

27 April 2018

IOTC CIRCULAR
2017-20

Dear Sir/Madam

COMMUNICATION FROM AUSTRALIA REGARDING ALLEGED ILLEGAL UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING ACTIVITIES

Please find attached a communication from Australia related to alleged IUU fishing activities.

CPC's are advised that the correct email contact for the Australian National Surveillance and Response Unit should be nationalsurveillanceresponseunit@afma.gov.au and not the one on the letter attached.

Yours sincerely /



Christopher O'Brien
Executive Secretary

Attachments:

- Letter from Australia

Distribution

IOTC Contracting Parties: Australia, 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:** Bangladesh, Liberia, Senegal. **Intergovernmental Organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations.** Chairperson IOTC. **Copy to:** FAO Headquarters, FAO Representatives to CPCs.

This message has been transmitted by email only



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture
and Water Resources

Ref: 2018/006522E

Mr Chris O'Brien
Executive Secretary
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
PO Box 1011
Victoria SEYCHELLES

Dear Mr O'Brien

**INFORMATION ABOUT ALLEGED ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED
AND UNREGULATED FISHING ACTIVITY**

I am writing to provide information about Australia's recent apprehension of the Indonesian-flagged fishing vessel *KM Perintis Jaya 19* (call sign YEB5465) after it was detected in Australia's exclusive economic zone, north-west of Broome, Western Australia, on 16 February 2018.

On 17 February 2018, Australian authorities apprehended the vessel for suspected illegal fishing inside Australian waters. The vessel was inspected at sea and taken to the port of Darwin for further investigation. Australian authorities found approximately 4,000 kilograms of mixed species and 200 live bait fish on board.

Charges have been laid against the master and a senior crew member of the vessel and the matter are now before the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory. These are allegations only at this stage and it is not clear when legal proceedings will be finalised.

Australia acknowledges the obligations and procedures set out in IOTC Resolution 17/03 *on establishing a list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing in the IOTC Area of competence*. Australia will provide further information to the IOTC, including in accordance with Resolution 17/03 as required, after the court case is concluded.

I kindly request that you circulate this information to all IOTC CPCs.

Should you or any CPC have any questions about this matter, please contact Australia's National Surveillance and Response Unit on Tel +61 (02) 6275 5818 or by email to nationalsurveillanceresponse@afma.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Gordon Neil
Assistant Secretary
Fisheries Branch
23 April 2018