



SIOFA | APSOI

Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
Accord relatif aux Pêches dans le Sud de l'Océan Indien

The SIOFA Executive Secretary

Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

Ref.: 2024-04-15_ES_001

At La Réunion, on Monday 15th April 2024

Subject : SIOFA contribution on sustainable fisheries management in the face of Climate Change

Dear Sir,

In response to the letter from M. Miguel de Serpa Soares, Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and United Nations Legal Counsel, please find below the contribution of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) concerning the Sustainable fisheries Management in the face of Climate Change.

SIOFA is a Regional Fisheries Management Organisation of ten years old, in charge of ensuring the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fishery resources in high seas of a maritime area of nearly 30 millions of km², except the highly migratory species that are under Indian Ocean Tuna Commission competence.

One of the main tasks of SIOFA during these 10 first years has been to collect enough data to be able to assess the different stocks of main fisheries, identify the potential Vulnerable Marine Ecosystem, define Harvest strategies management objectives, and put in place a Workplan able to allow the fisheries under a precautionary approach, while preserving surrounding ecosystems.

The works and projects initiated and supervised by the SIOFA Scientific Committee are now available in free access, on SIOFA website <https://siofa.org/science/sc-works>

Climate change, notably in the marine environment, is causing increasing concern.

Several RFMOs are working to integrate response measures into their processes and decision attended to several international.

SIOFA has been invited by FAO, to collaborate in workshop on Mainstreaming Climate Change into international Fisheries Governance. These workshops allow us to identify what has been done in other RFMOs in order to transmit these informations to the Meeting of the Parties, waiting therefore for a more detailed guideline for the next future.

The 9th Scientific Committee that has been held from 18th to 27th March 2024 has considered the Climate Changes and has done several recommendations that will be presented to the 11th Meeting of the Parties scheduled from 1st to 5th of July 2024.

It will be up to the Meeting of the Parties to prioritize and fund the action to be taken in order to eventually develop a workplan to promote climate-resilient fisheries management, define which indicators are necessary to assess and address the impacts of climate change on fisheries,

Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA/APSOI)
13 rue de Marseille,
97420 Le Port - La Réunion

introduce the climate change factor in the report in order to update the regulation framework of SIOFA.

The Secretariat of SIOFA is at your disposal if you need any clarification or more information.

Yours sincerely

Thierry Clot



SIOFA | APSOI
Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
Accord relatif aux Pêches dans le Sud de l'Océan Indien

SIOFA Executive Secretary