

**Annex 2 to the  
Partnership Arrangement between the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission  
and the  
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations  
(Representing the FIGIS-FIRMS Partnership)**

**Information to be contributed to FIGIS-FIRMS  
by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission**

## **1. DATA AND STATISTICAL INFORMATION:**

### **TYPES OF INFORMATION TO BE CONTRIBUTED:**

**Reports:** Reports developed for presentation of stock status and trends to meetings of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) will be structured for upload and maintained in FIGIS. Links to supporting scientific documents, such as detailed stock assessment documents, will be provided.

**Data:** Catch and fishing effort data will be provided at public domain resolution as determined under the policies of the IOTC. These data will be available for use by FIGIS in development of summary plots and statistics elsewhere presented within the FIGIS system.

**Biology, ecology, fisheries, and other information:** Summary information from research and investigations specific to stocks and resources in the Indian Ocean will be provided. Information on the fisheries and fleets capturing tunas and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean will be posted on FIGIS.

**Regulations and management:** Information on regulation and management of fisheries in the Indian Ocean will be included on FIGIS, with links to resolutions of the IOTC for easy access to details of regulatory measures.

### **SCOPE OF INFORMATION TO BE CONTRIBUTED:**

The IOTC has mandated responsibility for sixteen tuna and tuna-like species listed in Table 1, taken in its area of competence. The area of competence of IOTC as defined in the IOTC Agreement is the Indian Ocean (defined for the purpose of this Agreement as being FAO statistical areas 51 and 57) and adjacent seas, north of the Antarctic Convergence, insofar as it is necessary to cover such seas for the purpose of conserving and managing stocks that migrate into or out of the Indian Ocean.

There is a shared responsibility with the CCSBT in relation to southern bluefin tuna but it is agreed that the CCSBT will have primary responsibility. Where relevant, the IOTC will coordinate data provision to FIGIS/FIRMS with the CCSBT.

Documentation and Standards to be used in this Partnership Agreement: Sources of information will be documented, and links to electronic versions of source material will be provided when available. A link to the IOTC website will be provided for detailed information not suitable for posting to FIGIS. The information to be contributed will conform to the policy guidelines for confidentiality and information release of the IOTC and to the Information Management Policy established by the FIRMS/FIGIS Steering Committee.

## **2. METADATA AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT:**

### **METHODS OF COLLECTION AND PROCESSING:**

Details of IOTC data collection and compilation are provided in its various reports and scientific bulletins. Further information and links to detailed information may be found at <http://www.iotc.org>. In partial summary, the sources of data used in assessments and research of the IOTC include:

- Summary catch and effort and biological data, from tuna fisheries of the Indian Ocean;
- Data collected in *ad hoc* studies designed to meet the objectives of the Commission;
- Data which are used in assessments and analyses of status and trends are reviewed as part of the annual, scientific peer review of IOTC stock assessments held prior to development of final stock assessment reports and summaries for IOTC Annual Meetings.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOURCES:**

Bibliographic sources for the reports of the IOTC are contained in the individual stock assessment reports and in the research and scientific reports of the Commission. These detailed reports will be included by website link on the FIGIS-FIRMS fact sheets, through the appropriate species link in the summary reports which will be posted to FIGIS-FIRMS fact sheets. They may also be directly located when visiting <http://www.iotc.org>

## **OWNERSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

The information contributed to FIRMS resides under the full ownership and responsibility of the IOTC. Therefore, the ownership presented as header of each stock fact sheet will clearly include “Indian Ocean Tuna Commission” as the organization and the data owner institutional entity. The acronym for the Commission used throughout FIGIS-FIRMS will be IOTC. Further, the IOTC will be owner of all descriptions of itself, its areas of competence, and all text outlining its responsibilities and accomplishments, wherever presented by pages linked to or referenced by FIGIS-FIRMS, including pages developed by other organizations or entities within such as UN/FAO/FIRMS. This shall be accomplished by establishment of appropriate editorial and ownership security privileges within FIGIS-FIRMS. In cases where an item has joint ownership, IOTC/CCSBT, both entities shall clear indication of ownership on fact sheets.

Methods used in authentication and verification of information for FIGIS-FIRMS will identify both IOTC editors and an IOTC approver. These actors will in sequence ensure that FIRMS fact sheets under IOTC ownership will be updated and linked to the latest version of IOTC documents and information as they are released. In cases of joint ownership, IOTC/CCSBT, both entities shall have editor and approver privileges for fact sheets.

## **TRANSMISSION PROTOCOLS AND DISSEMINATION CHANNELS:**

The IOTC detailed stock assessment and scientific reports which serve as background documentation for information published on FIGIS-FIRMS will be published on the IOTC web site. Links to relevant sections of these reports and relevant section of texts will be added in various topics of the FIGIS-FIRMS fact sheets under IOTC ownership using a combination of the tools offered by the system (XML editing uploading – on-line editing). Transmission schedule is planned to be within the few days following publication by the IOTC of its reports on the IOTC web-site.

## **3. DATA AND INFORMATION SECURITY:**

All contributions from the IOTC will be in the public domain. Transparency of the information and results on status and trends of stocks and resources presented by the IOTC are documented in the course of the scientific peer-review process followed to obtain the results, and the various public meetings of the IOTC at which the results, and various options for management and resource conservation, are presented and discussed. Details on these meetings and processes are available at <http://www.iotc.org>.

## **4. COLLABORATIVE INSTITUTIONS:**

The IOTC does not have collaborative institutions at this time.

## **5. ADDITIONAL ENTITLEMENTS:**

When required, this Annex may be revised by mutual consent.

**Table 1: List of stocks and resources falling within the mandate of IOTC**

FAO English name	Nom FAO en français	Nombre FAO en español	Scientific name
Nom FAO en anglais	FAO French name	FAO Spanish name	Nom scientifique
Nombre FAO en inglés	Nombre FAO en francés	Nom FAO en español	Nombre científico
1. Yellowfin tuna	Albacore	Rabil	<i>Thunnus albacares</i>
2. Skipjack	Listao; Bonite à ventre rayé	Listado	<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>
3. Bigeye tuna	Patudo; Thon obèse	Patudo	<i>Thunnus obesus</i>
4. Albacore tuna	Germon	Atún blanco	<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>
5. Southern Bluefin tuna	Thon rouge du sud	Atún del sur	<i>Thunnus maccoyii</i>
6. Longtail tuna	Thon mignon	Atún tongol	<i>Thunnus tonggol</i>
7. Kawakawa	Thonine orientale	Baroceta oriental	<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>
8. Frigate tuna	Auxide	Melva	<i>Auxis thazard</i>
9. Bullet tuna	Bonitou	Melva (= Melvera)	<i>Auxis rochei</i>
10. Narrow barred Spanish Mackerel	Thazard rayé	Carite estraido (Indo-Pacífico)	<i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>
11. Indo-Pacific king mackerel	Thazard ponctué	Carite (Indo-Pacífico)	<i>Scomberomorus guttatus</i>
12. Indo-Pacific Blue Marlin	Makaire bleu de l'Indo Pacifique	Aguja azul (Indo-Pacífico)	<i>Makaira mazara</i>
13. Black Marlin	Makaire noir	Aguja negra	<i>Makaira indica</i>
14. Striped Marlin	Marlin rayé	Marlín rayado	<i>Tetrapturus audax</i>
15. Indo-Pacific Sailfish	Voilier de l'Indo-Pacifique	Pez vela (Indo-Pacífico)	<i>Istiophorus platypterus</i>
16. Swordfish	Espadon	Pez espada	<i>Xiphias gladius</i>

Note: In a first instance, IOTC will be in a position to cover yellowfin, skipjack, bigeye tuna and swordfish. IOTC recognizes the primary responsibility of CCSBT to manage Southern bluefin tuna. Albacore tuna, the neritic tunas, seerfishes and other billfish species will be dealt with subsequently.