



## ISSF CONSERVATION MEASURE 3.7 SAPMER FAD MANAGEMENT POLICY

SAPMER GROUP requires onboard its vessel(s) operated by SAPMER SA, Tuna Fishing Company (TFC) and Indian Ocean Shop Management Services (IOSMS) the use of the following best practices for FAD management, as identified in [ISSF Technical Report 2019-11](#), "*Recommended Best Practices for FAD management in Tropical Tuna Purse Seine Fisheries*":

### **a) Comply with flag state and RFMO reporting requirements for fisheries statistics by set type**

We commit to:

- ④ Filling out completely and accurately the logbooks, including FAD logbook information, by set type as per IOTC resolution in force and submitting them by electronic means to the required authorities.
- ④ Achieving 100% human observer coverage, even if not required by the IOTC, on all fishing trips through the regional observer program OCUP operated by Bureau Veritas.
- ④ Collecting data on the number of active FADs and FAD activity (deployments, visits, sets and loss) as required by IOTC resolutions in force and submitting them to the required authorities and scientific partners.

### **b) Report of additional FAD buoy data and FAD deployment for use by RFMO science bodies**

We commit to:

- ④ Participate to IRD (Institut de Recherche et de Développement) scientific program by providing daily positions and echo-sounder data for every company-owned FAD, with a maximum delay of 90 days to ensure confidentiality.
- ④ Identify deployment in data submission to IOTC; which will include vessel name and IMO number whenever it is possible.

### **c) Support science-based limits on the overall number of FADs used per vessel and/or FAD sets made**

We commit to:

- ④ Not having more than 300 active FADs per vessel at any time, abiding by the limit of active number of FADs required by the IOTC resolutions in force;

- ④ Deploying only FADs with satellite tracking buoys attached to;
- ④ Not reactivating remotely buoys that were previously deactivated. They will only be reactivated when the buoys are back in port;
- ④ Providing information on the buoy position at least once per day while they are in the water and submitting them to IRD (Institut de Recherche et de Developpement).

#### **d) Use only non-entangling FADs to reduce ghost fishing**

We commit to:

- ④ Deploying only FADs that are completely non-entangling (i.e., without any netting), in compliance with IOTC resolutions in force and according to the [ISSF Guide for Non-Entangling FADs](#);
- ④ Retrieve pre-existing non-fully non-entangling FAD whenever it is possible.

#### **e) Mitigate other environmental impacts due to FAD loss including through the use of biodegradable FADs and FAD recovery policies**

We commit to:

- ④ Studying the feasibility of using FADs with only biodegradable materials in their construction
- ④ Participating in tests of locally-sourced biodegradable materials in collaboration with ORTHONGEL, KAIROS and the UBO (Université de Bretagne Occidentale);
- ④ Studying the feasibility of deploying simpler and smaller FADs;
- ④ Participating in research to determine FAD deployment areas that have high risk of stranding, by providing historical track data to IRD (Institut de Recherche pour le Développement);
- ④ Participating in the SIOTI FIP FAD WATCH interception and recovery project with ICS

#### **f) For silky sharks (the main bycatch issue in FAD sets) implement further mitigation efforts**

We commit to:

- ④ Applying Best Practices for safe handling and release of sharks and rays brought onboard.