
**COMPLIANCE ISSUES RAISED AT THE 16TH SESSION OF THE IOTC
SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (SC16), HELD IN BUSAN, REP. OF KOREA FROM
2-6 DECEMBER 2013**

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PURPOSE

To provide the Compliance Committee with an opportunity to consider the range of science related compliance issues raised by the Scientific Committee at its most recent Session.

BACKGROUND

In 2013, the IOTC Scientific Committee identified 5 key topics that it felt needed special attention by the IOTC Compliance Committee. These are detailed in [Appendix I](#) for the Compliance Committee's consideration.

DISCUSSION

In addition to the 5 key topics outlined in Appendix I, the Scientific Committee and its subsidiary bodies (Working Parties) have continually identified the lack of compliance with the IOTC data recording and reporting requirements as a main factor negatively affecting the quality of the advice which the Scientific Committee provides to the Commission each year. The Chairperson of the Scientific Committee strongly urges all CPCs to comply with all IOTC data recording and reporting requirements.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Compliance Committee:

- 1) **NOTE** paper IOTC-2014-CoC11-12, which aimed to bring to the attention of the CoC, the range of science related compliance issues raised by the SC at its most recent Session, held in Busan, Rep. of Korea from 2-6 December, 2013;
- 2) **CONSIDER** the advice from the Scientific Committee and advise the Commission on measures that could be taken to address the non-Compliance with IOTC Conservation and Management Measures.

APPENDICES

[Appendix I](#): Compliance issues raised at the 16th Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee (SC16), held in Busan, Rep. of Korea from 2-6 December, 2013

APPENDIX I

COMPLIANCE ISSUES RAISED AT THE SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE IOTC SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (SC16), HELD IN BUSAN, REP. OF KOREA FROM 2–6 DECEMBER, 2013

1. Resolution 10/06 *On reducing the incidental bycatch of seabirds in longline fisheries*

CPCs shall provide to the Commission, as part of their annual reports, information on how they are implementing this measure and all available information on interactions with seabirds, including bycatch by fishing vessels carrying their flag or authorised to fish by them. This is to include details of species where available to enable the Scientific Committee to annually estimate seabird mortality in all fisheries within the IOTC Area of Competence.

SC report: Page 269 (APPENDIX XXXI EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: SEABIRDS)

Appropriate mechanisms need to be developed by the Compliance Committee to ensure CPCs comply with their data collection and reporting requirements for seabirds.

SC report: Pages 274–275 (APPENDIX XXXI EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: SEABIRDS)

TABLE 3 shows progress of compliance on the reporting of seabird interactions by CPCs.

Issue: Less than half of the IOTC CPCs are meeting this requirement.

2. Resolution 11/04 *On a regional observer scheme*

CPCs shall provide to the Executive Secretary and the Scientific Committee annually a report of the number of vessels monitored and the coverage achieved by gear type in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution.

SC report: page 45: Update on the implementation of the IOTC Regional Observer Scheme

(para. 176) The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Compliance Committee and the Commission consider how to address the continued lack of compliance with the implementation of regional observer schemes by CPCs for their fleets and lack of reporting to the IOTC Secretariat as per the provision of Resolution 11/04 on a Regional Observer Scheme, noting the update provided in Appendix XXXII (pages 277–278)

Issue: Few CPCs are meeting this requirement.

3. Resolution 12/04 *On the conservation of marine turtles*

CPCs shall report to the Commission, in accordance with Article X of the IOTC Agreement, their progress of implementation of the FAO Guidelines and this Resolution.

SC Report APPENDIX XXX EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: MARINE TURTLES (pages 259–267)

SC report page 260

Appropriate mechanisms should be developed by the Compliance Commission to ensure CPCs comply with their data collection and reporting requirements for marine turtles.

Pages 264–265 Table 8 shows progress of compliance on implementation by CPC

TABLE 8. Members and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties reporting of marine turtle interactions for the years 2008–2012 to the IOTC.

Issue: Less than half of the IOTC CPCs are meeting this requirement.

4. National reports to the Scientific Committee

SC report paragraph 27 (pages 18–19)

27. The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Compliance Committee note the lack of compliance by several CPCs that did not submit a National Report in 2013, noting that the Commission agreed that the submission of the reports to the SC is mandatory. Table 2 (page 19) shows the summary of the compliance.

Issue: Eritrea, Guinea, Pakistan, Sierra Leone and Yemen have never submitted a National Report to the Scientific Committee.

5. Status of development and implementation of National Plans of Action for seabirds and sharks, and implementation of the FAO guidelines to reduce marine turtle mortality in fishing operations

SC report paragraph 62 (page 25)

62. The SC **REQUESTED** that all CPCs without an NPOA-Sharks and/or NPOA-Seabirds expedite the development and implementation of a NPOA, and to report progress to the WPEB and SC in 2014, recalling that NPOA-Sharks are a framework that should facilitate estimation of shark catches, and development and implementation of appropriate management measures, which should also enhance the collection of bycatch data and compliance with IOTC Resolutions.

Appendix VI shows the progress of the compliance by CPC (SC report pages 68–72)

Issue: Many CPCs are yet to assess the need for, develop and/or implement the plans. While this is not a mandatory requirements, the Commission has recommended that the need for such plans be determined by each CPC.