

15 February 2021

IOTC CIRCULAR 2020–55 rev1

Dear Sir/Madam

CORRECTION NOTICE

REGARDING RESOLUTION 19/01 YELLOWFIN TUNA ALLOCATED CATCH LIMITS FOR 2021

IOTC Resolution 19/01 *On a plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC Area of Competence* pertains only to fishing vessels targeting tuna and tuna like species in the Indian Ocean of 24 meters overall length and over, and those under 24 metres if they fish outside the EEZ of their flag State, within the IOTC Area of Competence. Paragraph 24 of Resolution 19/01 requires the IOTC Secretariat, under the advice of the Scientific Committee, to prepare and circulate a table of allocated catch limits disaggregated as per the conditions set out in paragraphs 5 – 10 for preceding year, in December of the current year.

Allocated catch limits and supporting information for the purse seine, longline, gillnet, bait boat and hand line fleets to which this resolution applies were circulated on 31 December 2020.

About this correction

Since the publication of Circular 2020-55:

- European Union - the EU provided new information on its 2019 purse seine catch. There is a change to the purse seine catch limit originally notified.
- Indonesian purse seine and longline catches have been amended and are now based on the aggregated data submitted by Indonesia to the Scientific Committee in the national reports (as per Res 19/01, paragraph 13 a, footnote 1), and new information provided for 2019. A letter from Indonesia on this matter is attached. There are changes to the purse seine and longline catch limits originally notified.
- Seychelles - a catch limit for Seychelles longline has been added after being inadvertently left out in the original circular.
- Maldives - a (text) correction to the steps used to calculate the catch limits of the Maldives bait boat and handline fisheries has been made. Note, the catches for 2015-2017 have been corrected and confirmed, but these were not required for the catch limit calculation for 2021. There are no changes to the catch limits originally notified.
- Sri Lanka – noted the potential for misunderstanding about how long the target catch levels calculated in 2016 for the years 2017+ should apply (IOTC Circular 2016-85c). Sri Lanka observed that the revised target catch levels calculated thereafter were not published in a Circular until 31 December 2020 (IOTC Circular 2020-55). For some CPCs, including Sri Lanka, their concerted efforts to improve their data has resulted in changes to some catch histories; and for some gears, this can result in the target catch limit calculated in 2020 being different to that calculated in 2016. This is most problematic in cases when the target catch limit calculated in 2020 is lower than that calculated in 2016 and has led to an over-catch being recorded for the years 2017-2019 – as happened to Sri Lanka. There are no changes to the catch limits originally notified for Sri Lanka.

Distribution

IOTC Contracting Parties: Australia, Bangladesh, China, Comoros, Eritrea, European Union, France (Territories), India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Rep of), Japan, Kenya, Rep. of Korea, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, United Rep. of Tanzania, Thailand, United Kingdom, Yemen. **Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties:** Liberia, Senegal. **Intergovernmental Organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations. Chairperson IOTC. Copy to:** FAO Headquarters, FAO Representatives to CPCs.

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The data

The yellowfin tuna catch data from 2014 to 2019 pertaining to Resolution 19/01 are available [\[here\]](#).

2021 allocated catch limits (rev1) for yellowfin tuna calculated in accordance with Resolution 19/01 – changes to the original limits are highlighted

Fleet	Gear	2021 catch limit (t)
European Union	Purse seine	73,945
Indonesia	Purse seine	9,251
Korea, Rep of	Purse seine	7,524
Seychelles	Purse seine	31,605
Mauritius	Purse seine	10,473
Iran, IR	Gillnet	0
Taiwan Province of China	Longline	11,057
Indonesia	Longline	11,381
Seychelles	Longline	3,402
Sri Lanka	Longline	5,302
Maldives	Bait boat	10,845
Maldives	Handline	16,939

Calculations

PURSE SEINE FLEETS

Fleet	Baseline year & reduction	Catch (tonnes)					Res 19/01 para 13a (for 2017, 18, 19)*		Resulting catch limit for 2021 (tonnes)	
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	sum of annual catch limits		accumulated catch
European Union	2014 (15%)	91,405	86,149	87,075	86,893	78,148	71,791	233,083	236,833	73,945
Indonesia	2014 (15%)	14,582	8,363	10,786	11,598	12,342	16,388	37,184	40,328	9,251
Korea	2014 (15%)	8,852	7,509	10,347	6,362	5,415	8,730	22,572	20,507	7,524
Mauritius	2018 (7.5%)	4,844	5,448	7,404	7,681	11,322	12,290	31,419	31,294	10,473
Seychelles	2015 (15%)	23,463	39,072	40,014	41,694	35,023	33,006	66,423	68,029	31,605
								*2018,19 for Seychelles		

Calculations

European Union purse seine:

→[Para 5](#), annual catches exceed 5000 t; catch baseline year is 2014 and the reduction is 15%. Target annual catch is 77,694 t (91,405 t less 15%).

→[Para 13a](#), accumulated catch calculated for 2017, 18, 19; and the sum of the catch limit calculated for 2017, 18, 19.

Result:

- Over catch is 3,749 t because the accumulated catch (236,833 t) > sum of annual catch limits (233,083 t). The 2021 catch limit is 73,945 t.

Indonesia purse seine:

→[Para 5](#), annual catches exceed 5000 t; the catch baseline year is 2014 and the reduction is 15%. Target annual catch is 12,395 t (14,582 t less 15%).

→[Para 13a](#), accumulated catch calculated for 2017, 18, 19; and the sum of the catch limit calculated for 2017, 18, 19.

Result:

Over catch is 3,144 t because the accumulated catch (40,328 t) > sum of annual catch limits (37,184 t). The 2021 catch limit is 9,251 t.

Korea purse seine:

→[Para 5](#), annual catches exceed 5000 t; the catch baseline year is 2014 and the reduction is 15%. Target annual catch is 7,524 t (8,852 t less 15%).

→[Para 13a](#), accumulated catch calculated for 2017, 18, 19; and the sum of the catch limit calculated for 2017, 18, 19.

Result:

- No over catch as the accumulated catch < sum of annual catch limits. The 2021 catch limit is 7,524 t.

Mauritius purse seine:

→[Para 11](#), annual catches from 2017 exceed 5,000 t.

→[Para 10](#), Mauritius is a SIDS taking <4% of the total YFT catch; the catch baseline is 2018 and the reduction is 7.5%; the target annual catch is 10,473 t (11,322 t less 7.5%).

→[Para 13a](#), accumulated catch calculated for 2017, 18, 19; and the sum of the catch limit calculated for 2017, 18, 19.

Result:

- No over catch as the accumulated catch < sum of annual catch limits. The 2021 catch limit is 10,473 t.

Seychelles purse seine:

→[Para 5](#), annual catches exceed 5000 t; and the reduction is 15%.

→[Para 9](#), Seychelles is a SIDS and chose a catch baseline of 2015; the accumulated catch is to be calculated over 2018-19. Target annual catch is 33,211 t (39,072 t less 15%); accumulated catch calculated for 2018-2019; and the sum of the catch limit calculated for 2018-2019.

→[Para 13a](#)

Result:

- Over catch is 1,606 t because the accumulated catch (68,029 t) > sum of annual catch limits (66,423 t). The 2021 catch limit is 31,605 t.

GILLNET FLEETS

Gillnet fleets										
Fleet	Baseline year & reduction	Catch (tonnes)					Res 19/01 para 13a (for 2017, 18, 19)		Resulting catch limit for 2021 (tonnes)	
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	sum of annual catch limits		accumulated catch
Iran I.R of	2014 (10%)	24,401	26,780	31,079	37,193	35,534	44,024	65,883	116,751	-28,906

Calculations

Iran gillnet:

→[Para 6](#), annual catches exceed 5000 t; the catch baseline year is 2014 and the reduction is 10%. Target annual catch is 21,961 t (24,401 t less 10%).

→[Para 13a](#), accumulated catch calculated for 2017, 18, 19; and the sum of the catch limit calculated for 2017, 18, 19.

Result:

- Over catch is 50,867 t because the accumulated catch (116,751 t) > sum of annual catch limits (65,883 t). The 2021 catch limit is 0 (-28,906) t.

LONGLINE FLEETS

Longline fleets										
Fleet	Baseline year & reduction	Catch (tonnes)					Res 19/01 para 13a (for 2017, 18, 19)*		Resulting catch limit for 2021 (tonnes)	
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	sum of annual catch limits		accumulated catch
Taiwan, Province of China	2014 (10%)	12,285	13,921	16,958	9,115	10,845	9,427	33,170	29,387	11,057
Indonesia	2014 (10%)	12,645	10,549	10,404	10,527	9,610	4,260	34,142	24,397	11,381
Seychelles	2018 (10%)	1,606	2,340	2,739	3,636	6,474	7,604	11,653	14,078	3,402
Sri Lanka	2014 (10%)	8,625	5,933	3,939	6,448	8,554	10,746	23,287	25,748	5,302

*2018,19 for Seychelles

Calculations

Taiwan,China longline:

→[Para 7](#), annual catches exceed 5000 t; the catch baseline year is 2014 and the reduction is 10%. Target annual catch is 11,057 t (12,285 t less 10%).

→[Para 13a](#), accumulated catch calculated for 2017, 18, 19; and the sum of the catch limit calculated for 2017, 18, 19.

Result:

- No over catch as the accumulated catch < sum of annual catch limits. The 2021 catch limit is 11,057 t.

Indonesia longline:

→[Para 7](#), annual catches exceed 5000 t; the catch baseline year is 2014 and the reduction is 10%. Target annual catch is 11,381 t (12,645 t less 10%).

→[Para 13a](#), accumulated catch calculated for 2017, 18, 19; and the sum of the catch limit calculated for 2017, 18, 19.

Result:

- No over catch as the accumulated catch < sum of annual catch limits. The 2021 catch limit is 11,381 t.

Seychelles longline:

→[Para 11](#), annual catches from 2018 exceed 5,000 t.

→[Para 7](#), annual catches exceed 5000 t; and the reduction is 10%; using the 2018 catch level the target annual catch is 5,827 t (6,474 t less 10%).

→[Para 13a](#), accumulated catch calculated for 2018-2019; and the sum of the catch limit calculated for 2018-2019.

Result:

Over catch is 2,425 t because the accumulated catch (14,078 t) > sum of annual catch limits (11,653 t). The 2021 catch limit is 3,402 t

Sri Lanka longline:

→ Para 7, annual catches exceed 5000 t; the catch baseline year is 2014 and the reduction is 10%. Target annual catch is 7,762 t (8,625 t less 10%).

→ Para 13a, accumulated catch calculated for 2017, 18, 19; and the sum of the catch limit calculated for 2017, 18, 19.

Result:

- Over catch is 2,461 t because the accumulated catch (25,748 t) > sum of annual catch limits (23,287 t). The 2021 catch limit is 5,302 t.

OTHER GEARS

Other gears										
Fleet	Baseline year & reduction	Catch (tonnes)						Res 19/01 para 9, 13a (for 2018, 19)		Resulting catch limit for 2021 (tonnes)
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	sum of annual catch limits	accumulated catch	
Maldives baitboat	2014 (5%)	11,416	9,270	4,978	10,543	10,749	10,165	21,690	20,914	10,845
Maldives handline	2014 (5%)	17,831	19,247	24,648	16,713	16,704	15,918	33,879	32,622	16,939

Calculations

Maldives bait boat:

→ Para 8, annual catches exceed 5000 t; the catch baseline year is 2014 and the reduction is 5%. Target annual catch is 10,845 t (11,416 t less 5%).

→ Para 9, Maldives is a SIDS; the baseline is 2014; the accumulated catch and the sum of the catch limit (para 13 a) are to be calculated for 2018-2019.

→ Para 13a, the accumulated catch and the sum of the catch limit are to be calculated for 2018-2019.

Result:

- No over catch as the accumulated catch < sum of annual catch limits. The 2021 catch limit is 10,845 t.

Maldives handline:

→ Para 8, annual catches exceed 5000 t; the catch baseline year is 2014 and the reduction is 5%. Target annual catch is 16,939 t (17,831 t less 5%).

→ Para 9, Maldives is a SIDS; the baseline is 2014; the accumulated catch and the sum of the catch limit (para 13 a) are to be calculated for 2018-2019.

→ Para 13a, the accumulated catch and the sum of the catch limit are to be calculated for 2018-2019.

Result:

- No over catch as the accumulated catch < sum of annual catch limits. The 2021 catch limit is 16,939 t.

Yours sincerely



Christopher O'Brien
Executive Secretary



**MINISTRY OF MARINE AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES
OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
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Ref: B. 630/DJPT/PI.110.D1/I/2021

January, 11th, 2021

Dr. Christopher O'Brien
Executive Secretary
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)
PO Box 1011 Victoria, Mahe, Seychelles

**Subject: Objection Regarding IOTC Circular 2020-55 on the Implementation of
Resolution 19/01 Yellowfin Tuna Allocated Catch Limit for 2021**

Dear Dr. Christopher O'Brien,

Regarding IOTC Circular 2020-55 on the Implementation of Resolution 19/01 Yellowfin Tuna Allocated Catch Limit for 2021, we would like to express our objection to the circular due to several considerations as follows:

- a. We are concerned about the discrepancy data between the IOTC Data Set and the data submitted by Indonesia through the National Report and Form 1RC. Indonesia has raised this issue at the Commission Meeting and WPDCS16. However, this matter was not dealt with satisfactorily where the Secretariat did not use it as the baseline catch data for Indonesia as reflected in the Circular.
- b. In the Circular 2020-55, the calculation for yellowfin tuna catch limit of Purse Seine for Indonesia referred to 2018 catch data; meanwhile, the IOTC Resolution 19/01 paragraph 5 stipulated that the baseline purse seine catches are referred to 2014 reported data with a reduction of 15%, giving an annual catch limit of 12,395 tonnes for Indonesia. The accumulated catch for 2017, 2018, and 2019 is 40,327 tonnes compared with the sum of the limits for three years of 37,187 tonnes, resulting in an exceed (over-catch) by 3,140 tonnes be deducted from the 2021 catch limit. Therefore, Indonesia's yellowfin tuna catch limit for purse seine in 2021 is 9,255 tonnes.
- c. In accordance with Resolution 19/01 paragraph 7, the baseline year for yellowfin tuna longline catch limit is 2014 with a reduction of 10%, giving an annual catch limit of 11,381

tonnes for Indonesia. The accumulated catch for 2017, 2018, and 2019 is 24,398 tonnes compared with the sum of the catch limits of 34,142 tonnes implying Indonesia's yellowfin tuna long line catch limit for 2021 should remain at 11,381 tonnes.

- d. Furthermore, there is inconsistency in term of the data source used by the Secretariat for the calculation of yellowfin tuna catch limit for 2021, as can be described as follows:
- the data source used for the calculation of yellowfin tuna purse seine catch limit for 2018 and 2019 derived from Form 1RC submitted in December, meanwhile
 - the data source used for the calculation of yellowfin tuna longline catch limit for 2019 is derived from Form 1RC submitted in June.

In order to have consistency between data sources for 2019 data, Indonesia requests the Secretariat referred to the catch data that was submitted on 30th December 2020 as Indonesia's final catch data.

- e. Lastly, we would like to bring to your attention that we are not comfortable using the word "allocated" in this context. We are concerned that this can lead to confusion with the TCAC process. In this case, we are dealing with fishing patterns and distribution of catch, not allocation rights.

We appreciate it very much if you could prompt clarify and respond to this matter. We also request this letter to be circulated to other members.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely Yours,



Trian Yunanda
Director of Fish Resources Management
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF)
Indonesia

Cc.

1. Director-General of Captured Fisheries, MMAF;
2. Head of Center for Data, Statistic, and Information, MMAF;
3. Head of Center for Fisheries Research, MMAF;
4. Compliance Coordinator, IOTC;
5. Data Coordinator, IOTC.

PURSE SEINE FLEET

Purse Seine Fleets											
Fleet	Baseline Year & Reduction	Catch (tonnes)						Res 19/01 para 13a		Resulting catch limit for 2021 (tonnes)	Catch limit for 2021
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Sum of annual catch limit	Accumulated catch		
Indonesia	2014 (15%)	14582	8363	30786	11598	12342	16388	37187	40327	-3140	9255

LOGLINE FLEET

Longline Fleets											
Fleet	Baseline Year & Reduction	Catch (tonnes)						Res 19/01 para 13a		Resulting catch limit for 2021 (tonnes)	Catch limit for 2021
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Sum of annual catch limit	Accumulated catch		
Indonesia	2014 (10%)	12645	10549	10404	10527	9630	4261	34142	24398	11381	11381

Remarks:

Catch data 2014-2018 referred to Indonesia National Report to Scientific Committee, meanwhile data 2019 referred to Form 1RC reported to Secretariat per December 30th, 2020 (Letter Ref: B.24981/DJPT/PI.110/XII/2020)