING OF RESOLUTIONS

5. The Commission shall consider streamlining existing Resolutions by:
 - a) Abolishing outdated Resolutions and then incorporating their important key elements into a latest one
 - b) Combining multiple Resolutions into one
6. For the purpose of paragraph 5 above, CPCs shall submit proposals by two months prior to each annual meeting. The annual meeting shall decide concrete actions on such streamlining.

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Links from within [Resolution 12/10](#)

[Resolution 14/01](#)

Links from other CMMs

nil

RESOLUTION 12/12

TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF LARGE-SCALE DRIFTNETS ON THE HIGH SEAS IN THE IOTC AREA

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECALLING that the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 46/215 calls for a global moratorium on large-scale high seas driftnet fishing;

NOTING that a number of vessels continue to engage in large-scale high seas driftnet fishing in the Indian Ocean area (IOTC area of competence);

MINDFUL that any vessel fishing with large-scale driftnets on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence, or configured to conduct large-scale high seas driftnet operations, has the capacity to take species of concern to the IOTC and is likely to undermine the effectiveness of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures;

NOTING with concern that recent information indicates that such vessels are interacting more frequently with highly migratory species, such as tunas, swordfish, sharks, and other species covered by the IOTC Agreement; and that associated “ghost fishing” by lost or discarded driftnets have serious detrimental effects on these species of concern and the marine environment;

ADOPTS in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article IX of the IOTC Agreement, that:

1. The use of large-scale driftnets¹ on the high seas within the IOTC area of competence shall be prohibited.
2. Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting party (hereinafter referred to as CPCs) shall take all measures necessary to prohibit their fishing vessels from using large-scale driftnets while on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence.
3. A CPC-flagged fishing vessel will be presumed to have used large-scale driftnets on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence if it is found operating on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence and is configured² to use large-scale driftnets.
4. Paragraph 3 shall not apply to a CPC-flagged vessel duly authorised to use large-scale driftnets in their EEZs. While on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence all of such driftnets and related fishing equipment shall be stowed or secured in such a manner that they are not readily available to be used for fishing.
5. CPCs shall include in their Annual Reports a summary of monitoring, control, and surveillance actions related to large-scale driftnet fishing on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence.
6. The IOTC shall periodically assess whether additional measures should be adopted and implemented to ensure that large-scale driftnets are not used on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence. The first such assessment shall take place in 2013.
7. Nothing in this measure shall prevent CPCs from applying more stringent measures to regulate the use of large-scale driftnets.
8. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 09/05 *to prohibit the use of large-scale driftnets on the high seas in the IOTC area*.

¹ “Large-scale driftnets” are defined as gillnets or other nets or a combination of nets that are more than 2.5 kilometers in length whose purpose is to enmesh, entrap, or entangle fish by drifting on the surface of, or in, the water column.

² “Configured” to use large-scale drift-nets means having on board assembled gear that collectively would allow the vessel to deploy and retrieve large-scale driftnets.



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