

RESOLUTION 98/04
CONCERNING REGISTRATION AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON
VESSELS, INCLUDING FLAG OF CONVENIENCE VESSELS, FISHING FOR
TROPICAL TUNAS IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC);

Noting the Research Recommendations of the 7th Expert Consultations on Indian Ocean Tunas regarding the need to collect data on fishing effort;

Noting the Report of the First Session of the Scientific Committee and its general recommendation on the need to make a comprehensive list of all vessels of all gears catching bigeye;

Recommends, in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, paragraph 8, of the Agreement establishing the IOTC, that:

1. All Contracting Parties and Non-Contracting Parties cooperating with the IOTC with vessels fishing for tropical tunas in the IOTC Area of Competence (hereinafter referred to as 'the Area'), by 30 June every year:

shall submit to the Secretary a list of their respective vessels greater than 24 m LOA that have fished for tropical tunas in the Area during the previous year;

may submit to the Secretary, on a voluntary basis, a list of their respective vessels of less than 24 m LOA that have fished for tropical tunas in the Area during the previous year.

2. These lists shall contain the following information for each vessel:

- Name and registration number;
- Previous flag (if any);
- International radio call sign;
- Vessel type, length, and gross registered tonnage or gross tonnage;
- Name and address of owner, and/or charterer, and/or operator.

3. Contracting Parties which issue licences to foreign flag vessels to fish for tropical tunas in the Area shall submit to the Secretary the same information on all vessels to which such licences have been issued, according to the same timetable.

4. The Secretary shall circulate this information annually, or upon request, to all Contracting Parties and Non-Contracting Parties cooperating with the IOTC.

5. The Contracting Parties and Non-Contracting Parties cooperating with the IOTC shall notify the Secretary of any information concerning fishing vessels not covered in paragraph 1 but known or presumed to be fishing for tropical tunas in the Area.

6. a) The Secretary shall request the flag State of a vessel covered in paragraph 5 to take the measures necessary to prevent the vessel from fishing for tropical tunas in the Area.
b) The Secretary shall compile for future consideration by the Commission information on vessels covered in paragraph 5 whose flag is not identified.