

**RESPONSES FROM IOMS TO M: BYC01 - TURTLES**

(Report on implementation of Rec. 10-09, paras 1, 2 and 7, as amended by Rec. 13-11/ Report on implementation of Rec. 22-12, Paras 1, 2, 4, 5 and 8 and relevant actions taken to implement the FAO guidelines)

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Applicable</i>	<i>First Submit date</i>	<i>Response/Reason for not applicable</i>
ALBANIA	Yes		The Action Plan for the Conservation of Sea Turtles and their Habitats in Albania was adopted through a Ministerial Order No. 596, 22.11.2012 and 150/2022 Albania, also approved the Ministerial Order 150/2022 "On the mitigation of fisheries impact for the conservation of seabirds, sea turtles, cetaceans and elasmobranchs" as per implementation of respective Rec GFCM 44/2021/13-14-15-16
ALGERIA	Yes	2023-09-15	
BARBADOS	Yes	2020-09-15	
BELIZE	Yes	2023-05-08	Belize implemented the FAO Guidelines for Sea Turtles in 2008. In 2016 Belize revised its guidelines to include visual aids on turtle identification and handling and detangling equipment and procedures. it is now mandatory for our vessels to have on board this data and all relevant equipment. The implementation of our observer program has aided in identifying the use of these measures by our vessels.
Bolivia	Yes		Bolivia no dispuso de buques de pesca en la zona del Convenio durante el período del presente informe que tuvieran interacción con tortugas marinas, por lo que no hubo datos que informar a la CICA. Tampoco hubo, por consiguiente, una implementación operativa. No obstante, el artículo 67, párrafo II del Reglamento Boliviano de Pesca Marítima declara aplicables ipso iure, con carácter supletorio, todas las medidas de ordenación de las OROP donde participa el Estado Plurinacional de Bolivia, bien como Parte Contratante o bien como No Parte Contratante Colaboradora
BRAZIL	Yes		Brazil established the Interministerial Rule No. 74, November 2017, which establishes mitigating measures to reduce bycatch and mortality of sea turtles by fishing vessels.
CABO VERDE	Yes		This CPC follows the recommendations of FAO and ICCAT, and shipowners are informed of these recommendations that must be respected in fishing operations.
CANADA	Yes	2023-09-15	
CHINA PR.	Yes		Refer to annual report of this year word part submitted on 2023/9/15
Chinese Taipei	Yes		See Section 4.3 of our Annual Report
Costa Rica	Yes		En Costa Rica es obligatorio el uso de anzuelo circular en la pesca de grandes pelágicos (Reglamento a la Ley de Pesca y Acuicultura No 89436 No 36782-MINAET-MAG-MOPT-TUR-SP-S-MTSS, Capítulo XV, Artículo 56). Costa Rica no cuenta con flota de buques de cerco ni de arrastre en el Atlántico. La flota costarricense en el Atlántico es artesanal de menos de 20 metros de eslora. Se ha dado capacitación a tripulaciones para concientizar sobre buenas prácticas de manipulación y liberación.

			Our observers are trained by AZTI to apply best practices on sensitive species and other marine mammals in fishery operations. In case of any abnormality the observers will report to us to start an investigation
CURAÇAO	Yes	2023-09-15	
EGYPT	Yes		
EL SALVADOR	Yes	2023-09-05	2023-09-05. El Salvador posee cobertura de observadores a bordo del 100% de sus viajes, habilitados para recopilar la información de interacciones. A pesar de que no existen interacciones con tortugas marinas relevantes, se posee un código de buenas prácticas para el manejo de capturas incidentales. Adicionalmente, existe convenio con la organización AZTI, para la evaluación del desempeño en la ejecución de las buenas prácticas y no se han recibido hallazgos de incumplimiento u observaciones negativas
EUROPEAN UNION	Yes	2023-09-15	
FRANCE (St-Pierre et Miquelon)	Yes		Il n'y a pas eu de capture accidentelle de tortues marines par FRSPM en 2022. Chaque année, les armateurs sont sensibilisés aux interactions de la flotille avec les tortues marines (changement d'hameçon)
GABON	Yes		pas d'activités
GHANA	Yes		
GUATEMALA	Yes		No se tiene pesquerías con reportes de capturas fortuitas de estas especies
Guyana	Yes		2023-09-14
ICELAND	Yes		See text in Annual Report (submitted 2023/10/03).
JAPAN	Yes		Our report on this matter is included in Annual Report Part 2.
KOREA REP	Yes	2023-09-15	
LIBERIA	Yes		For the reporting period, Liberia had no purse seine vessels operating in the ICCAT areas. No sea turtle incidents or interactions was report. However, the national observers have been trained on the safe release practices of sea turtles. The vessels are equipped with necessary equipment to safely release sea turtles at live. The vessels captains and crews were made aware of the safety practices.
MAROC	Yes	2023-07-25	Cf section7 du chapitre II du Rapport annuel
MEXICO	Yes	2023-09-14	
NAMIBIA	Yes		No sea turtles catches were recorded in ICCAT managed fisheries in Namibia during the reporting period.
NICARAGUA	Yes	2023-09-25	No aplicable (Nicaragua no opera flota pesquera en el área de la Convención capturando especies ICCAT, razón por la que no se remite informe sobre la implementación de dichas Recomendaciones).
NORWAY	Yes		There are no reports from the fisheries, or from the scientific community, on sea turtles in Norwegian waters. Norwegian waters are outside the area of distribution of sea turtles.
PANAMA	Yes		Mediante Decreto Ejecutivo No. 160 de 2013, se establecieron medidas que se encuentran vinculadas a la Rec. 10-09, párr. 1, 2 y 7, tal y como fue enmendada por la Rec. 13-11 y acciones pertinentes emprendidas para implementar las directrices de la FAO.

PHILIPPINES	Yes		2023-September-15. The Philippines under its Fisheries Code and other subsequent issuances recognizes the prohibition in the catching of sharks, turtles, and other species that have been listed under CITES. Fishing vessels authorized to fish in other RFMO convention areas comply with the provisions and applicable strategies to mitigate and avoid such mortalities of sharks, turtles, and other species.
RUSSIA	Yes		Not applicable. Russia does not carry out longline and purse-seine fisheries in the Convention area and hence can take no by-catch. Based on the observer data, turtles did not occur in the trawl by-catches in 2022
SENEGAL	Yes	2023-09-15	Tortues marines: les tortues marines sont strictement interdites à la capture, la détention et le débarquement par la loi sur la pêche maritime. Des ateliers de formation et de sensibilisation ont été tenues pour les capitaines et membres d'équipage et parties prenantes sur les bonnes pratiques de la pêche sous DCP pour limiter ses impacts sur les tortues marines. En 2022, les recommandations ICCAT 10-09 et 13-11 ont été transposées en arrêtés et notifiés aux armements. La transposition de la recommandation ICCAT 22-12 est en cours. Des protocoles de remise à l'eau sont adoptés à bord des navires dont la remise à l'eau qui est systématique en application de l'interdiction stricte de la capture, la détention et le débarquement de ces espèces
SOUTH AFRICA	Yes		Notification on turtle bycatch interactions submitted to ICCAT for the purpose of statistical reporting requirements on 2023/07/31. Turtle interactions are reported in logbooks by the longline fleet. Dehooking tools and procedures are specified in the Large Pelagic Longline permit conditions. The use of circle hooks is encouraged in the Large Pelagic Longline permit conditions.
St VINCENT & GRENADINES	Yes		St. Vincent and the Grenadines has recently gazetted new legislation governing by-catch mitigation specifically for sea-turtles.
Suriname	Yes		Suriname does not have any tuna vessels in 2022 operating in ICCAT fisheries. However for our shrimp bottom trawl fisheries (with no ICCAT Species) we require a Turtle Excluder Device (TED) which must comply at all times to the regulations set by the American National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).
SYRIA	Yes		No catch or release of sea turtles
TUNISIE	Yes		Inclus dans le rapport annuel
TÜRKIYE	Yes	2023-09-07	Catching, retaining on board, landing, transporting, storing, selling, displaying or offering for sale the following sea turtle species have been prohibited within the framework of Article 16 of Notification No. 5/1 Regulating Commercial Fisheries (2020-2024); Caretta caretta, Chelonia mydas, Dermochelys coriacea and Trionyx triunguis. During the sea turtle breeding season necessary measures, including navigation controls at sea, shall be taken by the Ministry in the vicinity of spawning grounds of sea turtles. For instance, boats shall not exceed 8 miles speed within 1 nautical miles from a sea-turtle breeding zone between the periods 1 April – 30

			<p>September.</p> <p>The Ministry has actively participated in "Understanding multi-taxa 'bycatch' of vulnerable species and testing mitigation a collaborative approach" project that has been implemented with the project's partners ACCOBAMS, GFCM, IUCN Med, MEDASSET, RAC/SPA in the Mediterranean Basin. Project duration is from September-2017 to October 2022.</p> <p>Project objectives were to develop a standard data collection method to determine the capture rates of non-target species by widely used fishing gear (demersal trawl, gillnets, longlines) in the Mediterranean Basin, to contribute to the development of good practice examples that will reduce the rates of bycatch of marine mammals, seabirds, sea turtles and cartilaginous fish with the participation of all relevant stakeholders. In the scope of this Project, the effects of circular and J-type hooks on target catch and sea turtles and as well as the sensitive species bycatch data collection and bycatch mitigations methods have been studied. The results of this Project are expected and will be guiding in terms of transferring the relevant regulations in accordance with the legislation of our country. Furthermore, in accordance with the regulation "Decisions taken by international organisations of which we are a member and which are binding on our country are announced and put into practice by the Ministry." in the paragraph 32 of article 48 titled Other General Provisions of the Ministerial Notification No. 5/1 Regulating Commercial Fisheries, and includes the fishing regulations of our country, the practice on "Safe Handling and Release Practices for Sea Turtles" was officially notified to fishermen and fisheries organisations and transferred to our legislation. In this context, our fishermen were trained at the opening of the fishing season. This a good practice for the handling of the sea turtles and as a identification guide of vulnerable species caught incidentally in Mediterranean.</p> <p>"Effects of PAL Pingers to Reduce Bycatch of Marine Mammals (Cetaceans) in Turbot Gill Nets in the Black Sea" was completed in June 2022.</p> <p>The regulations in compliance with ICCAT Rec. 22-12 shall be transferred to our legislation in September 2024.</p>
UNITED KINGDOM	Yes		<p>Met UK and the UKOT's of BVI, TCI and St Helena do not have any longliners targeting ICCAT species.</p> <p>Bermuda: Bermuda requires it's longliner to use only large circle hooks, which are not offset by more than 10 degrees. Bermuda does not have 10% observer coverage in it's fishery, as such para 1b is not relevant.</p> <p>The vessel reports all interactions with sea turtles, but these interactions are rare. The vessel has the necessary equipment onboard for the safe release of sea turtles, the vessels captain was trained in the use of this equipment and has FAO compliant safe handling guide onboard</p>
UNITED STATES	Yes	2023-09-15	Information submitted on 2023-09-15 via the Annual Report; U.S. regulations adopted in 2004 for all U.S. Atlantic pelagic longline

		<p>vessels include: mandatory attendance at protected species safe handling release and identification workshops, mandatory bait specifications, use of circle hooks (size of hook depending on fishing locale), and the mandatory possession and use of sea turtle handling and release gear on board all vessels with pelagic longline gear. The United States continues to modify the suite of disentanglement and release gears required to be onboard longline vessels as new gears and information on best practices are developed. Information on these issues is also included in the 2022 U.S. swordfish management plan. Sea turtle interactions in the U.S. pelagic longline fleet are reported annually to ICCAT.</p>
URUGUAY	Yes	<p>Sin actividad en 2022. De todas formas, Uruguay promueve en su flota pesquera el uso de equipos que permitan liberar, desenredar y manipular de forma segura las tortugas marinas capturadas. Para esto, en algunas oportunidades, observadores a bordo han llevado los equipos necesarios a bordo para entrenar a los pescadores en el uso de los mismos.</p>