



**agriculture,
forestry & fisheries**

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Ms Kim Jung Re
ACTING CHAIRPERSON
INDIAN OCEAN TUNA COMMISSION (IOTC) SECRETARIAT
2nd Floor, Le Chantier Mall
PO Box 1011
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SEYCHELLES

Dear Ms Kim Jung Re

RE: FEEDBACK REGARDING COMPLIANCE ISSUES

1. Your letter dated 26 May 2017, hereby refers.
2. South Africa has provided all the 2016 data in respect to the IOTC Resolution 15/02. The report was submitted on the 30th of June 2017. In addition, this has been noted in the IOTC report (IOTC-2018-COC15-CR24E-South Africa).
3. The report on the IOTC Resolution 05/05 was submitted to the IOTC Secretariat on the 30th of June 2017.
4. South Africa does not have any artisanal fishery in its Large Pelagic sectors. As such, IOTC Resolution 14/04 is not applicable to South Africa.
5. All South African vessels that are authorised to fish in the IOTC Area of Competence have IMO numbers, except for two vessels that are exempted from the IMO scheme as their gross tonnage is less than 100.

6. As stated in South Africa's National Report to the Scientific Committee for 2016, South Africa provided information on FAO guidelines on reduction of mortality of sea turtles in accordance with the IOTC Resolution 12/04.
7. South Africa does not grant any fishing licences to foreign vessels and as such, IOTC Resolution 14/05 is not applicable to South Africa.
8. South Africa ratified the FAO's Port State Measures. Consequently, implements all the conditions as stipulated in the IOTC Resolution 16/11.
9. South Africa submitted the report on the 9th of April 2017 and as such complied with the IOTC Resolution 10/10.
10. As stipulated in South Africa's permit conditions for the Large Pelagic sectors, South Africa prohibits the use of surface or submerged artificial lights to attract fish in its Large Pelagic sectors and as such, fully complies with the IOTC Resolution 16/08.
11. Notwithstanding the above, it should be noted that late reporting has been a particular problem for calendar year 2015 and 2016 as the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) had committed many of its resources in conducting a fishing rights allocation process for a number (10) of its commercial fishing sectors, including the tuna longline (large pelagic) fishery. In addition, two of the Fisheries Managers that had been responsible for the management of the Tuna Sector were either promoted or resigned and the dedicated scientist for large pelagic fisheries had also resigned. The shortage of staff had serious implications on the timely submission of reports and data as required in terms of IOTC Resolutions. In addition, the scope of work of the Fisheries Control Officers had been expanded dramatically with the implementation of other strategically important domestic programmes such as Operation Phakisa and the roll out and formalisation of South Africa's Small-scale Fishery.

12. South Africa is confident that the response provided will receive your positive consideration and should there be any further queries in relation hereto, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

Letter signed by: Mr. Asanda Njobeni

Designation: Chief Director: Marine Resources Management (acting)

Date: 13 April 2018