

15 July 2019

## IOTC CIRCULAR 2019-31

Dear Madam / Sir

### SELECTION OF AN INDEPENDENT CHAIRPERSON FOR THE IOTC TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON ALLOCATION CRITERIA

During its 23rd Session, the Commission agreed to the following process to be undertaken to select a new independent chairperson for the Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria.

1. The Secretariat will draft terms of reference and distribute these to all members for comment and approval by 15 July 2019. At the same time members will be invited to nominate suitable candidates for the role of independent TCAC Chairperson.
2. Comments on the terms of reference and receiving nominations will close 15 August 2019, and the Secretariat will contact the nominees to confirm their availability and willingness to take on the role of Chairperson of the TCAC.
3. A final list of nominees will be circulated to members by 31 August 2019 along with their Resumes; and members will be asked to rank the candidates from 1 to N, with 1 being the most preferred candidate. The deadline for voting will be 15 September 2019. The votes will be counted by the Executive Secretary and the Chairperson of the Commission, and the successful candidate will be the candidate with the lowest aggregate score, irrespective of how many votes were received.
4. Eligibility for voting will be in accordance with Art. XIII.8 of the IOTC Agreement. The Secretariat will inform all members of the successful candidate by 30 September 2019.

This circular relates to items 1 and 2 above. Comments on the terms of reference (attached) and nominations are due by close of business 15 August 2019— please send these to [iotc-secretariat@fao.org](mailto:iotc-secretariat@fao.org) and use the label “TCAC chairperson” in the subject line.

Yours sincerely



Christopher O'Brien  
Executive Secretary

#### Attachments:

- Draft Terms of Reference for the Independent Chairperson to the TCAC

#### Distribution

**IOTC Contracting Parties:** Australia, Bangladesh, China, Comoros, Eritrea, European Union, France (Territories), Guinea, 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 (OT), 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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## **DRAFT Terms of Reference: Independent Chairperson to the TCAC**

### **Background**

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) is an intergovernmental organisation responsible for the management of tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean.

In 2010 the Commission agreed to hold a technical committee meeting to discuss allocation criteria for the management of the tuna resources of the Indian Ocean, with a view to adopting an allocation quota system for some IOTC species in 2012. Since this time the IOTC Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria (TCAC) has met on five occasions (2011, 2013, 2016, 2018 and 2019) and the Commission is yet to adopt an allocation system for any species.

The Commission is seeking the services of an independent Chairperson to guide the work of the TCAC. In addition to chairing the next meeting of the TCAC, the independent chair is expected to advance the work of the TCAC by promoting commonalities in the current allocation scheme proposals and negotiating compromises on the more contentious elements, and, overall, make progress on the allocation discussions to the extent that an allocation scheme that has potential to be adopted by consensus emerges.

### **Services to be provided**

The TCAC will hold its 6th meeting in Thailand on 16-20 March 2020. The independent TCAC Chairperson will:

#### ***1. Intersessional work - engagement with CPCs leading up to the TCAC06 in March 2020***

- Review all relevant documents and materials from the previous Sessions of the TCAC and prepare accordingly for the TCAC06 discussions.
- In particular, review the latest comparisons of the two proposals and become familiar with elements that have been discussed; identify elements that would benefit from being discussed; and identify possible compromises or options on the elements of the proposals.
- By electronic means, work with the lead proponents of the existing allocation proposals to confirm common elements; identify elements of potential compromise; and highlight those elements which may be more challenging to find consensus on.

#### ***2. Chairing the 2020 meeting of the TCAC:***

- Chair the 6th Session of the TCAC from 16-20 March 2020 in Bangkok, Thailand.
- Open the meeting, including introducing special attendees and welcoming delegates.  
ensure the meeting follows the agenda, progresses in a smooth, orderly fashion and runs to schedule.
- Facilitate constructive and robust discussions among delegates.
- As necessary, encourage the use of small working groups to discuss issues that are not progressing or being resolved in plenary.
- Oversee the drafting and adoption of recommendations under relevant agenda items.  
ensure all delegates are treated fairly and equally throughout the meeting.
- Close the meeting.
- The Chair will not serve as a member of, nor advisor to, any delegation to the meeting.

#### ***3. Intersessional work - engagement with CPCs prior to the 2020 meeting of the Commission***

By electronic means:

- work with the lead proponents of the existing allocation proposals to confirm common elements and identify elements of potential compromise;
- promote commonalities and negotiate compromises such that an allocation scheme that has the potential to be adopted by consensus emerges.

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**Key Performance Indicators:**

1. A review document based on the intersessional analyses undertaken in 1. above — due 30 days prior to TCAC06.
2. An adopted report of the TCAC06 meeting.
3. A Chairpersons report on the TCAC06 meeting and the intersessional work undertaken in 3 above, indicating a way forward to achieve a single allocation scheme — to be submitted to the Commission in 2020.

**Key skills and experience:**

The independent TCAC Chairperson will have specialist skills in chairing meetings of diverse fisheries stakeholders with conflicting interests at a multinational level.

Proven understanding of allocation processes and other relevant issues in relation to fisheries management coupled with experience working in international fisheries management and regional fisheries management organisations.

Candidates will be required to declare any actual or potential conflicts of interested related to them undertaking the role of independent TCAC Chairperson.

**Note:**

- In total, the contract for the Independent Chairperson to the TCAC will require up to 25 days of work and will include travel to TCAC06 in Bangkok, Thailand 16-20 March 2020
- The number of days required is estimated as follows:
  1. Intersessional work pre-TCAC06: up to 10 days
  2. Chairing TCAC06: up to 10 days (preparation 1 day before the meeting and 1 day after the meeting; travel 3 days; meeting 5 days)
  3. Intersessional work post-TCAC06: up to 5 days
- Remuneration and conditions will be negotiated with the IOTC Executive Secretary.
- Payments for work completed will be made on receipt of an invoice and evidence of work completed satisfactorily.
- All travel will be made in accordance with FAO rules and procedures.