

Report of Implementation for the year 2011

Reporting CPC: Philippines

Date: 2012-02-20

Part A. *Describe the actions taken, under national legislation, in the previous year to implement conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission at its Fifteenth Session.*

1. Resolution 11/02 On the Prohibition of Fishing on Data Buoys

Fishing company operating in the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission convention area has been made aware of this Resolution There has been no known nor observed violation reported by the Fisheries Observers onboard the fishing vessel in the IOTC convention area.

2. Resolution 11/03 On Establishing A List Of Vessels Presumed To Have Carried Out Illegal, Unreported And Unregulated Fishing In The IOTC Area of competence

No known or observed violation of any pertinent IOTC Resolution by any Philippine flagged vessel in the convention area.

3. Resolution 11/04 On a Regional observer scheme

The Philippines was not able to place one observer in its fishing vessel for 2011 even though the IOTC required 5% observer onboard vessel, meaning of the total levels of vessel activity (i.e. total number of vessel trips or total number of vessels active). The 1 active vessel was fishing for 9 months or roughly 270 days while the two other vessels were active for 30 days each in the convention area for a total of 330 days. 5% coverage on a per day basis would mean that there should be an observer for 16.5 days for at least one vessel which is impractical. If an observer were to be transported via carrier vessel, he would be on board for at least 45 to 90 days as this is the interval of time by which a carrier pays a visit to the fishing vessel to transship. Though the Philippines has an Observer Program accredited by the WCPFC, sending one over to the IOTC area is just too prohibitive. However, there may be more active vessels in the IOTC area this year than last year, we might deploy 1 observer to one vessel for a short period of time to cover compliance with Resolution 11/04.

4. Resolution 11/05 on Establishing a Programme for Transshipment by large-scale Fishing Vessels

Local legislation on the regulation of transshipment is still pending but will be passed within the year. In the meantime, Philippine flagged fishing vessels operating in the IOTC convention area have been instructed not to participate in any transshipment with vessels on the IUU Vessels list.

5. Recommendation 11/06 Concerning the Recording of Catch and Effort by Fishing Vessels in the IOTC Area of Competence

There were two Philippine flagged fishing vessels operating during the year 2011. Both have adopted and had been using the logbook format which consisted of two parts as copies in Annex I and Annex II, and logbook templates are provided for in said Resolution.

Part B. *Describe the actions taken, under national legislation, to implement conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission in previous Sessions, and which have not been reported previously.*

Resolution 10/01 For the Conservation and Management of Tropical Tuna Stocks in the IOTC Area of Competence. The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources [BFAR] has informed the fishing vessels that operating in the Indian Ocean and listing with the IOTC has been informed of the restrictions covered by this Resolution violation of which shall be dealt with accordingly. No Philippine flagged vessel has been reported to have violated this Resolution. This has been previously reported but is being reported for updating purposes.

Resolution 10/02 Mandatory Statistical Requirements For IOTC Members and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CPCs). No changes in the response last year. All data except size data mandated to be submitted to the IOTC Secretariat by this resolution is collected by logbooks which have been updated as per Resolution 11/06. Vessels authorized to fish in the IOTC Area are required to keep daily logbooks by the rules. This is covered by FISHERIES ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 198 Series of 2000. Size data is gathered in the Observer Program.

Resolution 10/03 Concerning the recording of catch by fishing vessels in the IOTC area. No changes to response last year as no Philippine flagged purse-seine vessel has operated in the IOTC Area of Competence until now. However, purse-seine vessels will use a revised logbook template set out in Annex 1 in this Resolution if and when they operate in the IOTC area.

Resolution 10/04 On a Regional observer scheme. The Philippines is building up its Observer development program, thru trainings with financial and technical assistance from WCPFC. To date it has graduated 100 observers which are ready for deployment. The Philippines is compliant to the observer's requirement in all RFMOs. However, for purposes of compliance with IOTC rules on observer coverage and because of economic reasons, we utilized non-Filipino observers in the IOTC area as provided by an accredited contractor.

Resolution 10/06 On Reducing the Incidental Bycatch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries. In the conduct of its fishing operations, the Vessek Captains ensures that the crew shall sink the hooks beyond the reach of seabirds as soon as possible after they are put in the water. No changes to report last year.

Resolution 10/07 Concerning a Record of Licensed Foreign Vessels Fishing for Tunas and Swordfish in the IOTC Area Not applicable to the Philippines as no part of its EEZ is within the IOTC area.

Resolution 10/10 Concerning Market Related Measures Not applicable to the Philippines

Resolution 10/11 On Port state measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing This measure is covered by FISHERIES ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 199 Series of 2000. The designated Fishport is the Port of Davao City. However, in view of the recent adoption by the UN FAO of a newer and updated Agreement on Port State Measures, this Fisheries Administrative Order shall be amended to comfom the commitments of the Philippines.

Resolution 10/12 On the Conservation of Thresher Sharks (Family Alopiidae) caught in Association with Fisheries in the IOTC Agreement Area. The Philippines has adopted a National Plan of Action on Sharks. There is pending legislation with the National Legislative body [Congress of the republic of the Philippines] on a measure on sharks.

Recommendation 10/13 On the Implementation of a Ban On Discards Of Skipjack Tuna, Yellow Fin Tuna, Bigeye Tuna, And Non Targeted Species Caught By Purse Seiners Not applicable to the Philippines as all active fishing vessels within the IOTC area are longliners.