

MINUTES 19th MEETING
IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE
OF THE
MAHÉ PLATEAU TRAP AND LINE FISHERY CO-MANAGEMENT PLAN

Seychelles Trading Company (STC) Conference Centre, Victoria, Mahé

Thursday 23rd February 2023

10:00 A.M.

Introduction

The 19th meeting of the Implementation Committee for the Co-Management Plan (ICCP) of the Mahé Plateau demersal trap and line fishery was held at the Seychelles Trading Company Conference Centre, Victoria, on the 23rd of February 2023.

Opening to the meeting

Mr. Roy Clarisse, Principal Secretary (PS), Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries and the Blue Economy (MFBE) opened the meeting, welcomed the participants and asked for introductions from attendees.

Adoption of the Agenda

The meeting proceeded with the chairperson, Mr Roy Clarisse, PS, Department of Fisheries, MFBE. Apologies were received from the Praslin Fishers Association (PFA) and the Seychelles Fishers and Boat Owners Association (SFBOA). The Chair noted that there wasn't a quorum, and informed that the meeting would proceed but decisions made would be pending. He reminded members of the importance of sending their alternates to attend meetings. The approved agenda is presented in **Appendix 1**. The list of documents circulated in advance of the meeting is in **Appendix 2**.

The meeting had an attendance of 7 ICCP members and three other stakeholders or observers. Participants could use any of the three national languages. The list of participants is in **Appendix 3**.

Developments since the last meeting

Ms Elisa Socrates, Assistant-Manager, Resource Management (SFA) informed the meeting of the developments since the last meeting of 15 December based on working paper ICCP19-WD-2.

Fisheries Liaison Officer

Mr. Frank Volcere, the Liaison officer, has had his contract extended till the end of June He will be reaching out to primary and secondary schools and targeting the consumers through activities initiated through the different district administration offices on Mahe, Praslin and La Digue. The aim is to create awareness within the younger generations which can eventually be conveyed across the households and sensitise the public at large. With the Coordinator and representatives of the eco-school leaders a work plan will be produced to that effect. He also paid visits to the usual landing sites and had discussions with the fishers.

Communication

The eight (8) 30-second Spot videos have been finalised and are being broadcast at STC Hypermarket at Bois De Rose. The contract with the firm will come to an end at the end of February 2023. Awareness audios are being aired at Victoria, Anse Aux Pins, and Port Launay bus terminals, more frequently during peak hours. The filming session for the documentary film and 9 awareness videos is progressing, with a few filming sessions left. The request to provide, Mr. Raymond Clarisse, the producer, with additional content for the documentary is still being welcomed by the members, and so is the request for a filming session with a fisher. Interested candidates are invited to volunteer.

Legislation

MFBE and SFA held a second round of stakeholders' consultation on the draft new Fisheries Act and Regulations from 24-25 January 2023 at the Savoy Seychelles Resort & Spa with the assistance of Judith Swan, Legal Consultant. The deadline for post-workshop consultation comments was extended to 15th February 2023. Meanwhile, SFA is having additional focused consultations with the Ministry of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment and its different Departments, the Ministry of Education, other Agencies such as Seychelles Maritime Safety Administration (SMSA), the Seychelles Port Authority (SPA), and internally within the SFA, before a final validation workshop, expected to take place towards the end of March 2023.

Fisheries Research

A research protocol to investigate the post-release survival of demersal fish subjected to size limits was finalised. The first research cruise was held from the 6th to the 18th of February to trial the deployments of the vertical enclosures and fine-tune the methodology. Rabbitfish has been included in the work program for length frequency data collection for 2023. In addition, fish length frequency data collection will be segregated by gear type (trap and handline).

SFA's interview on sharks and shark fishing

SFA reported that Seychelles exported 4,819.5 kg of shark fins in 2022 mostly obtained as semi-industrial longlining bycatch. There is currently only one Seychellois exporter of shark fins and SFA does not register fishers specifically for shark exploitation. Vessels above 24 meters are not allowed to undertake shark finning.

Socio-economic Impact Assessment

The project has submitted its midterm progress report to the client. Primary data collection is ongoing, with about one-quarter of the sample size surveyed [60]. The survey is expected to continue until March to have sufficient respondents and to collect sufficient data on undersized bourzwa and zob. As of February, additional surveys of small tourism establishments and the public are being undertaken to fully understand the flow-on effects of the measures. Preliminary findings to date suggest that:

- Undersized bourzwa and zob are primarily destined to the public and small-scale tourism establishments and larger fish are primarily destined to wholesalers, processors, and large tourism establishments.
- Size seems to play an important role in the value of fish - 92.3 % of respondents indicated there was a higher market value for small bourzwa and zob compared to larger fish. Meanwhile, 84.6% of respondents indicated that these smaller fish had an important value to their catch.
- Bourzwa and karang were the two fish species that contributed the most to overall catch value for fishers.
- Most fishers (81%) favour having regulations - 22% thought the actual regulations were very good, 52% saw that there were good and bad parts, and 26% thought the regulations were bad.
- Less than half of those interviewed were aware of the stakeholder process that had taken place and 82% said they did not attend any of the sessions, thus suggesting very low fisher engagement in creating the regulations.

- Whilst these regulations will have some effects on the income of fishers, the loss of income should not be substantial as few fishers target only small bourzwa and zob.
- The largest impact of the size limits will likely be a cultural impact regarding the availability of bourzwa for the local population due to the high price associated with purchasing whole bourzwa above the size limit. These restrictions are not likely to affect the overall availability or pose a risk to food security.

Follow-up by the Secretariat

In view of the requirements of the new Associations Act of April 2022, the ICCP Secretariat contacted the Registrar of Associations seeking a list of compliant fisher associations and ICCP member representations. The results can be found in Appendix 4.

The ICCP Secretariat sought a representative of the hire boat (fishing) association Representative and Alternate to attend the 19th ICCP without success.

The MCS Taskforce had its first virtual meeting on Wednesday 8 February 2023. The minute of the meeting is attached in Appendix 5.

Discussion

Following this agenda item, the Chair reminded the fisher associations to communicate the ICCP outcomes with their members and to encourage some of their experienced fishers to take part in the videos under preparation. *The Chair also asked the Secretariat to make extra effort to obtain a hirecraft representative to the ICCP.*

Roche Caiman Fishers association informed that it regularly informs its members of the ICCP and CEPs meeting that it attends and suggested other associations to do likewise. More spot-video clips would be played in sites like the STC supermarket as these had been cleared since the last ICCP.

The sentiment of the ICCP was that the preliminary socio-economic assessment results that there had been little consultation in the preparation of the Co-management Plan regulations needs to be better validated. The original co-management plan consultations took place over many workshops in 2015 and the respondents recall may need to be refreshed.

MCS Monitoring and voluntary compliance to the Fisheries Regulations 2021

Mr Roddy Allisop, Head of the Fisheries Monitoring Centre, SFA, presented the Co-management Plan MCS activities since the last ICCP meeting.

MCS action Plan VS type of Fishery

To improve the compliance of fishers to the regulations, they must be encouraged to engage in the decision-making for the fishery. The MCS effort targets the users (e.g. artisanal, industrial or recreational) that likely have the biggest threat to the fishery in terms of financial loss or biological damage. The industrial and semi-industrial fisheries usually require integrated cost-effective MCS solutions, which include the combination of various components such as vessel registers, observer programmes, logbooks, VMS, patrol vessels and aircraft. This makes them generally easier to manage than the artisanal, recreational and sport fisheries and the landings are restricted to a few ports which facilitates monitoring.

1. The combination of numerous fishers with mixed gears, and different landing sites in the artisanal, sports and recreation fisheries makes MCS a very complex task for SFA to tackle on its own. The most appropriate approach to MCS in these fisheries is through a community-based approach.

2. Sometime in a multi-user fishery it easier to monitor the commercial and sport fishers than the recreational because their vessels are already registered. They are controlled through a system of licences and closed areas, bag limit and monitored through logbooks and monitoring of landings on designated sites by inspectors. However, since recreational fishers are unregistered fishers, this is where the MCS community-based approach comes in.

Currently the SFA MCS resources are being over stretched to support the fisheries industry, hence, we must use targeted MCS as a strategy to improve our cost effectiveness and efficiency. Applying random checks as part of a sampling strategy may not be sufficient to get the required compliance data, and enforcement must be aimed at known or suspected offenders, which must be intelligence driven. This targeting of routine offenders rather than the occasional or opportunistic offender is important to catch offenders and as visible deterrents to potential offenders. This intelligence driven enforcement is also known as adaptive operations. The information usually comes from the fishing community itself and is therefore part of a co-operative or participatory management approach. However, encouraging the community to report on possible infractions can be a challenging task.

Registration and marking

SFA will be having a meeting with SMSA in early March to discuss their new Act which has come into force. One of the meeting discussion points is possible access to their vessel registry database.

Revision of Fishing Vessels Marking Scheme

SFA is revising the vessel marking scheme for the artisanal and semi-industrial vessels to re-introduce the small SZ Number.

Marking of fish traps

To date a total of 1020 fish traps have been registered. Below is a breakdown of the number of registered fish traps by type of fishing activities:

Table 1 Comparison in the number of fish traps registered before and after 1st October 2022:

<u>Fishing activity</u>	<u>Trap registrations before 01/10/2022</u>	<u>Trap registrations after 01/10/22</u>	<u>Total</u>
Commercial	539	415	954
Recreational	48	18	66
Total	587	433	1020

Across Mahe, Praslin and La Digue 300 traps have been tagged to date. However, following the recommendation from the Stock Assessment Sub Committee to improve the coding system, the SFA has: ceased the trap tagging exercise; amended the MCS Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to incorporate the new tag coding system; initiated the procurement process to purchase more buoys to replace already issued tags; sought confirmation of the SFA budget for the additional expense; notified the engraving service provider of the variation to the coding system, and; negotiated revised costing and amended the contract accordingly.

Once the procurement process is completed, the cost of replacing the tags as per the recommendations of the ICCP will be provided to the ICCP.

Patrols and enforcement activities

Altogether there were 50 enforcement activities undertaken from the months of December 2022 to February 2023 of which 2 were sea-based and 48 were land-based. Sea-based were a single day coastal surveillance patrol and a 20-day offshore and outer Mahe Plateau joint patrol on the vessel

OSIRIS II from La Reunion. Land-based activities included general patrols and inspections of landing sites, markets, processing plants, fish outlets, takeaways and restaurants and hotels. There were no infractions found (see Appendix 6).

Hotline

The hotline is made up of :

1. Landline: 4670321
2. Mobile: 2716300
3. Email: mptl@sfa.sc

Aside from the email address, the contact details above were existing resources that have been assigned for the public to report potential infractions. Only a single complaint specific to the Mahe Plateau Co-management plan was received on 12.02.23 related to fishing with nets for rabbitfish inside the reef. It is unclear why, but we have not been receiving Mahe plateau specific complaints on the phone numbers and email address published as the hotline.

MOUs with the Police and in relation to SPA, SMSA and Eden Island

SFA had twice officially communicated with the Police on an MOU to further cooperation and capacity building. No response had been received from the Police. SFA is seeking to raise this at the Ministerial level.

The SPA, SMSA and Eden Island MOU will expire in the first half of this year and be subject to renewal. SFA has a copy of this MOU and has been in email contact to be party to the renewed MOU. *SFA will be expressing this desire in an official letter to PSA, which is leading this process.*

Discussion

Following the presentation, ICCP members made several interventions seeking to have more detailed information on the patrols such as: the exact times and locations of inspections so that their effectiveness could be assessed; how many boats inspected; on numbers of sports and recreational fishers inspected for bag limits; on instances of size limits inspected irrespective of fishing gear; on numbers of landings inspected at Eden Island.

The Chairperson requested that the MCS unit present its report to the MCS task force for comment before it is presented to the next ICCP meeting.

ICCP members stressed the importance of the regulation of recreational and sports fishers with licences or permits whilst others inquired whether these would be issued separately to nationals and foreigners. It was clarified that it had not been intended to separately regulate national and foreign recreational and sports fishers but the issue is being addressed in the new Fisheries Act stakeholder consultations.

The Chairperson advised ICCP members to participate in the ongoing stakeholder consultations towards the development of the new Fisheries Act and make their views on this subject known.

On the cessation of the trap tagging exercise by the MCS section, the Chairperson reminded the MCS section that on its own suggestion, and subsequent agreement of the 17th ICCP, it was decided to proceed with the tagging exercise until the existing tags are used. The new system would be put in place when new tags are procured.

The ICCP requested that the MCS section continue with the trap tagging exercise, as had been previously agreed.

Outstanding recommendations and actions arising from 2022.

Mr Aubrey Harris, Consultant supporting the Secretariat, presented the outstanding recommendations and actions arising from 2022 based on ICCP19/WD/4 following up from what was presented at the 18th ICCP, held on 15th December 2022.

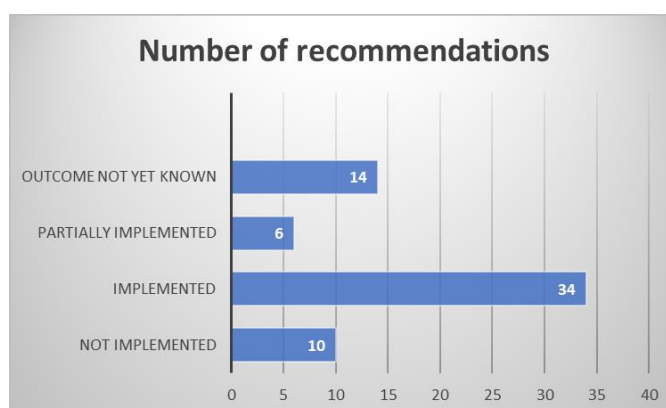


Fig 1. Recommendations/decisions and their outcomes as at the 18th ICCP.

At this meeting last year's recommendations and decisions that were not implemented, partially implemented or not known at the time were further discussed (see Appendix 7). As a result of this update, the status of implementation as at the 19th ICCP was:

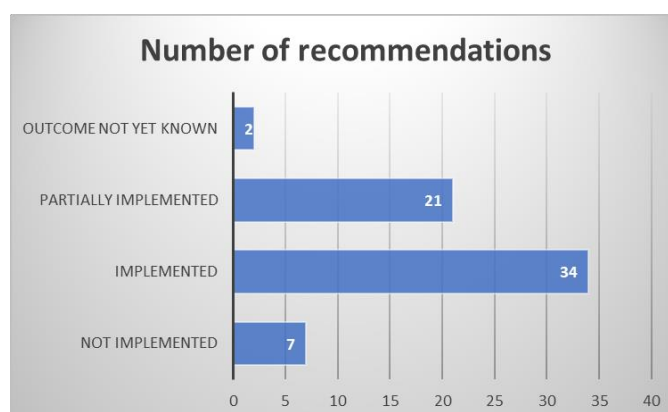


Fig 2. Recommendations/decisions and their outcomes as at the 19th ICCP.

During the discussions several recommendations were emphasised or raised for action in 2023. These were:

- Fishing licences should include Co-management plan regulations when issued.
- Fish traders to be registered and made public.
- Fisher associations to get their house in order.
- Report of the exchange visit to be provided to ICCP.
- Stronger fisher associations to assist weaker ones.
- MFBE and SFA to better assist empowerment of fisher associations.
- Holding of ICCP /SFA Open day in 2023.
- SFA to record all reports of infringements of the Co-management Plan regulations.

- Other kordonnyen spawning areas to be included, and fishing by recreational/sports fishers to be clarified.

Communication, awareness and the participation of fisher associations in ICCP meetings.

Mr Aubrey Harris, Consultant, presented this item based on ICCP19/WD/5. He recalled that the Co-management Plan was launched in October 2021 and its regulations were put into effect on 1 January 2022. There followed a period of 9 months of communication, awareness and 'soft enforcement' led respectively by an SFA awareness task group and the SFA MCS Section. As of the 1 October 2022, the start of full enforcement took place. Noting that the MCS monitoring, and compliance aspects had already been dealt with in a previous item of the agenda, the ICCP discussed the communication and awareness aspects of the Co-management Plan going forward.

There was agreement on the vital importance of communication and awareness and that *the SFA awareness task group should continue and provide some propositions for the ICCP consideration*. Discussions raised the importance that other fisher associations attend ICCP meetings as observers since the existing fisher association members already were attending well. CEPS and its 'Peser en mouvman' needed to be engaged by SFA as a means of integrating fisher association support. More visibility of enforcement actions would assist the understanding of regulations. Some fisher associations such as Anse Boileau had 'Whatsapp' groups that could be tapped into. SFA needed to meet with all fisher associations. Fisher associations should be more specific as to the sorts of information that they would like from SFA. Anse Boileau and Baie Lazarre were organising a fishing competition and other associations may also be able to organise such competitions if encouraged. A national fisher association domino competition could be organised. Information received was often difficult to convey to fishers. Documents should be concise for sharing to association members and preferably in kreol. There could be a fisher association day and SFA could provide information in a stall. ICCP meetings could be hosted by the fisher associations in their local districts on a rotational basis which would encourage greater participation and fisher association exchange. *There was a recognition that SFA is more recently making a good impression with firmer regulation*, but it must be careful in the manner that it sends its directives so that it doesn't turn fishers into rebels.

The ICCP recommended that SFA assess the merit of these proposals and provide a response for discussion/decision at a subsequent ICCP meeting when it has a quorum.

The Chair requested that the Secretariat make a special effort to have all fisher associations attend the ICCP meetings.

Other matters

On when there would be rulers on the boats and markets to measure fish, the SFA response was within the next two months.

On the issue of community policing, SFA has an open-door policy, so associations were encouraged to bring their suggestions for consideration.

Bel Ombre Fishers association informed that there was a project on sand extraction that had been proposed by IDC and that the contracted consultant would be meeting with the association. Further data would be sent to the ICCP secretariat in due course. The importance of consulting the fishers of the district was emphasised. The meeting expressed disappointment that the MACCE representative was not present at the meeting to provide further information.

SFA offered the Bel Ombre Association to assist in the printing of some of the related large documents, if that was needed.

Date and Place of the next meeting

The 20th Meeting of the ICCP will be held on Thursday 20 April 2023, at a location to be decided by the Secretariat.

Appendix 1

Agenda

1. Opening to the Meeting

Remarks by the Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy (MFBE)/Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA)

2. Adoption of the agenda

To be moved by the Chairperson.

3. Developments since the last meeting

The ICCP will be briefed on the developments since the 18th ICCP meeting (15th December 2022) including continuing fisher communications and other relevant matters from SFA and from the Secretariat.

4. MCS monitoring and compliance to the Fisheries Regulations 2021.

The MCS Section will update the meeting the results of patrols and enforcement actions undertaken since the 1 December 2022 with its assessment of the level of compliance with the 2021 Fisheries Regulations. It will inform the ICCP of progress made in establishing MOUs with relevant collaborating Agencies. The MCS Section is invited to present its MCS programme for 2023 taking advantage of the lessons learnt in 2022 and the assistance of the MCS task force.

5. Outstanding recommendations and actions arising from 2022.

At the 18th ICCP, an analysis of 64 recommendations/decisions made by the ICCP in 2022 showed that 53% were implemented, 9% were partially implemented, 16% were not implemented, and for 22% the outcome was not yet known. The detail of the 'not implemented' and 'not yet known' groups of recommendations will be presented and discussed so that these can be operationalised and reported on in 2023.

6. Communication, awareness and the participation of fisher associations in ICCP meetings.

It has been expressed that more fisher associations should be attending the ICCP meetings as they have an important role in increasing communication and awareness of their fisher members. This agenda item will discuss ways of increasing this participation and of how fisher association representatives can better communicate ICCP outcomes to their members and fishers.

7. Other matters

8. Date and place of the next meeting

Appendix 2

List of Documents circulated in advance of the meeting.

Working documents

ICCP19/WD/1. Agenda

ICCP19/WD/2. Developments since the last meeting

ICCP19/WD/3. MCS Monitoring and compliance to the Fisheries Regulations 2021

ICCP19/WD/4. Outstanding recommendations and actions arising from 2022.

ICCP19/WD/5. Communication, awareness, and the participation of fisher associations in ICCP meetings

Information documents

ICCP19/ID/1. List of Documents

ICCP19/ID/2. Minutes of the 18th ICCP meeting of 15 December 2022.

ICCP19/ID/3. Review of implementation in 2022 and proposed ICCP programme for 2023.

Appendix 3

List of Participants

Members, other Stakeholders and Secretariat

Members	
Rodney Nicole	Bel Ombre Fishers Association
Roy Clarisse (ICCP Chair), Stephanie Radegonde	Department of Fisheries, MFBE
Jean-Claude Hoareau	FishTec
Wilna Accouche	Green Island Foundation
Ray Payet	La Digue Fishers Association
Terence Labrosse, Neddy Labrosse	Roche Caiman Fishers Association
Philippe Michaud	Seychelles Fishing Authority
Other Stakeholders / Observers	
Randolph Valmont	Anse Boileau Fishers Association
Albert Napier	Apostolat de la Mer
Jan Robinson	Coordinator, SWIOFish3 Project (MFBE)
Secretariat	
Karyss Auguste	Assistant-Manager, License and Permit (SFA)
Elisa Socrates	Assistant-Manager, Resource Management (SFA)
Aubrey Harris	Consultant (SFA)
Sharif Antoine	Fisheries Economist (SFA)
Joanne Lucas	Fisheries Officer, Resource Management (SFA)
Stephanie Hollanda	Fisheries Scientist, Research (SFA)
Roddy Allisop	Head, Fisheries Monitoring Centre (SFA)
Vincent Lucas	Head, Resource Management (SFA)
Yannick Roucou	Legal Adviser (SFA)
Frank Volcere	Liaison Officer (SFA)
Betty Victor	Senior Coordinator, Resource Management (SFA)
Emelie Augustin	Statistical Officer (SFA)
Claire PierreLouis	Statistics Technician (SFA)

Appendix 4

Primary Stakeholders	Name of representative	Registration Date	Secondary stakeholders	Name of representative	Registration Date
Bel Ombre Fishers Association	Rodney Nicole	9th Aug 2019			
Fish Tech	Mr. Jean- Claude Hoareau		Green Island Foundation	Ms. Wilna Accouche	11th April 2006
Seychelles Fishers and Boat owners' association	Mrs. Nancy Onginjo	22nd March 2017	Seychelles Sports Fishing Club	Mr. Damien Berlouis	12th May 2009
Hire Boat Association	Michael Mason				
La Digue Fishers Association	Ray Payet	21st July 2014			
Praslin Fishers Association	Mr. Darrel Green	7th May 2009			
Roche Caiman Fishers Association	Terence Labrosse	10th June 2014			
Possible observers or invited parties					
Apostolat de la Mer	Mr. Albert Napier				
Artisanal Shark Fishers Association	Mr. Claude Nicole	1st Dec 2010			
Baie Lazare Fishers Association	Mr. Jean-Claude Michel (Chairperson)	24th July 2017			
Glacis Fishers Association	Mr. Darney Barbe	17th April 2019			
Praslin Fishers and Boat Owners Association	Mrs. Nancy Onjingo	11th Dec 2017			
Cascade Boat Owners and Fishers Association	Steve Payet	24th May 2022			
Anse Boileau Fishers Association	Randolph Valmont	7th July 2021			
Anse Aux Pins Fishers Representative	Theophane Estro				
Anse Etoile Fishers Association	Dimitry Maiden	11th Dec 2020			

Appendix 5

Minutes of the ICCP Task Force to support the MCS Unit.

**First virtual meeting
1030-1140 hrs, 08 February 2023**

Attendance: MCS: Roddy Allisop; Ronny Malvina; Karyss August. Recreational: Faizal Suleiman. Fisheries Management: Vincent Lucas. Research: Sabrena Lawrence. SWIOFISH3: Jan Robinson. Secretariat: Elisa Socrates; Aubrey Harris. Apologies - Fisher association: Rodney Nicole.

1. Quick overview of ICCP-related SFA MCS activity since December 2022.

- MCS section is in transition. Departures from MCS Unit: Johnny Louys (Head); Freddy Lesperance (Senior Monitoring Officer); Sonny Naiken (Senior Surveillance Officer)
- A process of recruitment and capacity building is taking place.
- First coastal patrol in January 2023 to Félicité Island: checked buying receipts, minimum sizes, lobsters – no infractions found. Hotel seeking assistance of SFA for regular sources of fresh seafood. Request and seafood quality concerns to be passed to appropriate SFA Section.
- Provided information on numbers of land patrols and inspections since December 2023.
- MOU document received for input – to liaise with Legal Adviser and other SFA Sections.
- The SFA Legal adviser should be a member of the task force.
- **Innovative operational suggestions on how the Task Force should work.**
- A meeting of some members of task force with the MCS Section to see example physical data from coastal and land patrols and how these are managed and reported on. This can subsequently be discussed within the task force.
- Further thought and discussion needs to be devoted to what is a unit of inspection and how exactly how compliance is calculated. Task force member's proposals welcome.
- The SFA MCS Section task force members to use this task force to contact the other task force members individually or collectively by email or by phone, to assist as may be required.
- That one or two task force members should join a coastal and a typical land patrol from start to end to see first-hand how this is operationalised. Clearance for non-SFA staff to be sought. The results of this exercise can subsequently be discussed within the task force.

Appendix 6

Summary of Enforcement Activities for the months of December 2022 to February 2023

		Total	Infringements detected / information/warnings provided
Near shore/coastal on water surveillance			
	Coastal surveillance patrols-day patrols	1	Nil
	Coastal surveillance patrols-evening/night patrols	0	
Offshore/outer Mahe plateau-on water surveillance			
	Offshore/outer Mahe plateau patrols	1	20 days Joint Regional patrol with OSIRIS II La Reunion.
Land-based surveillance			
	Land patrols	8	Received 1 report
	Inspections of Vessels at Landing sites (11 for artisanal vessels; 5 for semi-industrial vessels)	16	Nil infraction detected for artisanal vessels; semi-industrial logbooks not being filled properly.
	Market inspections	10	Nil
	Finfish processing plants spot checks	4	
	Fish outlet inspections	3	
	Takeaways/Restaurants inspections	3	
	Hotel inspections	4	
Total		50	

Appendix 7

Responses to recommendations and decisions that were made last year which were not implemented, partially implemented or was not known whether implemented at the 18th ICCP meeting.

Colour coding: Not known; Not implemented in 2022; Partially implemented/continuing; Implemented; To be taken up in 2023

<i>ICCP</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>ICCP 18</i>	<i>ICCP19 response</i>
13	<p><i>Member representatives of associations and NGOs provide their registration papers, constitution and member details.</i></p> <p><i>There needs to be a survey of the extent that people are aware of the regulations and are voluntarily complying or are non-compliant.</i></p> <p><i>On a workplan integrating the SFA MCS actions and timelines to put into effect the Fisheries (Mahe Plateau trap and line fishery) regulations 2021 - the Action Plan included a long period of soft enforcement from March until December 2022 - the ICCP agreed that full enforcement of measures and prosecution as spelt out by the Fisheries (Mahe Plateau trap and line) regulations 2021 should start on the 1 October 2022. Also, that SFA should publish its enforcement actions.</i></p>	<p>Partly Implemented</p> <p>Not implemented.</p> <p>There was a general disappointment with the MCS report.</p>	<p>Received registration. Need the latest association returns to the Registrar.</p> <p>Will be provided by the socio-economic survey.</p> <p>Some progress. MCS Task force set up. Expecting more improvement.</p> <p>Fishing licences issued should include Co-management plan regulations</p>
14	<p><i>the ICCP agreed that all ICCP member representatives of associations and NGOs be required to provide their registration papers, constitution, and member details.</i></p> <p><i>The ICCP requested that SFA:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>provides a satisfactory compliance report to the next ICCP meeting addressing what it had requested;</i> <p><i>The Chair reminded SFA that in September 2021, the 11th ICCP had recommended that SFA seek to be part of an MOU¹ with Eden Island to facilitate adherence to the Fisheries (Mahé Plateau Trap and Line Fishery) Regulations 2021.</i></p> <p><i>The ICCP agreed that SFBOA makes a presentation at the next meeting when the empowerment of</i></p>	<p>Partly Implemented</p> <p>Partly implemented.</p> <p>No SFBOA</p>	<p>Received registration. Need the latest association returns to the Registrar.</p> <p>Some progress. MCS Task force set up. Expecting more improvement.</p> <p>Not done and no longer relevant.</p>

¹ An MOU had been signed by SMSA, Seychelles Port Authority (SPA) and Eden Island with responsibilities of collaboration and cooperation to ensure that the relevant regulations are adhered to.

ICCP	Recommendation	ICCP 18	ICCP19 response
	<p><i>fisher associations will be further discussed.</i></p> <p>Developments at Bay St Anne Bay. <i>The Chair informed that any such development would be after a proper environmental impact assessment had been undertaken where all stakeholders would be consulted, and these aspects would be considered. He would take it up within the MFBE.</i></p> <p><i>The Chair advised that the ICCP and fisher associations were modalities through which SFA could improve the list of registered fishers. It should also be part of the role of the Liaison Officer who had informed that the Hotels also wished to know who registered fishers were so that their purchases would be legal when regulations came into effect.</i></p>	<p>representative</p> <p>Taken up within MFBE</p> <p>Partly Implemented</p>	<p>Awaiting response from MACCE</p> <p>All vessel registrations on SFA website. List of registered fishers to be published.</p> <p>Fish traders should be registered and made public - important for traceability. To be discussed in new Fisheries Act consultations</p>
15	<p>The Chairperson appealed to fisher association representatives to communicate the ICCP discussions to their members and encouraged other fisher associations to attend the ICCP meeting as observers.</p> <p>The Chairperson emphasised the need for fishers to take up their responsibility, that SFA was extending itself to register their traps locally in their districts, and that in future when their unregistered traps were seized, they should not complain.</p> <p><i>There was need for the MCS Section to improve the reporting of their patrols by providing objective and measurable indicators of inspection (such as number of commercial fisher landings inspected, number of catch landings measured for minimum size, number of recreational fishers checked for bag limits, number of hotels and fish marketing outlets checked, number of semi-industrial vessels checked for their demersal catch limits, number of persons sensitized about the regulations, etc.) for each of their patrols, rather than just informing that no infringements had been detected.</i></p> <p><i>The Chairperson advised all fisher associations to get their house in order and set themselves up properly to take advantage of the support that will be provided by CEPs and in due course by the SFA.</i></p> <p>SFA reminded the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That members should send their registration papers and their constitutions to the ICCP Secretariat. • That ICCP member representatives should communicate ICCP discussions and outcomes to members of their own associations/establishments. SFA was prepared assist them with this, if requested. 	<p>Not known</p> <p>Not known</p> <p>Not implemented</p> <p>Not known</p> <p>Partly</p> <p>Not known</p>	<p>Implemented by Roche Caiman fishers association. More associations to follow.</p> <p>In process. Information on traps for next meeting.</p> <p>Some progress. MCS Task force set up. Expecting more improvement.</p> <p>Not implemented.</p> <p>To be taken up as agenda item in a subsequent meeting</p> <p>Received registration. Need the latest association returns to the Registrar.</p> <p>Implemented by Roche Caiman fishers association. More associations to follow.</p>

ICCP	Recommendation	ICCP 18	ICCP19 response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That ICCP members with interesting video footage of fish at sea were kindly asked to share these with SFA. 	Not known	No footage received.
16	<p>The Chair reminded the SFA that over several previous meetings the ICCP had been discussing these MCS issues and making recommendations that should be taken more seriously and acted on. He raised again, for example, the issue of the inclusion of SFA within an MOU between Eden Island, the Seychelles Port Authority (SPA) and Seychelles Maritime Safety Authority (SMSA) to facilitate fisheries inspection of recreational and sports fishers when they leave or return to the island.²</p> <p>The ICCP expressed an understanding of the enforcement constraints of the MCS section. However, it asked that SFA MCS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Puts into action greater collaboration with the Coastguard, Police, SMSA, SPA and fisher associations. More precisely and frankly explain its limitations to the ICCP regarding the Co-management Plan <p>During this agenda item, the ICCP noted that the SFA Fisheries Management Section was, at the time, severely constrained by human resources, and likely to become more so.</p> <p>Members expressed appreciation for this [the SHTA] presentation and supported SFA assisting every hotel having a sticker at its landing bay regarding the regulations.</p>	<p>Not implemented</p> <p>Not implemented</p> <p>Not implemented</p> <p>Vincent Lucas formerly Chief Fisheries Officer back at SFA.</p> <p>Not implemented</p>	<p>Some progress. MCS Task force set up. Expecting more improvement.</p> <p>Some progress. MCS Task force set up. Expecting more improvement.</p> <p>More to be done to increase human resources of Fisheries Management section. SFA management dealing with this.</p> <p>Fisheries Liaison Officer had covered 95% of hotels. Some don't want the sticker because of quality. Awaiting new poster format – Fetch.</p>
17	<p>In discussions that followed, the Fisheries Liaison Officer was asked to also approach marinas and yachts to raise awareness of the Co-management plan and its regulations.</p> <p>ICCP members participating in the exchange visit were asked to examine the Information document (ICCP17-ID-3) and provide their input and comment. In due course, a report of the entire trip will be compiled and provided to the ICCP.</p> <p>The ICCP asked the stronger fisher associations to consider assisting the weaker ones through sharing of successful and practical modes of practice.</p>	<p>Not known</p> <p>Not known</p> <p>Not known</p>	<p>In progress by Fisheries Liaison Officer. Skippers at Eden Island say they fish sustainably, have limited fish storage space, and do not return with many fish.</p> <p>Not known. To be raised with SWIOFish3.</p> <p>Not implemented. To be raised further this year.</p>

² This had been raised at the 10th ICCP in August 2021. It was also raised at the 11th ICCP (September 2021), and the 14th ICCP (May 2022).

ICCP	Recommendation	ICCP 18	ICCP19 response
	<p>The ICCP asked that MFBE and SFA better assist in the empowerment of fisher associations.</p> <p>Holding of an ICCP meeting integrated with an SFA Open Day in December 2022.</p>	<p>Not implemented</p> <p>Not implemented</p>	<p>Not implemented. For action in 2023.</p> <p>Not implemented For action in 2023</p>
18	<p>The Chair asked fisher associations to encourage experienced members of their associations to participate in the video documentary under preparation.</p> <p>The Chairperson appealed to SFA for MCS working documents to be provided in advance (1 week) of the ICCP meetings.</p> <p>SFA raised that there was need for more co-management cooperation in reporting infringements on the hotline.</p> <p>The importance of official SFA follow-ups with collaborating agencies on MCS was emphasized.</p> <p>The ICCP Chair requested that the SAS also considers including other kordonnyen spawning areas (such as around Mahe) and to clarify whether sports/recreational fishers should be allowed to set traps on spawning areas. It should also include Makonde as one of the species for its consideration.</p> <p>The ICCP approved the proposal to have a study of market opportunities of the fish resources of the Co-management Plan.</p> <p>The ICCP asked that SFA programme for an open day for ICCP discussions with other stakeholders and the public in December 2023.</p>	<p>Not known</p> <p>Not known</p> <p>Not known</p> <p>Not known</p> <p>To be undertaken in 2023</p> <p>Not known</p> <p>Not known</p>	<p>In progress. Need for assistance discussed in this meeting.</p> <p>Not implemented. SFA MCS to take note of this.</p> <p>Stakeholders maintain informing SFA and no action taken.</p> <p>SFA to include all other reports to SFA by email or phone and include in reporting.</p> <p>SFA communicated and made follow up request to Police. Also liaised with SPA on next MOU</p> <p>To be undertaken in 2023</p> <p>SWIOFish3 working on this.</p> <p>Not known For action in 2023.</p>

Summary implementation matrix comparing responses provided at the 18th ICCP and those made at the 19th ICCP.

18 th ICCP \ 19 th ICCP	Not known	Not implemented	Partially implemented and continuing	Implemented	Total
Not known	2	4	7	1	14
Not implemented		3	7		10
Partially implemented and continuing			6		6
Implemented			1		1