



RESPONSIBLE  
SUPPLY

**IFFO RS**  
Global Standard for Responsible Supply  
of Marine Ingredients

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**Global Standard for  
Responsible Supply  
of Marine Ingredients**  
Fishery Assessment  
Methodology and  
Template Report V2.0



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<b>Fishery Under Assessment</b>	Yellowfin tuna ( <i>Thunnus albacares</i> ), FAO fishing areas 51 (Indian Ocean, Western) and 57 (Indian Ocean, Eastern)
<b>Date</b>	15 June 2020
<b>Report Code</b>	2020-92
<b>Assessor</b>	Sam Dignan
<b>Stock Pass</b>	Yes
<b>Stock Fail</b>	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome				
<b>Name:</b>				
<b>Address:</b>				
<b>Country:</b>		<b>Zip:</b>		
<b>Tel. No.:</b>		<b>Fax. No.:</b>		
<b>Email address:</b>		<b>Applicant Code:</b>		
<b>Key Contact:</b>		<b>Title:</b>		
Certification Body Details				
<b>Name of Certification Body:</b>		SAI Global		
<b>Assessor</b>	<b>Peer Reviewer</b>	<b>Assessment Days</b>	<b>Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval</b>	<b>Whole fish/ By-product</b>
Sam Dignan	Virginia Polonio	0.5	Re-approval	By-product
<b>Assessment Period</b>	To June 2020			

Scope Details	
<b>Management Authority (Country/State)</b>	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and relevant National authorities of Thailand
<b>Main Species</b>	Yellowfin tuna ( <i>Thunnus albacares</i> )
<b>Stock:</b>	Yellowfin tuna in the Indian Ocean
<b>Fishery Location</b>	FAO fishing areas 51 (Indian Ocean, Western) and 57 (Indian Ocean, Eastern)
<b>Gear Type(s)</b>	All gears
Outcome of Assessment	
<b>Peer Review Evaluation</b>	<b>APPROVE</b>
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>APPROVE</b>

### Assessment Determination

If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List, or if it appears in the CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as IFFO RS raw material. Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List, nor does it appear in CITES appendices; therefore, product originating from this fishery is eligible for approval for use as IFFO RS by-product raw material.

For assessment and management purposes, one discrete stock of yellowfin is recognised in the Indian Ocean; therefore, this assessment covers one stock (i.e. yellowfin tuna in the Indian Ocean) when fished within FAO fishing areas 51 and 57 by Thai vessels.

Fishery removals from the stock are considered in the IOTC stock assessment processes such that the stock **achieves a PASS against Clause C1.1.**

In addition, the most recent stock assessment for the stock show it to be above relevant limit reference points defined by management such that the stock **achieves a PASS against C1.2.**

In order to be approved, stocks assessed must pass both Clause C1.1 and C1.2; therefore, as this is the case here, by-product covered by this report is **APPROVED** for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current IFFO RS v 2.0 by-product standard.

### Peer Review Comments

In the last stock assessment the conclusion was that on the weight-of-evidence available, the yellowfin tuna stock is determined to be overfished and subject to overfishing. However, interim reference points are not below limits and therefore the fishery achieves a pass for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current IFFO RS v 2.0 by-product standard.

### Notes for On-site Auditor

## HOW TO COMPLETE THIS ASSESSMENT REPORT

### By-products

The process for completing the template for **by-product raw material** is as follows:

1. ALL ASSESSMENTS: Complete the Species Characterisation table with the names of the by-product species and stocks under assessment. The '% landings' column can be left empty; all by-products are considered as Category C and D.
2. IF THERE ARE CATEGORY C BYPRODUCTS UNDER ASSESSMENT: Complete clause C1 for **each** Category C by-product.
3. IF THERE ARE CATEGORY D BYPRODUCTS UNDER ASSESSMENT: Complete Section D.
4. ALL OTHER SECTIONS CAN BE DELETED. Clauses M1 - M3, F1 - F3, and Sections A and B do not need to be completed for a by-product assessment.

By-product approval is awarded on a species-by-species basis. Each by-product species scoring a pass under the appropriate section may be approved against the IFFO RS Standard.

## SPECIES CATEGORISATION

The following table should be completed as fully as the available information permits. Any species representing more than 0.1% of the annual catch should be listed, along with an estimate of the proportion of the catch each species represents. The species should then be divided into Type 1 and Type 2 as follows:

- **Type 1 Species** can be considered the 'target' or 'main' species in the fishery. They make up the bulk of annual landings and are subjected to a detailed assessment.
- **Type 2 Species** can be considered the 'bycatch' or 'minor' species in the fishery. They make up a small proportion of the annual landings and are subjected to relatively high-level assessment.

**Type 1 Species must represent 95% of the total annual catch. Type 2 Species may represent a maximum of 5% of the annual catch (see Appendix B).**

Species which make up less than 0.1% of landings do not need to be listed (NOTE: ETP species are considered separately). The table should be extended if more space is needed. Discarded species should be included when known.

The 'stock' column should be used to differentiate when there are multiple biological or management stocks of one species captured by the fishery. The 'management' column should be used to indicate whether there is an adequate management regime specifically aimed at the individual species/stock. In some cases it will be immediately clear whether there is a species-specific management regime in place (for example, if there is an annual TAC). In less clear circumstances, the rule of thumb should be that if the species meets the minimum requirements of clauses A1-A4, an adequate species-specific management regime is in place.

NOTE: If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, or if it appears in the CITES appendices, it **cannot** be approved for use as an IFFO RS raw material. This applied to whole fish as well as by-products.

### TYPE 1 SPECIES (Representing 95% of the catch or more)

**Category A:** Species-specific management regime in place.

**Category B:** No species-specific management regime in place.

### TYPE 2 SPECIES (Representing 5% OF THE CATCH OR LESS)

**Category C:** Species-specific management regime in place.

**Category D:** No species-specific management regime in place.

Common name	Latin name	Stock	% of landings	Management	Category
Yellowfin tuna	<i>Thunnus albacares</i>	Yellowfin tuna in the Indian Ocean.	<1% (in 2015)	IOTC	C

## CATEGORY C SPECIES

In a whole fish assessment, Category C species are those which make up less than 5% of landings, but which are subject to a species-specific management regime. In most cases this will be because they are a commercial target in a fishery other than the one under assessment. In a by-product assessment, Category C species are those which are subject to a species-specific management regime and are usually targeted species in fisheries for human consumption.

Clause C1 should be completed for **each** Category C species. If there are no Category C species in the fishery under assessment, this section can be deleted. A Category C species does not meet the minimum requirements of clause C1 should be re-assessed as a Category D species.

Species Name		Yellowfin tuna in the Indian Ocean	
<b>C1</b>	<b>Category C Stock Status - Minimum Requirements</b>		
	C1.1	Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process OR are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.	<b>PASS</b>
	C1.2	The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy), OR removals by the fishery under assessment are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.	<b>PASS</b>
<b>Clause outcome:</b>			<b>See above</b>
<b>C1.1 Evidence</b>			
Catch data for the Thai fleet are available on the IOTC website (e.g. IOTC-2020-WPNT10-DATA03) with the latest catches from 2015 being only 109 mt. While low, recorded landings are included in the stock assessment process. Therefore, removals in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process such that <b>the fishery achieves a PASS against C1.1.</b>			
<b>C1.2 Evidence</b>			
The latest stock assessment for yellowfin in Indian Ocean was carried out in 2018 (Urtizberea et al., 2018). The assessment includes a limit reference point for biomass of $SB_{lim} = 0.5 SB_{MSY}$ and base model estimates of $SB_{2017} = 818,276$ mt and $SB_{MSY} = 935,463$ mt. While various uncertainties led the IOTCs Scientific Committee (SC) to develop a workplan to address these uncertainties in 2019 before providing management advice, the 2018 stock assessment shows the 2017 stock status to be comfortably above $0.5 SB_{MSY}$ even accounting for these uncertainties with 95% confidence limits showing SB well above above $0.5 SB_{MSY}$ ; therefore, the stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to be above its limit reference point such that <b>the fishery achieves a PASS against C1.2.</b>			
<b>References</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– IOTC-2020-WPNT10-DATA03. Nominal catches per fleet, year, gear, IOTC area and species: <a href="https://www.iotc.org/WPNT/10/Data/03-NC">https://www.iotc.org/WPNT/10/Data/03-NC</a></li> <li>– Urtizberea, A., Fu, D., Merino, G., Methot, R., Cardinale, M., Winker, H., Walter, J. and Murua H. (2018). Preliminary assessment of Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna 1950 – 2018 (Stock Synthesis, V3.30). IOTC-2019-WPTT21-50: <a href="https://www.iotc.org/documents/WPTT/20/33">https://www.iotc.org/documents/WPTT/20/33</a>.</li> </ul>			
<i>Standard clauses 1.3.2.2</i>			