

8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement  
(MoP8)  
5-9 July 2021 (online)

Communications and letters with South Africa regarding its application as  
a Cooperating non-contracting Party (CNCP) to SIOFA

*Relates to agenda item: 1.2 & 13*

Working paper

Info paper

## SIOFA Secretariat

---

### Abstract

This paper merges the correspondences between South African authorities and the SIOFA Secretariat in relation to its application as a SIOFA Cooperating non-contracting Party (CNCP).

Rev.1: Letter from Secretariat to ZAF\_ invitation to join SIOFA (1 April 2021) in annex A  
Letter from ZAF to Secretariat\_ (EDMS 203437 / 5 June 2021) in annex A  
Letter from Secretariat to ZAF (8 June 2021) in annex A

---



SIOFA | APSOI

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

Ref: 2021-01-04-01-ES

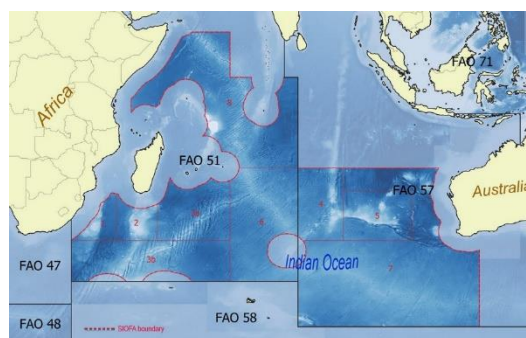
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

**Mr Mqondisi Ngadlela,**  
Director responsible for Intergovernmental and  
International Relations in South Africa,  
120 Plein Street Parliamentary Precinct  
Cape Town, South Africa

Dear Mr. Mqondisi Ngadlela,

I am writing you this letter to invite you, on behalf of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) Secretariat, to join our organization.

As a kind reminder, the SIOFA was signed in Rome the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2006 and entered into force in June 2012. Our Regional Fishing Management Organization (RFMO) has ten Contracting Parties to this date (Australia, China, the Cook Islands, the European Union, France on behalf of its Indian Ocean Territories, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mauritius, the Seychelles, and Thailand), one Participating Fishing Entity (Chinese Taipei) and one Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (Comoros). Our objectives are to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fishery resources in the Area, and to promote the sustainable development of fisheries in the Area. Since our first meeting of the parties in October 2013, we already adopted 15 Conservation and Monitoring Measures. We now meet on an annual basis to further develop our common management capacity over the Southern Indian Ocean high seas resources.



SIOFA's area of competence:

Rule 17 of the SIOFA Rules of Procedure requires the Executive Secretary to invite all non-Contracting Parties who undertake fishing activities in the Agreement Area to cooperate with the Meeting of the Parties. Therefore, as a State bordering our agreement area, we would like to propose that you become a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party or a Contracting party to our agreement.



SIOFA | APSOI

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

As a Contracting Party, you would be allowed to participate in decision-making on the exploitation of resources and the protection of ecosystems in SIOFA waters and would allow your vessels to be authorized to fish in SIOFA waters subject to compliance with the rules.

I invite you to read the terms of our Agreement, available on our website (<http://apsoi.org/node/3>) and Rules 17 and 18 of the Rules of Procedure, which set out the procedure for becoming a Contracting Party, a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party or an Observer of SIOFA (<https://www.apsoi.org/about-siofa/basic-documents/RoP>). You will find attached to this letter a note specifying the application of the different statutes.

We hope that this letter reaches you well. Please do not hesitate to contact the SIOFA secretariat for any clarification or additional information you may require.

Sincerely yours,

The Executive Secretary,

Thierry Clot

**COPY : Dr Chumnarn Pongsri, SIOFA MoP CHAIRPERSON ;**



**MINISTER  
FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Tel: (012) 399 8743  
Private Bag X9052, Cape Town, 8000, Tel: (021) 469 1500, Fax: (021) 465 3362

Ref: EDMS 203437

Mr Thierry Clot  
Executive Secretary Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA)  
Batiment B, Pare de la Providence 97489  
Saint-Denis Cedex, La Réunion  
France

**Tel: + 262 693 444 495**

**Email: [thierry.clot@siofa.org/www.apsoi.org/](mailto:thierry.clot@siofa.org/www.apsoi.org/)**

Dear Mr Clot

**SOUTH AFRICA APPLICATION TO BECOME A COOPERATING, NON CONTRACTING MEMBER  
OF THE SOUTHERN INDIAN OCEAN FISHERIES AGREEMENT**

The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) would like to take this opportunity to request the honourable member parties of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) to kindly consider the request of South Africa (SA) to become a Cooperating, Non Contracting Member (CNC) of the SIOFA.

South Africa has for many years been a responsible fishing nation with her active participation in implementing the conservation and management measures of several Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) either as a full contracting cooperating party member or cooperating non contracting member party. South Africa takes pride in implementing the port state measures and having acceded to the 2009 FAO Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing (IUU) on 26 February 2016.

Please accept the assurance of my highest consideration and esteem.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B D Creecy'.

**MS B D CREECY, MP  
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

DATE: 5/6/2021





Ref: 2021-06-08-01-ES

Tuesday 08<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Ms. B D Creecy,  
Minister of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environmental Affairs  
of the Republic of South Africa,  
Environment House, Cnr. Steve Biko and Soutpansberg Road,  
473 Steve Biko, Arcadia,  
Pretoria, 0083 South Africa

**SOUTH AFRICA APPLICATION TO BECOME A COOPERATING, NON-CONTRACTING PARTY OF THE SOUTHERN INDIAN OCEAN FISHERIES AGREEMENT:**

Dear Ms Barbara D Creecy,

As Executive Secretary of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA), I hereby acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 5 June 2021.

On behalf of the SIOFA and its Chairperson, I warmly welcome the Republic of South Africa's application to become a cooperating, non-Contracting Party of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement.

In accordance with the SIOFA rules, your application should be received at least 60 days before the ordinary Meeting of the Parties and must include a written statement of commitment. However, and in view of our mutual interests, the SIOFA Heads of Delegation may wish to consider your application at the 8th Meeting of the Parties. As a kind reminder, the next Compliance Committee (CC5) is 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021, and the Meeting of the Parties (MoP8) is 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

To be able to consider South Africa's request, I invite you to send to the Meeting of the Parties, a formal written declaration of your commitments in accordance with the attached Rules of Procedure, Rule 17 of which sets out the procedure for becoming a cooperating non-Contracting Party: <https://www.apsoi.org/about-siofa/basic-documents/RoP>.

However, on behalf of our Chairperson, SIOFA would warmly welcome the Republic of South Africa's participation during the 5th Compliance Committee and 8th Meeting of the Parties as an observer.

The registration forms have been sent to your department and are available on <http://www.apsoi.org/meetings/cc5> and <http://www.apsoi.org/meetings/mop8>.

I would be grateful if you could forward them to the Secretariat.

I remain at your disposal, Madam, for any requests you may have, and look forward to working closely with the South African representatives.

Sincerely yours,

Thierry Clot

SIOFA Executive Secretary