



SIOFA | APSOI

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

La Réunion, 4th September 2020

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SOUTHERN INDIAN OCEAN FISHERIES AGREEMENT

Dear Madam,
Dear Sir,

The next Meeting of the Parties of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement **will be held** through a mix of correspondences and videoconferences **by 17 to 20 November 2020**.

If your vessels engage or intend to engage in fishing activities in the waters under the jurisdiction of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement, I invite you to cooperate with the Meeting of the Parties by ratifying, acceding or approving the Agreement, or by applying for cooperating Non-Contracting Party status.

Any State or regional economic integration organisation may apply to the Meeting of the Parties to be admitted in the capacity of a cooperating Non-Contracting Party.

Any application for such admission should be received by the Executive Secretary at least 60 days before the ordinary Meeting of the Parties and must include a written statement of commitment as following:

- To achieve the objectives of the Agreement, who consist in ensuring the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fishery resources in the Area through cooperation with the Contracting Parties and to promote the sustainable development of the fisheries in the Area, taking into account developing coastal States in the Area that are Contracting Parties to the Agreement, in particular the least developed among them and small island developing States;
- Comply with the conservation and management measures and all other decisions and resolutions adopted pursuant to the Agreement.
- Take appropriate action to ensure that its fishing activities do not diminish the effectiveness of conservation and management measures and all other decisions adopted in accordance with the Agreement; and
- Consult with the Meeting of the Parties to develop any other criteria for its admission in the capacity of a cooperating non-Contracting Party or cooperating non-participating fishing entity specific to its situation.

Cooperating within SIOFA allows you to collaborate in order to achieve the objectives of the Agreement, but also to be able to include your fishing vessels on the list of vessels authorized to fish in the waters under the jurisdiction of SIOFA.

Furthermore, in accordance with Rule 17(5) of the Rules of Procedure of the Meeting of the Parties, at each ordinary meeting the Meeting of the Parties may decide to set aside fishing opportunities for cooperating non-Contracting Parties or cooperating non-participating fishing entities.

If you are interested to join the SIOFA as Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, your application for admission must therefore reach the Secretariat **no later than September 17, 2020.**

If you are interested to cooperate with the Meeting of the Parties of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement by ratifying, acceding or approving the Agreement, please contact the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation who is the Depositary of this Agreement.

Don't hesitate if you have any question to contact the secretariat by email (secretariat@siofa.org).

Sincerely yours,

Thierry CLOT

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Thierry CLOT', written in a cursive style.

Executive Secretary
SIOFA/APSOI