



SOUTH EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES ORGANISATION  
REPORT OF THE 21<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION

**27<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

Alte Brücke Conference Centre  
Swakopmund  
**NAMIBIA**

The Secretariat

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Mr. Ichiro NOMURA (**JAPAN**)

Chairperson of SEAFO Commission

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## 1. Opening of the meeting

The 21st Annual Commission Meeting was convened in-person at the Alte Brücke Conference Centre in Swakopmund, Namibia from 27<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> November 2024. The Chairperson, Mr. Ichiro Nomura (Japan), welcomed delegates and observers to the meeting.

## 2. Appointment of Rapporteur

The Secretariat was appointed as the rapporteur for the meeting.

## 3. Adoption of Agenda and Meeting Arrangements

The Commission adopted the agenda ([DOC/COM/01/2024](#)) ([Appendix I](#)).

The meeting was conducted in English and Portuguese using interpretation.

## 4. Introduction and Admission of Observers

The Observers present were:

- Mr. Michele AMERI: UN/DOALOS.
- Mr. Jonny HUGES: Blue Marine Foundation, London, UK.
- Ms. Maria SARDINHA: Executive Secretary of the Benguela Current Convention (BCC).
- Ms. Megan TIERNEY: The Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP).
- Ms. Anita MENGES: Honey guide Investments, Walvis Bay, Namibia.

The Commission admitted and welcomed the observers at the meeting. The observers introduced themselves.

## 5. Opening Statements by Contracting Parties and Observers

All six Contracting Parties were represented at the meeting. The list of participants is in [Appendix II](#). Contracting Parties introduced their delegations and the Republic of South Africa, the Republic of Namibia, Japan and the EU presented short opening statements. The full opening statements received are available in [Appendix III](#).

Japan informed the meeting that they will submit a Notice of Intent to conduct exploratory fishing in the SEAFO CA during 2025 which will be evaluated intersessionally by the SC and the Commission for approval.

## 6. Status of the Convention in Respect of Membership

The ES informed the meeting that no new notification for accession to the Convention was received, since the last Commission meeting, by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

## 7. Report of the 2024 Scientific Committee (SC) Meeting

7.1. The Chairperson of the 20<sup>th</sup> Scientific Committee, Mr. Takehiro Okuda (Japan), presented the 2024 SC meeting report ([DOC/COM/03/2024](#)) to the Commission for adoption.

The Commission noted that eight Scientific Committee members from three Contracting Parties attended the Scientific Committee meeting. No scientific members from The Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa and the Republic of Angola attended the meeting. The Republic of Angola was represented by three delegates to the Commission.

The EU emphasized the importance of Contracting Parties to fulfill their commitment in terms of providing Chairpersons and Vice-chairpersons to the Scientific Committee.

### 7.2. Alignment of the longline observer data form and Captain logbook with other RFMOs:

The SC recommended that the Commission adopts the proposed changes as documented in [DOC/SC/12/2024](#) for implementation by the second quarter of 2025 as the new format improves data collection.

**ACTION: The Commission adopted the recommendation.**

### 7.3. Evaluation of CM 25/12:

The SC recommended that the Commission approves the review of CM 25/12 to reconcile with seabird bycatch mitigation measures of other international organisations as guided by the ACAP Best Practice Advice.

**ACTION: The Commission authorised the SC to review the SEAFO seabird bycatch mitigation measures included in CM 25/12, in accordance with those of other international organisation as guided by the ACAP Best Practice Advice.**

#### 7.4. Data Requests and Research Proposals by FAO Deep-sea Fisheries Project (DSF Project):

The SC advised that the Commission clarifies on what exactly is referred to as “*protection of commercial confidentiality to be taken care of by SC*” as stated in the 2022 Commission report.

**ACTION:** The Commission tasked the ES to gather information of other RFMOs on how to deal with *protection of commercial confidentiality* for further discussion at the next Commission meeting.

The SC also recommended that the Commission authorizes the submission of the data in the requested format to the DSF Project.

**ACTION:** The Commission recommended that the ES consult with the relevant FAO official responsible for the DSF project on the format of data submission. In addition, the ES will verify with the NAFO Secretariat on how NAFO provides the data to FAO.

#### 7.5. Orange roughy TAC:

The SC recommended a TAC rollover for 2025 and 2026 (moratorium) with a 4 tonnes bycatch allowance in Division B1 and 50 tonnes in the remainder of the SEAFO CA (subject to exploratory fishing protocols).

**ACTION:** The Commission adopted the recommendation.

#### 7.6. Deep-sea red crab TAC:

The SC recommended a TAC rollover for 2025 and 2026 to be set at 162 tonnes for Division B1, and 200 tonnes for the remainder of the SEAFO CA.

**ACTION:** The Commission adopted the recommendation.

#### 7.7. Patagonian toothfish TAC:

The SC recommended a TAC for 2025 and 2026 for Sub-Area D of 274 tonnes and a zero TAC for the remainder of the SEAFO CA.

**ACTION:** The Commission adopted the recommendation.

The SC recommended that the Commission approves the review of the HCR including the exceptional circumstance protocols to clarify the “recent five years” and use all available data when setting future TAC.

**ACTION:** The Commission adopted the recommendation and directed the SC to embark on this process.

**7.8. Alfonsino TAC:**

The SC recommended a TAC roll-over for 2025 and 2026 of 200 tonnes for the SEAFO CA, of which a maximum of 132 tonnes may be taken in Division B1 for 2025 and 2026.

**ACTION:** The Commission adopted the recommendation.

**7.9. Pelagic armourhead / Southern boarfish TAC:**

The SC recommended a TAC roll-over for 2025 and 2026 of 135 tonnes.

**ACTION:** The Commission adopted the recommendation.

**7.10. Data Exchange agreement SEAFO/CCAMLR ([DOC/SC/17/2024](#)):**

The SC recommended that the Commission endorses this agreement to data sharing with CCAMLR as proposed.

**ACTION:** The Commission adopted the recommendation.

**7.11. Proposal for tagging of Patagonian toothfish:**

The SC recommended to include the following tagging obligations in the CM-TAC-01 (2024) [Appendix IV](#): *“Each long line vessel shall tag and release Patagonian toothfish continuously while fishing, at a rate of 1 fish per tonnes of green weight.”*

The EU encouraged the CPs to increase the tagging rate of Patagonian toothfish to 3 fish per 1 tonne of greenfish on a voluntary basis.

**ACTION:** The Commission adopted the recommendation.

**7.12. EAF-Nansen Programme update:**

The SC recommended that the Commission keep working with the EAF-Nansen programme.

**ACTION:** The Commission adopted the recommendation.

**ACTION:** The Commission adopted the 2024 SC meeting report.

## 8. Report of the 2024 Compliance Committee (CC) Meeting

The Chairperson of the Compliance Committee, Mr. Tae-hoon Won (Republic of Korea), presented the 2024 Compliance Committee Report ([DOC/COM/04/2024](#)) to the Commission for adoption.

**ACTION:** The Commission adopted the 2024 CC meeting report.

### 8.1. Consideration of the provisional SEAFO IUU Vessel list for 2025:

The CC recommended to the Commission to adopt the SEAFO IUU vessel list for 2025 presented in ([DOC/CC/04/2024](#)).

**ACTION:** The Commission adopted the recommendation.

### 8.2. Annual Review of the “SEAFO System of Observation, Inspection, Compliance and Enforcement”:

The CC recommended to the Commission to approve the proposed change to the SEAFO System Article 24.

**ACTION:** The Commission adopted the following text:

Article 24 – Inspections

1-7. ...

*8. Where the catch of TAC species is landed at a port of non-Contracting Parties, the Flag Contracting Party shall report to the Secretariat the information regarding the landing of the TAC species, including the date, the name of the port, the name of the fishing vessel and the weight by species, as soon as possible after the landing. If the landing is inspected by the port non-Contracting Party, Flag Contracting Party shall transmit a copy of the inspection report to the Executive Secretary no later than 30 days following the date of receipt of the inspection report by the Port non-Contracting Party. If the inspection report cannot be transmitted within 30 days, the Flag Contracting Party shall notify the Executive Secretary within the 30-day after the due submission date the reasons for the delay and an expected timing of the submission of the report. If a suspected infringement is identified during the inspection, the Flag Contracting Party shall also report the nature of the infringement and any other relevant details, when the Port Inspection Report is submitted.*

## 9. Report of the 2024 Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF) Meeting

The Chairperson of SCAF, Mr. Wickness Rooifontein (Republic of South Africa), presented the 2024 SCAF Report ([DOC/COM/05/2024](#)) to the Commission for adoption.

**ACTION: The Commission adopted the 2024 SCAF meeting report**

### 9.1 Approval of the 2023 Draft Annual Financial Statement (AFS):

The SCAF recommended to the Commission to approve the Audited Annual Financial Statements for 2023.

**ACTION: The Commission adopted this recommendation.**

### 9.2 Approval of the 2025 Budget and 2026 forecast Budget

SCAF presented the provisional budget for 2025 of NAD 3,158,258.21 and the forecast budget for 2026 of NAD 3,405,194.14 and recommends that the Commission approves the budget.

**ACTION: The Commission approved the budget of NAD 3,158,258.21 for 2025 and the forecast budget for 2026 of NAD 3,405,194.14. Additionally the Commission amended the SCAF report to reflect the corrections of typing errors regarding the budget.**

SCAF forwarded the discussion to provide assistance with traveling cost for Developing States in order to attend SEAFO meetings, to the Commission.

**ACTION: The Commission requested the ES to conduct a complete review on all RFMOs on how they support developing countries to attend intersessional and annual meetings. The ES was requested to present the findings to the next SCAF meeting for consideration to implement in SEAFO.**

### 9.3 Contracting Party Contributions

SCAF agreed to the contributions for 2025 and recommended that the Commission approves the Contributions by Parties.

**ACTION: The Commission adopted this recommendation.**

### 9.4 Review of the 2016 Performance Review Report relevant to SCAF:

SCAF discussed the six points presented in the report and agreed to have further intersessional discussions during a virtual meeting to be arranged by the ES. CPs are requested to forward requests for specific information which will be needed for the discussion, to the ES in advance.

**ACTION: The Commission encouraged the intersessional meeting to be held as soon as possible.**

### 9.5 Appointment of new Auditors

The SCAF recommended the appointment of PKF as the new auditor from 2025 onwards.

**ACTION: The Commission approved the recommendation to appoint PKF as the new auditor.**

### 9.6 Review of the Executive Secretary Contract

**ACTION: The matter was deferred to the Commission.**

## 10. Report on meetings attended by the Secretariat

The ES submitted a document ([DOC/COM/06/2024](#)) to the meeting in which a synthesis of the meetings she attended since November 2023 was presented.

The Commission took note of the report presented by the ES and encouraged the participation of the ES in relevant meetings and to network with other RFMOs and projects.

**ACTION: The Commission requested the ES to submit a list of priority meetings to attend for the year at the beginning of the year to the CPs via the chair of the Commission.**

## 11. Reports of SEAFO Representatives at meetings of other Intergovernmental Organisations

The Republic of Korea submitted a report as SEAFO Observer to the 24<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting of ICCAT in November 2024 ([DOC/COM/08/2024](#)).

Japan submitted an Observer report of the 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties of SIOFA in July 2024 ([DOC/COM/09/2024](#)).

The EU submitted a report as SEAFO Observer to the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of NAFO in September 2024 ([DOC/COM/11/2024](#)) and the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) in November 2024 ([DOC/COM/10/2024](#)).

The Republic of South Africa submitted a report as SEAFO Observer to the 43<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) which was held at its Headquarters in Hobart, Australia, during Oct 2024 ([DOC/COM/12/2024](#)).

The reports were noted by the meeting.



## 12. Nominations of Parties to represent SEAFO at 2025 meetings of other International Organisations

The Commission adopted the following nominees to represent SEAFO as observers at the following meetings:

- CCAMLR – Republic of Korea
- ICCAT– Republic of South Africa
- NAFO – Japan
- NEAFC – EU
- SIOFA – Japan

## 13. Any other matters

### 13.1. FAO Deep-sea Fisheries (DSF) project feedback

Ms. Eszter Hidas, project manager presented an update of the FAO DSF Project. The purpose was to provide an overview of the key achievements of the DSF Project from 2022 to present and highlight key upcoming activities for 2024-2025 relevant to SEAFO second phase to the meeting via Zoom ([DOC/COM/13/2024](#)).

The Republic of South Africa provided feedback in the form of inputs to the FAO DSF project presentation and requested the ES to submit these to the DSF project.

### 13.2. Renewal of the ACAP/SEAFO MOU

Megan Tierney presented a short overview of the ACAP activities.

The ES presented a draft document ([DOC/COM/14/2024](#)) of the renewal of the ACAP/SEAFO MOU to the Commission. The Commission adopted the MOU after inclusion of clause 5(a) of the previous MOU, signed in 2018. The following was included in the new MOU ([DOC/COM/14/2024 Rev1 \(27 Nov 24\)](#)):

#### *5. COMING INTO EFFECT AND TERMINATION*

*(a) This MoU will remain in effect for 6 years. At that stage the Participants will review the operation of the MoU and decide whether it will be renewed or amended.*

**ACTION: The Commission adopted the MOU after inclusion of clause 5(a). The ES was requested to arrange for the Chairperson of the SEAFO Commission and the ES of ACAP to sign the agreement.**

### 13.3. Update from the EAF Nansen Program

The ES presented a summary of [DOC/COM/15/2024](#) on feedback provided by the EAF Nansen Program. The same information was presented to the SC who recommended the Commission to continue to work with the EAF-Nansen programme (Agenda 7.12). The Commission took note of the report.

### 13.4. UNDOALOS update on International Agreements

Mr. Michele Ameri from UNDOALOS presented updated to the Commission of the UN Fish Stocks Agreement. His colleague presented the BBNJ Agreement overview virtually. The information was well received by the Commission.

### 13.5. Appointment of Executive Secretary

Following the SEAFO selection and recruitment process Dr Elizabeth Voges will be appointed from the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2025 for a period of four years, without the option for reappointment.

Within one week of the end of the Commission meeting the Chairperson should develop and finalise the employment contract for the ES in consultation with CP members as stipulated in the ToR for the recruitment.

## 14. Election of Chair and Vice-chair

The term of the current Chair and Vice-Chair came to an end and was renewed for another two-year period with Japan and The Republic of Korea, taking the Chair and Vice-Chair positions, respectively, for 2025 and 2026.

The table below serves as a reminder to Contracting parties regarding their Chairmanship and Vice-chairmanship responsibility to the Commission and its Subsidiary bodies of SEAFO:

SEAFO Body	Chair/Vice-chair	Duration
The Commission	(JAPAN)- (REP OF KOREA)-	2025-2026
Scientific Committee	(REP of SOUTH AFRICA)- (REP OF ANGOLA)-	2025-2026
Compliance Committee	(REP of NAMIBIA) – <i>Beau Tjizoo</i> (REP OF SOUTH AFRICA)-	2025-2026
The Standing Committee on Administration and Finance	(REP OF SOUTH AFRICA) - <i>Wickness Rooifontein</i> (REP OF ANGOLA)-	2025-2026

### **15. Venue and Date of next meetings**

- The dates for the 2025 Scientific Committee meeting will be 18 to 21 November 2025 in hybrid format in Namibia.
- The dates for the 2025 Annual Commission meeting (including SCAF and CC) will be 24 to 27 November 2025 in hybrid format in Namibia.

The Hybrid meetings will be held online using the Zoom platform as well as in physical format in Swakopmund, Namibia. The physical participants will be accommodated in the SEAFO Secretariat office in Swakopmund. Alternatively, the Secretariat can arrange a suitable venue depending on the numbers of physical attendees. For the Commission meeting another venue will be considered. The meeting will be conducted using the Zoom platform and all delegates will participate via Zoom.

### **16. Adoption of the 2024 Commission report**

The Commission adopted the report.

### **17. Closure of the Meeting**

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 17h49 on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2024 and he commended the Contracting Parties for their efficient and effective conduct during the meeting. He thanked the Secretariat for the preparations. He also thanked delegates and the interpreter for their positive inputs.

**APPENDIX I: List of Documents (DOC/COM/00/2024), Agenda (DOC/COM/01/2024) and Annotated Agenda (DOC/COM/02/2024) of the 2024 Commission Meeting**

DOC/COM/00/2024



**LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE COMMISSION (COM) – 2024**

**CHAIRPERSON:** Mr. Ichiro NOMURA (JAPAN 2023 - 2024)

**VENUE:** Alte Brücke  
Conference Centre,  
Swakopmund, NAMIBIA

**VICE-CHAIR:** Mr. Tae-hoon WON (REP. KOREA 2023-2024)

**DATE:** 27-28 Nov 2024

Document Number	Agenda Item	Document Title	Provider	Availability of Document
DOC/COM/00/2024	All	List of documents	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/COM/01/2024	3	Provisional Agenda for the 21 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Commission	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/COM/02/2024	3	Provisional Annotated Agenda for the 21 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Commission	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/COM/03/2024	7	Scientific Committee Meeting Report for 2024	SC	Available on 22 Nov 2024
DOC/COM/04/2024	8	Compliance Committee Meeting Report for 2024	CC	Available on 25 Nov 2024
DOC/COM/05/2024	9	Standing Committee on Admin & Finance Meeting Report for 2024	SCAF	Available on 26 Nov 2024
DOC/COM/06/2024	10	Report on meetings attended by the Executive Secretary during 2024	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/COM/07/2024	16	Commission Meeting Report for 2024	COM	Available after the meeting
DOC/COM/08/2024	11	Rep Korea Observer Report ICCAT 27 <sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting Nov 2024	Rep Korea	Available before meeting
DOC/COM/09/2024	11	Japan Observer Report SIOFA 11 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties Jul 2024	Japan	Available before meeting
DOC/COM/10/2024	11	EU Observer Report NEAFC 43 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting Nov 2024	EU	Available before meeting
DOC/COM/11/2024	11	EU Observer Report NAFO 46 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Sep 2024	EU	Available before meeting
DOC/COM/12/2024	11	Rep South Africa Observer Report CCAMLR 43 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting Oct 2024	South Africa	Available before meeting
DOC/COM/13/2024	13.1	Feedback Report - FAO Deep-sea Fisheries Project	FAO-DSF Project	Available before meeting

**DOC/COM/00/2024**

DOC/COM/14/2024	13.2	ACAP MOU (Renewal)	Secretariat/ ACAP	Available before meeting
DOC/COM/15/2024	13.3	Update of the EAF Nansen Project	EAF Nansen program	Available before meeting
DOC/COM/16/2024	13.4	Update on international agreements	UN/DOALOS	Available before meeting

DOC/COM/01/2024



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South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)

## AGENDA FOR THE 21<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION (COM) – 2024

**CHAIRPERSON:** Mr. Ichiro NOMURA (JAPAN 2023 - 2024)**VENUE:** Alte Brücke  
Conference Centre,  
Swakopmund, NAMIBIA**VICE-CHAIR:** Mr. Tae-hoon WON (REP. KOREA 2023-2024)**DATE:** 27-28 Nov 2024

Item	Agenda Item	Working Document
1	Opening of meeting by Chairperson	
2	Appointment of Rapporteur	
3	Adoption of Agenda and meeting arrangements	DOC/COM/00/2024 DOC/COM/01/2024 DOC/COM/02/2024
4	Introduction & Admission of Observers	
5	Opening statements by Contracting Parties	
6	Status of the Convention in respect of membership	
7	Report of the 2024 Scientific Committee meeting	DOC/COM/03/2024
8	Report of the 2024 Compliance Committee meeting	DOC/COM/04/2024
9	Report of the 2024 Standing Committee on Administration & Finance meeting	DOC/COM/05/2024
10	Report on meetings attended by the Secretariat	DOC/COM/06/2024
11	Reports of SEAFO's representatives at other intergovernmental organization meetings	
	11.1 ICCAT – Rep. Korea	DOC/COM/08/2024
	11.2 SIOFA - Japan	DOC/COM/09/2024
	11.3 NEAFC – EU	DOC/COM/10/2024
	11.4 NAFO – EU	DOC/COM/11/2024
	11.5 CCAMLR – Rep. South Africa	DOC/COM/12/2024
12	Nomination of Parties representing SEAFO at intergovernmental organizations	

**DOC/COM/01/2024**

13	Any other matters 13.1 FAO Deep-sea Fisheries Project Feedback 13.2 Renewal of ACAP MOU 13.3 Update from the EAF Nansen program 13.4 DOALOS update on international agreements 13.5 Appointment of Executive Secretary	DOC/COM/13/2024 DOC/COM/14/2024 DOC/COM/15/2024 DOC/COM/16/2024
14	Election of Chair and Vice-chair	
15	Venue & date of next meeting	
16	Adoption of the 2024 Commission Report	DOC/COM/07/2024
17	Closure of meeting	

DOC/COM/02/2024



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South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)

## ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 21<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION (COM) – 2024

**CHAIRPERSON:** Mr. Ichiro NOMURA (JAPAN 2023 - 2024)**VENUE:** Alte Brücke  
Conference Centre,  
Swakopmund, NAMIBIA**VICE-CHAIR:** Mr. Tae-hoon WON (REP. KOREA 2023-2024)**DATE:** 27-28 Nov 2024

NR	AGENDA ITEM	DESCRIPTION
1	<b>Opening of meeting</b>	The Meeting will officially be opened by the Chairperson of the Commission
2	<b>Appointment of Rapporteur</b>	The Chairperson will ensure the appointment of a rapporteur to draft the Meeting Report
3	<b>Adoption of Agenda and meeting arrangements</b>	Members will review and adopt the agenda. The Executive Secretary will inform the Delegation of any practical arrangements for the meeting
DOC/COM/01/2024, DOC/COM/02/2024		
4	<b>Introduction and admission of Observers</b>	The Chairperson will announce Observers present as indicated by the Executive Secretary
5	<b>Opening Statement by Contracting Parties and Observers</b>	The Heads of Delegations will introduce their members and make opening statements. Written opening statements should be provided to the Secretariate before the meeting to be included in the meeting report. Observers who wish to make opening statements will do so after the opening statements of the Contracting Parties
6	<b>Status of the Convention in respect of membership</b>	The Chairperson will inform members of the current status of accession to the Convention
7	<b>Presentation of the 2024 Scientific Committee Report</b>	The Chairperson of the Scientific Committee will present a summary of the Scientific Committee Report including scientific advice and recommendations to the Commission. The Commission will discuss the Scientific Committee Report and take appropriate decisions on the recommendations made
DOC/COM/03/2024		



## DOC/COM/02/2024

8	<b>Presentation of the 2024 Compliance Committee Report</b>	The Chairperson of the Compliance Committee will present a summary of the Compliance Committee Report including recommendations to the Commission. The Commission will discuss the Compliance Committee Report and take appropriate decisions on the recommendations made
DOC/COM/04/2024		
9	<b>Presentation of the 2024 Standing Committee on Administration and Finance Report</b>	The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance will present a summary of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance Report including recommendations to the Commission (DOC/COM/05/2024). The Commission will discuss the report and take appropriate decisions on the recommendation made
10	<b>Report on meetings attended by the Secretariat</b>	The Executive Secretary will provide a report on meetings attended during since the last meeting.
DOC/COM/06/2024		
11	<b>Reports of SEAFO Representatives at the 2023/2024 meetings of other Intergovernmental Organisations</b>	SEAFO representatives at the 2023/2024 meetings of the other Intergovernmental Organisations will report back to the Commission on meetings attended. SEAFO representatives will bring to the attention of the members specific issues(s), if any, arose from the meetings. 11.1 ICCAT – Rep of Korea (DOC/COM/08/2024)  11.2 SIOFA – Japan (DOC/COM/09/2024)  11.3 NEAFC – EU (DOC/COM/10/2024)  11.4 NAFO – EU (DOC/COM/11/2024)  11.5 CCAMLR – Rep South Africa (DOC/COM/12/2024)
12	<b>Nominations of Parties to represent SEAFO at other International Organisations in 2024/2025</b>	ICCAT SIOFA NEAFC NAFO CCAMLR
13	<b>Any other matters</b>	The Commission will discuss the matter below and any other matters raised that was not previously included in the agenda  13.1 FAO Deep-sea Project feedback (DOC/COM/13/2024)  13.2 Renewal of ACAP MOU (DOC/COM/14/2024)

DOC/COM/02/2024

		<p>13.3 Update from the EAF Nansen program (DOC/COM/15/2024)</p> <p>13.4 DOALOS update on international agreements (DOC/COM/16/2024)</p> <p>13.5 Appointment of Executive Secretary</p>
<b>14</b>	<b>Election of Chair and Vice-chair</b>	<p>The current Chair and Vice-chair can be re-elected for another two-year period OR the next CP's in line will be Rep. Korea as Chair and Namibia as Vice-chair for the period from 2025-2026.</p> <p>According to the Alphabetical listing of Contracting parties ANGOLA EU JAPAN KOREA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA</p>
<b>15</b>	<b>Venue and date of the next Commission meeting</b>	<p>The members will agree on a date for the next Commission meeting which should be a virtual meeting according to the Commission decision in 2021</p> <p><i>"The Commission concluded in 2021: To continue to have annual meetings. On the principle of having biennial physical meetings"</i></p>
<b>16</b>	<b>Adoption of the 2024 Commission Report</b>	The meeting report will be adopted
DOC/COM/07/2024		
<b>17</b>	<b>Closure of meeting</b>	The Chairperson will close and adjourn the meeting after all items have been concluded

**APPENDIX II – List of Participants 2024 Commission Meeting****CHAIRPERSON****Ichiro NOMURA**

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## Appendix III: Opening Addresses

### JAPAN

Mr. Chair, Executive Secretary, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Japanese delegation, I would like to thank the Government of the Republic of Namibia for hosting the 21st Annual Meeting of SEAFO with great hospitality. I am glad to be able to participate in this year's Annual meeting of SEAFO in this beautiful city of Swakopmund face-to-face. I am also delighted to be the part of discussion for sustainable management of fishery resources in the Convention Area. I further extend our sincere gratitude to the Executive Secretary, Dr. Lizette Voges and the staff of the SEAFO Secretariat for their tireless efforts in organizing this meeting.

This year, we need to discuss important agendas including appointment of a next Executive Secretary. The selection is ongoing in accordance with the selection process we agreed before. I'm honored to join this process and looking forward to seeing who is going to fill this important position and guide SEAFO for coming years.

We also need to determine Total Allowable Catches for some fishery stocks for 2025 and 2026. Japan fully supports the sustainable use of marine living resources based on scientific evidence while recognizing the need to minimize possible impact of fisheries on ecosystem and would like to commend the dedicated work by the Scientific Committee, which is indispensable to discuss this important issue.

With a view to promoting sustainable use of the marine living resources based on scientific evidence in the SEAFO Convention Area, Japan intends to submit a Notice of Intent for the 2025 exploratory fisheries after this meeting. Japan cordially asks the members of the Scientific Committee and the Commission to assess the proposed exploratory fisheries during the intersessional period in accordance with the provisions of the relevant conservation and management measure. As before, the assessment of Japan's exploratory fisheries plan would be thus conducted on a correspondence basis.

Finally, I would like to conclude my remarks by hoping constructive discussions to be held so that SEAFO will be able to demonstrate itself as a very effective organization.

Thank you very much.



## forestry, fisheries and the environment

Department:  
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### Opening Remarks by South Africa

Honourable Chairperson, Distinguished Delegates, Esteemed Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen.

South Africa is honoured to join you at this 21st Annual Meeting of the SEAFO Commission. We extend our gratitude to the Government of Namibia for graciously hosting us in Swakopmund, and to the SEAFO Secretariat for their diligent preparation in organizing this important gathering.

As we convene this year, we are reminded of our collective responsibility to manage the marine resources of the South East Atlantic for the benefit of both present and future generations. For South Africa, the sustainable use and conservation of these resources is not just a priority but a fundamental obligation. We reaffirm our unwavering commitment to SEAFO's mission of ensuring the responsible governance of our shared fisheries.

This meeting presents an opportunity to address several key issues. First and foremost is the ongoing challenge of combating illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing. This threat continues to undermine our conservation efforts and jeopardizes the stability of our marine ecosystems. South Africa is committed to strengthening our collective monitoring, control, and surveillance efforts to effectively tackle IUU fishing. We call on all member states to take decisive action to safeguard our fisheries and the livelihoods dependent on them.

South Africa also looks forward to engaging in productive discussions regarding the stock assessments conducted by the Scientific Committee. These assessments will form the basis for the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) recommendations for key species, including Patagonian Toothfish, Alfonsino, Amourhead, Orange Roughy, and Deep-sea Red Crab, for the 2025/ 2026 period. We emphasize the importance of a precautionary approach in determining TACs, grounded in the best available scientific data, to ensure the long-term sustainability of these species and the overall health of our marine ecosystems.

### Formal Apology for 2024 Scientific Committee Chair Role

At this point, South Africa wishes to formally address an important matter concerning the Scientific Committee. As you are aware, South Africa was elected as Chair of the Scientific Committee (SC) for the period 2023-2025, with Angola serving as Vice-Chair. Unfortunately, South Africa deeply regrets its inability to participate in and chair the 2024 20th Scientific Committee Meeting. This matter has been formally communicated to the SEAFO Secretariat. South Africa acknowledges the critical role the Scientific Committee plays in SEAFO's operations and remains fully committed to fulfilling our future responsibilities under the Convention. We deeply regret this situation and appreciate the understanding of all members.

Chair, this meeting marks a significant milestone with the selection of a new Executive Secretary for SEAFO. South Africa is fully committed to ensuring that this process is fair, transparent, and conducted with the aim of reinforcing the capacity of SEAFO to fulfil its critical role. We trust that the discussions here will lay the foundation for a smooth transition and that the incoming Executive Secretary will receive the support necessary to lead SEAFO into the future.

In closing Chair, South Africa remains dedicated to fostering a spirit of cooperation and mutual respect among SEAFO members. Our commitment to equitable, science-based decision-making and the sustainable management of our shared resources is steadfast. We are confident that this meeting will strengthen the bonds between us, paving the way for constructive and lasting solutions that advance collaborative actions and ensure a sustainable future for our marine resources.

Thank you.



## Appendix IV: CM-TAC-01 (2024)

Adopted: 28 November 2024

Enter into Force: 1 January 2025



### **Conservation Measure CM-TAC-01 (2024): on Total Allowable Catches and related conditions for Patagonian Toothfish, Deep-Sea Red Crab, Alfonsino, Orange Roughy and Pelagic Armourhead for 2025 and 2026 in the SEAFO Convention Area.**

The Commission, taking account of the scientific advice provided by the Scientific Committee and pursuant to Article 6 of the Convention, has adopted the following measures:

#### **1. Total allowable catches**

- a) Patagonian toothfish: 274 tonnes for Sub-area D and zero tonnes for the remainder of the SEAFO CA;
- b) Deep-sea red crab: 162 tonnes in Division B1 and 200 tonnes (Status quo) in the remainder of the Convention Area;
- c) Alfonsino: 200 tonnes for the SEAFO CA of which a maximum of 132 tonnes may be taken in Division B1 (Status quo).
- d) Orange roughy: zero tonnes and a 4 tonnes bycatch allowance in Division B1, and 50 tonnes in the remainder of the SEAFO CA subject to exploratory fishing protocols (Status quo), and
- e) Pelagic amourhead/Southern boarfish: 135 tonnes for the SEAFO CA (Status quo).

#### **2. Patagonian toothfish tagging requirements**

Each long line vessel shall tag and release Patagonian toothfish continuously while fishing, at a rate of 1 fish per tonne of green weight.

### **3. Vessel reporting requirements**

Each Contracting Party shall ensure that their vessels fishing in the SEAFO CA shall send reports as *cf.* Article 10, 11, 12, 13 and 18 of the System of Observation, Inspection, Compliance and Enforcement to the Secretariat.

### **4. Bycatch of Alfonsino and Pelagic Armourhead**

Taking into account that highly selective fishery for pelagic armourhead and alfonsino is practically possible by trawl fishery in the CA, following measures should be applied for trawl fishery targeting armourhead and alfonsino in the CA:

- (a) Any vessels engaging in trawl fisheries targeting pelagic armourhead and/or alfonsino should send daily catch reports to the Secretariat;
- (b) Based on these daily catch reports, the cumulative catches of armourhead and alfonsino should be closely monitored by the Secretariat;
- (c) Fishing activities should be developed by first targeting one species (first target species);
- (d) When the Secretariat determines that 95% of the TAC for one of that species is reached in a management area, the fleet should be instructed by the Secretariat to target the other species (second target species). A total by catch of 5% of the first target species TAC is allowed to be taken when targeting the second species in the same management area; and
- (e) If 95% of the TAC for the second species is already reached by other vessels, the vessel can fish its second target species as long as the TAC is not exhausted.

### **5. Closure of fisheries**

The Executive Secretary shall close the fisheries when the total allowable catches referred to in paragraph 1 are deemed to be exhausted.

### **6. Status of Conservation Measure**

Conservation Measures CM-TAC-01 (2023) is herewith repealed.