



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

Director General

Brussels,  
MARE/D3 ADV ARES(2018)

Mr. Ivan López  
Chairman Long Distance Advisory  
Council  
C/del Doctor Fleming 7, 2º Dcha  
E- 28036 Madrid  
SPAIN

**Subject: LDAC Recommendation on terms of reference (ToR) for the creation of an IOTC<sup>1</sup> Working Group on Socio-economic and Labour aspects of fisheries**

*Your Ref.:* R-01-18/WG1-4

Dear Mr. López,

Thank you very much for your recommendation on the Terms of Reference (ToR) related to the creation of an IOTC Working Group on socio-economic and labour aspects of fisheries, that we examined thoroughly.

The discussion on the creation of such a WG was based on a proposal tabled by Seychelles<sup>2</sup> in 2017 and was postponed during the last IOTC meeting. Instead, it was agreed to implement a scoping study identifying what types of social and economic data are most relevant to CPCs<sup>3</sup> and IOTC, and how these data can be obtained. The upcoming IOTC annual meeting, following another proposal submitted by Seychelles<sup>4</sup>, will discuss the ToR for the scoping study.

We take note of the principles and criteria proposed in your recommendation for the creation of such a WG. We consider that some of them, in particular those on the information to be collected, could be applied *mutatis mutandis* to the scoping study. In this regard, we will duly consider them when determining the EU position at the upcoming annual meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> Indian Ocean Tuna Commission

<sup>2</sup> IOTC-2017-S21-PropG

<sup>3</sup> Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties

<sup>4</sup> IOTC-2018-S22-PropH

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I thank you for your constructive input and look forward to our continued cooperation. Should you have any question on this reply, I invite you to take contact with Ms Pascale Colson, coordinator of the Advisory Councils ([pascale.colson@ec.europa.eu](mailto:pascale.colson@ec.europa.eu); +32 2 29 56273

Yours sincerely,

Joao AGUIAR MACHADO