Friend of the Sea Standard

FOS – Aqua – Tuna
Criteria and indicators for the Certification for tuna purse seine and longline fleets

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REV	DATE	REASON	VALIDATION	APPROVAL
1	18/01/2013	First issue		
2	03/11/2014	First review		

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Preface

Friend of the Sea is a non-governmental organisation established in 2008, whose aim is to safeguard the marine environment and its resources incentivising a sustainable market and implementing specific preservation projects.
The certification diagram of Friend of the Sea assesses according to sustainability criteria and indicators fishing and aquaculture projects. The certification, granted by Independent Certification Bodies following an audit, ensures that a product complies with sustainability requirements.
The Friend of the Sea fishing certification diagram guarantees that **the "GUIDELINES FOR THE ECOLABELLING OF FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS FROM MARINE CAPTURE FISHERIES (FAO)"** are observed. Therefore, all indicators refer to compliant criteria and conform with "Minimum substantive criteria" included in the following FAO Guidelines.

"Management systems

28. Requirement: The fishery is conducted under a management system which is based upon good practice and that ensures the satisfaction of the requirements and criteria described in Paragraph 29. The management system and the fishery operate in compliance with the requirements of local, national and international law and regulations including the requirements of any regional fisheries management organization that manages the fisheries on the "stock under consideration".
28.1 For the "stock under consideration" there are documented management approaches with a well based expectation that management will be successful taking into account uncertainty and imprecision.
28.2 There are objectives, and as necessary, management measures to address pertinent aspects of the ecosystem effects of fishing as per paragraph 31.
29. The following criteria will apply to management systems for any fisheries, but it must be recognized that special consideration needs to be given to small-scale fisheries with respect to the availability of data and with respect to the fact that management systems can differ substantially for different types and scales of fisheries (e.g. small scale through to large scale commercial fisheries).
29.1 Adequate data and/or information are collected, maintained and assessed in accordance with applicable international standards and practices for evaluation of the current state and trends of the stocks4 (see below: Methodological aspects). This can include relevant traditional, fisher or community knowledge, provided its validity can be objectively verified.
29.2 In determining suitable conservation and management measures, the best scientific evidence available is taken into account by the designated authority, as well as consideration of relevant traditional fisher or community knowledge, provided its validity can be objectively verified, in order to evaluate the current state of the "stock under consideration"5 in relation to, where appropriate, stock specific target and limit reference points.
29.2bis: Taking due account of paragraph 32, for the "stock under consideration" the determination of suitable conservation and management measures should include or take account of:
• Total fishing mortality from all sources is considered in assessing the state of the "stock under consideration", including discards, unobserved mortality, incidental mortality, unreported catches and catches in other fisheries.
• Management targets are consistent with achieving maximum sustainable yield (MSY) (or a suitable proxy) on average, or a lesser fishing mortality if that is optimal in the circumstances of the fishery (e.g. multispecies fisheries) or to avoid severe adverse impacts on dependent predators.
• The management system should specify limits or directions in key performance indicators (see 30.2), consistent with avoiding recruitment overfishing or other impacts that are likely to be irreversible or very slowly reversible, and specify the actions to be taken if the limits are approached or the desired directions are not achieved.
29.3 Similarly, data and information, including relevant traditional, fisher or community knowledge, provided its validity can be objectively verified, are used to identify adverse impacts of the fishery on the ecosystem, and timely scientific advice is provided on the likelihood and magnitude of identified impacts (see paragraph 31).
29.4 The designated authorities adopt and effectively implement appropriate measures for the conservation and sustainable use of the "stock under consideration" based on the data, information and scientific advice referred to in the preceding bullets.7 Short-term considerations should not compromise the long-term conservation and sustainable use of fisheries resources.
29.5 An effective legal and administrative framework at the local, national or regional level, as appropriate, is established for the fishery8 and compliance is ensured through effective mechanisms for monitoring, surveillance, control and enforcement (see paragraph 6).
In accordance with the Code of Conduct Article 7.5, the precautionary approach is being implemented to protect the "stock under consideration" and to preserve the aquatic environment
Inter alia this will require that the absence of adequate scientific information should not be used as a reason for postponing or failing to take conservation and management measures.
Further, relevant uncertainties are being taken into account through a suitable method of risk assessment. Appropriate reference points are determined and remedial actions to be taken if reference

points are approached or exceeded are specified.

Stocks under consideration

28. Requirement: The "stock under consideration" is not overfished, and is maintained at a level which promotes the objective of optimal utilization and maintains its availability for present and future generations taking into account that longer term changes in productivity can occur due to natural variability and/or impacts other than fishing. In the event that biomass drops well below such target levels, management measures (Code of Conduct Article 7.6) should allow for restoration within reasonable time frames of the stocks to such levels (see also paragraph 29.2.bis). The following criteria are applicable:

28.1 The "stock under consideration" is not overfished if it is above the associated limit reference point (or its proxy).

28.2 If fishing mortality (or its proxy) is above the associated limit reference point, actions should be taken to decrease the fishing mortality (or its proxy) below that limit reference point.

28.3 The structure and composition of the "stock under consideration" which contribute to its resilience are taken into account.

28.4 In the absence of specific information on the "stock under consideration", generic evidence based on similar stocks can be used for fisheries with low risk to that "stock under consideration". However, the greater the risk the more specific evidence is necessary to ascertain the sustainability of intensive fisheries.

Ecosystem considerations

29. Requirement: Adverse impacts of the fishery on the ecosystem should be appropriately assessed and effectively addressed. Much greater scientific uncertainty is to be expected in assessing possible adverse ecosystem impacts of fisheries than in assessing the state of target stocks. This issue can be addressed by taking a "risk assessment/risk management approach". For the purpose of development of ecolabelling schemes, the most probable adverse impacts should be considered, taking into account available scientific information, and traditional, fisher or community knowledge provided that its validity can be objectively verified. Those impacts that are likely to have serious consequences should be addressed. This may take the form of an immediate management response or further analysis of the identified risk. In this context, full recognition should be given to the special circumstances and requirements in developing countries and countries in transition, including financial and technical assistance, technology transfer, and training and scientific cooperation. The following criteria are to be interpreted in the context of avoiding high risk of severe adverse impacts:

29.1 Non target catches, including discards, of stocks other than the "stock under consideration" are monitored and should not threaten these non-target stocks with serious risk of extinction; if serious risks of extinction arise, effective remedial action should be taken.

29.2 The role of the "stock under consideration" in the foodweb is considered, and if it is a key prey species in the ecosystem, management measures are in place to avoid severe adverse impacts on dependent predators.

29.3 There is knowledge of the essential habitats for the "stock under consideration" and potential fishery impacts on them. Impacts on essential habitats and on habitats that are highly vulnerable to damage by the fishing gear involved are avoided, minimized or mitigated (Code of Conduct 7.2.2). In assessing fishery impacts, the full spatial range of the relevant habitat should be considered, not just that part of the spatial range that is potentially affected by fishing.

29.4 In the absence of specific information on the ecosystem impacts of fishing for the unit of certification, generic evidence based on similar fishery situations can be used for fisheries with low risk of severe adverse impact. However, the greater the risk the more specific evidence is necessary to ascertain the adequacy of mitigation measures.

Methodological aspects

Assessing current state and trends in target stocks

30. There are many ways in which state and trends in stocks may be evaluated, that fall short of the highly quantitative and data-demanding approaches to stock assessment that are often used for large scale fisheries in developed countries. Use of less elaborate methods for stock assessment should not preclude fisheries from possible certification for ecolabelling. However it should be noted that, to the extent that the application of such methods results in greater uncertainty about the state of the "stock under consideration", more precautionary approaches to managing fisheries on such resources will be required which may necessitate lower levels of utilization of the resource. There is a variety of management measures commonly used in small scale or low value fisheries that nonetheless can achieve quite adequate levels of protection for stocks in the face of uncertainty about the state of the resource. A past record of good management performance could be considered as supporting evidence of the adequacy of the management measures and the management system."

Friend of the Sea criteria and their compliance with Minimum Substantive Criteria (FAO)

Following the reference Friend of the Sea Criteria used during the audit. For each criterion the respective Minimum Substantive Criterion observed is mentioned in brackets.

1. Status of stock (30)
2. Environmental footprint (31)
3. Selectivity (31)
4. Legal Compliance (28)
5. Management (28, 29)
6. Waste management
7. Management of energy
8. Social Accountability

Each one of these criteria contains essential or important indicators or recommendations.

Essential Indicators: for essential requirements a 100% conformity is required in order to allow the Certification Body to recommend the Company for Certification. Each deficiency towards these requirements is considered as a Major non-conformity and it is required to undertake appropriate corrective measures, to be implemented within three months from when the non-conformity was found. The Company shall provide satisfactory evidence on the correction of all major non-conformities to the Certification Body. Exclusively for requirements 2.1 and 2.2, considering the complexity of possible missing data to be retrieved, the time interval allowed for the correction of non-conformities is extended to 6 months.

Important Indicators: for important requirements a 100% conformity is required in order to allow the Certification Body to recommend the Company for Certification. Each deficiency towards these requirements is considered as a Minor non-conformity and it is required to propose appropriate corrective measures (declaration of intents and implementation plan), to be submitted to the Certification Body within three months from when the non-conformity was found. This proposal must also include a chronogram concerning the implementation of each correction measure. Each corrective action must be fully implemented within a year.

Recommended Indicators: the compliance with these requirements is not strictly required in order to obtain the certification. However, during the inspection all the aspects concerning these requirements will be checked and each deficiency will be highlighted in the Auditing Report as a recommendation. The Company shall evaluate the possible necessity of implementing corrective measures and, within the following inspection, shall inform the Certification Body regarding the decisions taken and the corrective measures implemented.

If a requirement is not applicable for the audited Organisation, it should be marked with N.A.

Description of the organisation

This document shall only be filled-in by the Certification Body and the Auditor in charge of the inspection. It must be filled in the native tongue or in English only if spoken fluently.

a) NAME OF THE ORGANISATION TO BE AUDITED: Sapmer
b) NAME OF THE ORGANISATION THAT REQUESTED THE AUDIT: **FRIEND OF THE SEA**
c) IS THE ORGANISATION TO BE AUDITED PART OF A GROUP? -
d) ADDRESS OF THE ORGANISATION TO BE AUDITED: **Darse de PECHE, magasin 10** **Le port Cedex** **Réunion**
e) NAME AND CONTACTS OF THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ORGANISATION TO BE AUDITED: **Justine Mehaut**
f) FLEET TO BE AUDITED:

Name of the fishing boat	Registration number	Country flag	Fishing method	Load metric tons	Unloading dock	Ship owner (if different from a)
BERNICA	DI 929727	FRANCE	PURSE SEINER	1000	SEYCHELLES MAURITIUS	SAPMER
FRANCHE TERRE	DI 928376	FRANCE	PURSE SEINER	1000	SEYCHELLES MAURITIUS	SAPMER
MORN SESELWA	50235	SEYCHELLES	PURSE SEINER	850	SEYCHELLES MAURITIUS	Tuna Fishing Company
MANAPANY	DI 929204	FRANCE	PURSE SEINER	1000	SEYCHELLES MAURITIUS	SAPMER
DOLOMIEU	RU 930604	FRANCE	PURSE SEINER	1000	SEYCHELLES MAURITIUS	SAPMER
BELOUVE	RU 930605	FRANCE	PURSE SEINER	1000	SEYCHELLES MAURITIUS	SAPMER
BELLE-RIVE	MR 293	MAURITIUS	PURSE SEINER	1000	SEYCHELLES MAURITIUS	Indian Ocean Ships Management Services / IOSMS
BELLE-ISLE	MR 294	MAURITIUS	PURSE SEINER	1000	SEYCHELLES MAURITIUS	Indian Ocean Ships Management Services / IOSMS
MORNE BLANC	50243	SEYCHELLES	PURSE SEINER	850	SEYCHELLES MAURITIUS	Tuna Fishing Company

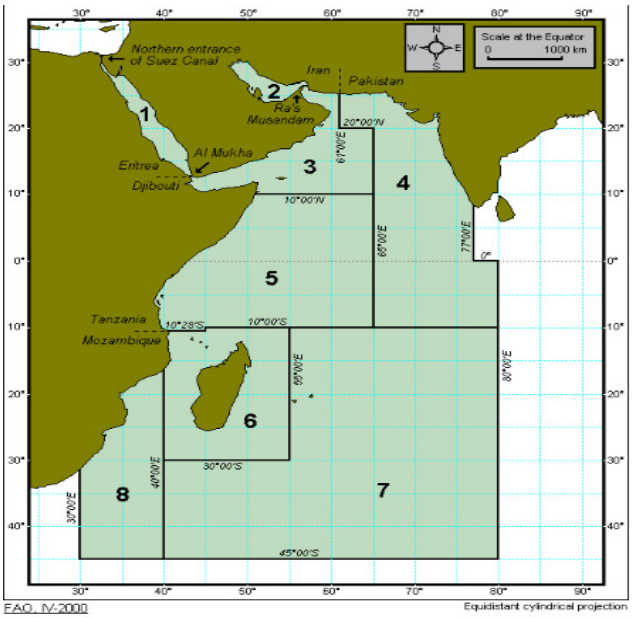
g) BOATS AUDITED ON SITE: (the auditor must list the audited boats that represent the fleet)

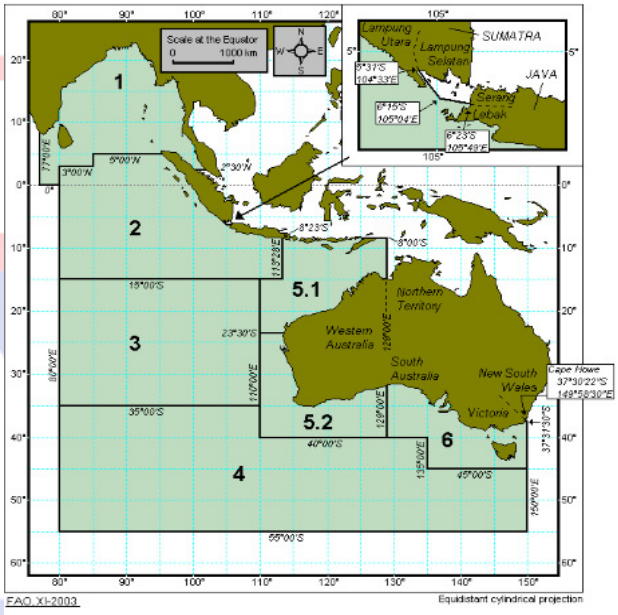
Name of the fishing boat	Registration number	Unloading dock
BERNICA	DI 929727	PORT LOUIS - MAURITIUS
FRANCHE TERRE	DI 928376	PORT LOUIS - MAURITIUS
MORN SESELWA	50235	PORT LOUIS - MAURITIUS

h) FISHING ZONE *(E.g.: coordinates, FAO area, ZEE, CIEM area, etc... if available also include a map)*

Fishing zone FAO 51 and FAO 57

FAO 51: Indian Ocean & Western **FAO 57: Indian Ocean & Eastern**





i) COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC NAME OF THE SPECIES OF TUNA TO BE AUDITED

Common name	Scientific name
Yellow Fin Tuna	*Thunnus albacares*
Big Eye Tuna	*Thunnus obesus*
Skipjack Tuna	*Katsuwonus pelamis*
Albacore Tuna	*Thunnus alalunga*

j) TOTAL NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES: Bernica – 38, Franche Terre -34 & Morn Seselwa - 33

k) ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATIONS AND AWARDS - None

r) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: -

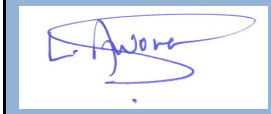
☒ **The Friend of the Sea project was presented**
(If not the Auditor must provide a short description)

☒ **The Organisation was informed of the possibility, in case of approval, of using the Friend of the Sea logo on the certified products**

☒ **The Organisation has a document certifying the roles of the staff carrying out the audit**

☒ **The duration of the Audit was agreed**

☒ **The information included in the Preliminary Information have been confirmed:**
(in case of changes send an update promptly)

NAME OF THE CERTIFYING BODY: SGS MAURITIUS LTD	**AUDIT TEAM:** **LEENA AWORER**	**START AND END DATE OF THE AUDIT:** **14 September 2015** **06 October 2015** **09 November 2015**
SIGNATURE OF THE AUDITOR: 	**NAME OF THE PERSON IN CHARGE OF THE AUDIT ORGANISATION THAT ACCOMPANIES THE AUDITOR DURING THE INSPECTION :** **BIGOU ERIC (Captain – BERNICA VESSEL)** **GARO GREGORY (Captain – FRANCHE TERRE VESSEL)** **PHILIPPE MAROT (Captain – MORN SESELWA VESSEL)**	**AUDIT CODE:** **-**

NOTES FOR THE AUDITOR

1) The auditor must fill-in all the fields in the checklist
2) The directions to fill-in the checklist are written in the blue fields
3) The Auditor must explain when the qualification requirements are not applicable
4) The Auditor must write YES when the Organisation complies with a requirement and NO when it doesn't
5) The Auditor must comment and explain the positive or negative answers. YES, NO, N.A. are not enough
6) Each relevant document must be added to the final Audit Report in a separate and numbered attachment
7) Photographic explanations added to the checklist or attached are appreciated

1 – STOCK STATUS

No.	Requirement	Level	Reference quantity parameters	Y/N	Comments
1.1	Up-to-date data and/or information on the stock status have been collected from one of the following bodies: FAO, Regional Organisation for Fishing Management, Marine Research National Authority. These data determine that the stock is NOT:				
1.1.1	Low on data	Essential		Y	The management of stock of Tuna fish in the Indian Ocean is managed by the Organisation IOTC. At each Session of the Commission, Members may adopt Conservation and Management Measures concerning the management of tuna and tuna-like species under the IOTC mandate as well as the fisheries which target them. These decisions are passed in the form of either Resolutions or Recommendations.

1.1.2	Over-exploited (F>Fmsy)	Essential	F<Fmsy	Y	From the IOTC report for the period 23 - 27 November 2015: The followings were concluded that the stocks for skipkack, albacore and big eye tuna were not over exploited. However, this was not the case for yellow fin tuna. Please refer to the table below. It is to be noted that the IOTC commission does not currently have any Conservation and Management Measures in place, other than the FAD limitation measure. The Scientific Committee recommends that catches be reduced by 20% of current levels (2014). Currently, the vessels complied with the IOTC requirement.

N

Yellow Fin Tuna:

TABLE 1. Yellowfin tuna: Status of yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) in the Indian Ocean.

Area[1]	Indicators		2015 stock status determination
Indian Ocean	Catch 2014:	430,327 t	94%*
	Average catch 2010–2014:	373,824 t	
	MSY (1000 t) (80% CI):	421 (404–439)	
	F_{MSY} (80% CI):	0.165 (0.162–0.168)	
	SB_{MSY} (1,000 t) (80% CI):	1,217 (1,165–1,268)	
	F_{2014}/F_{MSY} (80% CI):	1.34 (1.02–1.67)	
	SB_{2014}/SB_{MSY} (80% CI):	0.66 (0.58–0.74)	
	SB_{2014}/SB_{1950} (80% CI):	0.23 (0.21–0.36)	

[1]Boundaries for the Indian Ocean stock assessment are defined as the IOTC area of competence.
*Estimated probability that the stock is in the respective quadrant of the Kobe plot (shown below), derived from the confidence intervals associated with the current stock status (SS3 stock assessment model).

Colour key	Stock overfished (SB_{year}/SB_{MSY}< 1)	Stock not overfished (SB_{year}/SB_{MSY}≥ 1)
Stock subject to overfishing(F_{year}/F_{MSY}> 1)	94%	0%
Stock not subject to overfishing (F_{year}/F_{MSY}≤ 1)	6%	0%
Not assessed/Uncertain		

Considering the IOTC 2015 Stock Status assessment concluding that Yellowfin tuna stock is overexploited, FOS certification of YF from the Indian Ocean will be valid only for products fished until 31st of December 2016.

YF caught after the 31st of December 2016 will be certified FOS only in case the IOTC will confirm full compliance of the Indian Ocean fishery (or single fleets covered by FOS certification) with its advice (20% reduction of 2014 catch levels) and / or Biomass returning within Bmsy.

Y

Albacore Tuna:

TABLE 1. Albacore: Status of albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) in the Indian Ocean.

Area[1]	Indicators – 2014 assessment			2015 stock status determination 2012[2]
Indian Ocean		SS3	ASPIC	
	Catch 2014:	40,981 t	40,981 t	
	Average catch 2010–2014:	38,181 t	38,181 t	
	MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI):	47.6 (26.7–78.8)	34.7 (28.8–37.4)	
	F_{MSY} (80% CI):	0.31 (0.21–0.42)	0.50 (n.a.)	
	SB_{MSY} (1,000 t) (80% CI):	39.2 (25.4–50.7)	68.6 (n.a.)*	
	F_{2012}/F_{MSY} (80% CI):	0.69 (0.23–1.39)	0.94 (0.68–1.61)	
	SB_{2012}/SB_{MSY} (80% CI):	1.09 (0.34–2.20)	1.05 (0.73–1.35)*	
	SB_{2012}/SB_{1950} (80% CI):	0.21 (0.11–0.33)	0.43 (n.a.)*	

[1]Boundaries for the Indian Ocean stock assessment are defined as the IOTC area of competence.
[2]The stock status refers to the most recent years' data used for the assessment, in this case 2012.
*Total exploitable Biomass (B)

Colour key	Stock overfished (SB_{year}/SB_{MSY}< 1)	Stock not overfished (SB_{year}/SB_{MSY}≥ 1)
Stock subject to overfishing(F_{year}/F_{MSY}> 1)		
Stock not subject to overfishing (F_{year}/F_{MSY}≤ 1)		
Not assessed/Uncertain		

Y

Skipjack Tuna:

TABLE 1. Skipjack tuna: Status of skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) in the Indian Ocean.

Area[1]	Indicators		2015 stock status determination
Indian Ocean	Catch 2014:	432,467 t	
	Average catch 2010–2014:	402,229 t	
	MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI):	684 (550–849)	
	F_{MSY} (80% CI):	0.65 (0.51–0.79)	
	SB_{MSY} (1,000 t) (80% CI):	875 (708–1,075)	
	C_{2013}/C_{MSY} (80% CI):	0.62 (0.49–0.75)	
	SB_{2013}/SB_{MSY} (80% CI):	1.59 (1.13–2.14)	
	SB_{2013}/SB_{1950} (80% CI):	0.58 (0.53–0.62)	

[1]Boundaries for the Indian Ocean stock assessment are defined as the IOTC area of competence.

Colour key	Stock overfished (SB_{year}/SB_{MSY}< 1)	Stock not overfished (SB_{year}/SB_{MSY}≥ 1)
Stock subject to overfishing(F_{year}/F_{MSY}> 1)		
Stock not subject to overfishing (F_{year}/F_{MSY}≤ 1)		
Not assessed/Uncertain		

1.1.3	Over-Fished (B<Bmsy)	Essential	B>Bmsy	Y	Please refer to table above table: **Yellow Fin Tuna:** The IOTC report indicated that on the weight-of-evidence available in 2015, the yellowfin tuna stock is determined to be overfished and subject to overfishing. The substantial increase in longline, gillnet, handline and purse seine effort and associated catches in recent years has substantially increased the pressure on the Indian Ocean stock as a whole, with recent fishing mortality exceeding the MSY-related levels. The current assessment estimates that the stock biomass is below the level that will support the MSY. However, it is to be noted that the IOTC commission does not currently have any Conservation and Management Measures in place, other than the FAD limitation measure. The Scientific Committee recommends that catches be reduced by 20% of current levels (2014). Currently, the vessels complied with the IOTC requirement. **Albacore Tuna** The IOTC report indicated that on the weight-of-evidence available in 2015, the albacore tuna stock is not overfished and not subject to overfishing. **Skipjack Tuna:** The IOTC report indicated that on the weight-of-evidence available in 2015, the skipjack tuna stock is not overfished and not subject to overfishing. **For Big Eye Tuna:** The IOTC report indicated that on the weight-of-evidence available in 2015, the Big Eye tuna stock is not overfished and not subject to overfishing.
The Auditor must take into consideration only the most up-to-date official studies on the stock status. These studies can be provided by the company to be audited, by Friend of the Sea, by other interested parties and by the auditor. The Auditor must provide proof on the conclusion regarding the status of the stock including clear references to documents and websites.					

2 – ECOSYSTEM IMPACT CRITERIA

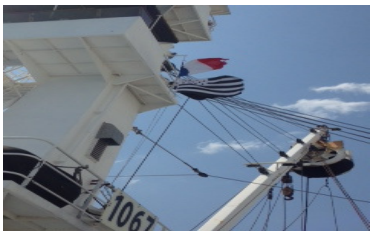
No.	Requirement	Level	Reference quantity parameters	Y/N	Comments
2.1	The fleet does not operate in protected areas.	Essential	Verify according to VMS and plotters tracking the observance of the Marine Protected Areas as per World database www.mpaglobal.net	Y	The vessels audited are equipped with a VMS system and the fishing areas were verified and it was noted that the fleets did not operate in protected areas.

The Auditor, through random sampling, using the Satellite Control System on the boats or valid alternative evidence, must be able to verify that the fishing does not occur in Protected Marine Areas (PMA). Alternatively an official declaration that the fishing is not carried out in Protected Marine Areas must be provided by the Control Authorities. The Auditor must provide a list of Protected Marine Areas (refer to www.mpaglobal.org)					
2.2	The role of the stock in the food chain was taken into account. (Cfr. Art. 31.2 of FAO guidelines 2009)	Recommendation	The following Fundamental parameters must be known: - Biology of the species -Nutrition and predators Such parameters must be taken into account when evaluating the status of the stock.	N	Fundamental parameters such as: biology of the species, nutrition and predators were taken into account for stock evaluation by FAO and Orthongel. However, correlated studies have not been carried out yet by the organisation. It is recommended that company collate studies/information with regards to same.
The Auditor must collect all the studies available and must ask the organisation if correlated studies have been carried out. If no study has been carried out yet, the Auditor must suggest starting on within 12 months in their report.					

3– SELECTIVITY

No.	Requirement	Level	Reference quantity parameters	Y/N	Comments
3.1	Accidental catches shouldn't be included in the IUCN red list of the endangered species (assessment carried out not more than 10 years before and classified in the category Vulnerable or High Risk).	Important	Studies of the relevant bodies on accidental catches must be available. These studies should not include the presence of dying out species in the list www.redlist.org classified as Vulnerable or worse. Relevant presence means over 0.25% of total catches.	**Y**	The accidental catches are as follows: -Mahi Mahi -Sail Fish (*Istiophorus platypterus)* -*Swordfish (Xiphias gladius* -Marlin -Baracuda -Banana Fish -Thazard These species were not included in the IUCN red list of endangered species.
The Auditor must obtain a list of the species that are generally caught accidentally. Such list must be provided by the audited organisation with the available studies. The information included in the list must be compared with the accidental catches actually occurred on site at the time of unloading. The list must also be compared with the database of the IUCN red list www.redlist.org. The Auditor must provide a final document that shows if any of the accidentally caught species is included in the IUCN list.					
3.2	In case the accidental catch (young individuals or undesired species) is over 8% in weight, the fleet must be withdrawn from the fishing zone.	Essential	Verify the existence of relative procedure. Verify the logbook and evidence of on board observers. Verify during unload operation a maximum of 8% of young individuals and undesired species.	Y	Accidental catch accounted to less than 8% in weight. In general, the maximum accidental catch was calculated at time of audit as ranging to less than 4% for the three vessels audited.
The Auditor must obtain a copy of the relevant procedure. The document must include reference to size and maturity of the targeted species in the fishing zone and, if any, minimum dimensions required by law. The on-board inspector must provide evidence of the conformity with these provisions.					

4 – LEGALE CONFORMITY

No.	Requirement	Level	Reference quantity parameters	Y/N	Comments
4.1	All fishing boats must be officially registered.	Essential	Boat registration and fishing license inspection.	Y	The official registration number of the vessels audited are as follows: -Bernica: DI 929727 -Franche Terre: DI 928376 -Morn Seselwa: 50235 The registration certificates were available on board of the fleets.
The Auditor must request a list of all the fishing boats and the respective registration number. The Auditor must collect on site all the documents concerning the registration of at least 10%of the audited boats (copies of photos of the documents)					
4.2	The fleet does not include boats with a flag of convenience.	Essential	Verify that the boat is not registered to another Nation identified as Flag of Convenience (http://www.itfseafarers.org/foc-registries.cfm) . In case it is registered to another FOC Nation the Organisation still must comply with the Social Accountability requirements of Friend of the Sea (8)	Y	Bernica & Franche Terre fleet flags – French  Morn Seselwa fleet flag – Seychelles 
The Auditor must verify according to the website http://www.itfseafarers.org/foc-registries.cfm.					
4.3	The fleet does not include INN (illegal, non-declared, non-regulated) fishing boats and does not operate in areas where regulations and management programs are seriously eluded.	Essential	The boat cannot be included in the list http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:350:0038:0043:EN:PDF	Y	The vessels are not included in the INN list. Same was verified on the EU regulation (468/2010) and found to be compliant. Also, the fleets are registered by the IOTC (currently authorized to operate in the IOTC area).
The Auditor must verify according to the list on the website http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:350:0038:0043:EN:PDF					
4.4	The fleet must be "Dolphin Safe" approved by the Earth Island Institute.	**Essential**	The organisation must be included in the Dolphin-Safe list of the Earth Island Institute: www.dolphinsafetuna.org	Y	Samper is included in the dolphin –safe list of the island institute (France). The certificate was seen at time of audit. Dolphin safe certificate dated 24.09.15 was also available for the vessel Morn Seselwa.

The Auditor must verify the conformity on the list www.dolphinsafetuna.org					
4.5	The fishing company complies with national and international regulations, especially those concerning the reduction of the environmental footprint of fishing, such as, but not only:	**Essential**	The national regulation is available on the website FAO http://www.fao.org/fishery/countryprofiles/search/en. The Auditor must specify applicable indicators.	Y	The fleets are subjected to the following requirements/rules: -IOTC -Orthongel -ISSF The organization Orthongel monitors the compliance of the fishing vessels with regards to the national and international regulations.
4.5.1	TCA (Total catching allowed)	**Essential**	The national regulation is available on the website FAO http://www.fao.org/fishery/countryprofiles/search/en. The Auditor must specify applicable indicators.	N/A	This was not defined and not applicable for the fleets. However, the stock status was monitored by the IOTC.
4.5.2	use of a logbook	Essential	The national regulation is available on the website FAO http://www.fao.org/fishery/countryprofiles/search/en. The Auditor must specify applicable indicators.	Y	This was in place on all the three vessels and complied with the IOTC resolution 12/03 on the recording of catch and effort by the fishing vessels in the IOTC areas of competence. The recordings of the catch and effort were verified for Bernica, Franche Terre and Morn Seselwa vessels and these were found to be satisfactory.
4.5.3	size of mesh	Essential	The national regulation is available on the website FAO http://www.fao.org/fishery/countryprofiles/search/en. The Auditor must specify applicable indicators.	N/A	The fleets were not subjected to this requirement. It is to be noted that a mesh size of 100 - 150 mm were being used for the fishing operation to enable juveniles to pass through the mesh during the fishing operation.
4.5.4	size of the net	Essential	The national is available on the website	N/A	The fleets were not subjected to this requirement and same was not specified by IOTC.
4.5.5	Minimum size	Essential	The national legislation is available on the FAO website FAO http://www.fao.org/fishery/countryprofiles/search/en. The Auditor must specify applicable indicators	N/A	The fleets were not subjected to this requirement and same was not specified by IOTC.
4.5.6	Distance from the coast	Essential	The national regulation is available on the website FAO http://www.fao.org/fishery/countryprofiles/search/en. The Auditor must	Y	Same was respected by the fleets. The fishing zones were verified (VMS) and found to be satisfactory.

			specify applicable indicators.		
4.5.7	measures for the reduction of accidental catching	Essential	The national regulation is available on the website FAO http://www.fao.org/fishery/countryprofiles/search/en. The Auditor must specify applicable indicators.	Y	Measures were in place in the three vessels such as using mesh size of 100 - 150 mm and use of lateral sounder (sonar technique).
4.5.8	no fishing in protected habitats	Essential	The national regulation is available on the website FAO http://www.fao.org/fishery/countryprofiles/search/en. The Auditor must specify applicable indicators.	Y	The fishing zones were verified on the VMS system and found to be satisfacory and there were no fishing activities in protected areas.
4.5.9	inspection of the on-board equipment and absence of forbidden devices and fishing methods, chemical substances and explosives	Essential	The national regulation is available on the website FAO http://www.fao.org/fishery/countryprofiles/search/en. The Auditor must specify applicable indicators	Y	Same was found to be in place during the site inspection of the vessel. Only approved chemical products such as cleaning products and anti foaming products (recommended to be used in food industries) were available on the vessel. These were kept in a dedicated area.
The Auditor must verify, according to national and international regulations, if the aforementioned legal requirements are met and provide an exhaustive report with reference to the law. Where possible, the Auditor shall provide documents and photographs. A detailed description of the fishing regulation concerning each Country is available on FAO's website http://www.fao.org/fishery/countryprofiles/search/en					

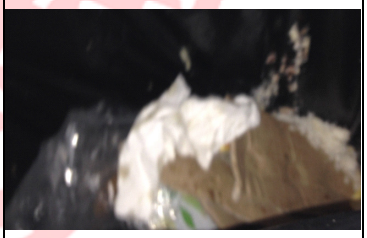
5– MANAGEMENT

No.	Requirement	Level	Reference quantity parameters	Y/N	Comments
5.1	The fishing company has a legal and administrative structure, locally, nationally or regionally, as appropriate (Code of conduct for responsible fishing, article 7.7.1).	**Essential**	Procedure and organisational chart.	Y	The vessels Bernica, Franche Terre and Morn Seselwa were EU approved vessels and also registered by the IOTC and adhere to Orthongel rules. The organisational chart of Sapmer was evidenced. Code of conduct for responsible fishing was defined and posters available on board of the three vessels.
The Auditor must verify and describe briefly the legal and administrative structure in force.					
5.2	According to the Code of conduct (art 7.5) a precautionary approached is undertaken to protect the "stock in question" and safeguard the marine environment.	Important	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The IOTC monitors and evaluate the stocks of the tuna fish and formulate requirements to manage the stocks.
The Auditor must verify if the Country the flag of the fishing company refers to has ratified the Code of conduct. Otherwise the Organisation must include a precautionary approach in their procedures					
5.3	The compliance with points 5.1 and 5.2 is achieved through monitoring, surveillance, control and application. (Code of conduct for responsible fishing, article 7.7.1)	Essential	Procedure and evidence of monitoring and control.	Y	This was in place and an observer was on board of the three vessels during the fishing campaign to collect verified catch data and other

					scientific data related to the fisheries for tuna and tuna-like species in the IOTC area. The Oberver reports for the previous fishing campaign verified at time of audit for the three vessels.
The Auditor must describe briefly the monitoring, surveillance, control, and application methods..					
5.4	The fishing company must adopt a responsible recording method of accidental catching.	Essential	Procedure and evidence of recording during at least one fishing trip.	Y	This was in place and accidental catching was recorded for the three vessels. Same was verified and found to be adequate. For example, the accidental catch for the campaign 10/03/15 – 26/04/15 for the vessel Bernica were mainly sharks and mahi mahi.
5.5	The fishing company must adopt a responsible recording method of discarded fish (young individuals or undesired species).	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity	Y	This was in place. The records indicated that the rejected fish were mainly fish unfit for human consumption/damaged. For example, for Bernica Vessel, from the observer report for the fishing campaign (2015_03_10/2015_04_26), it was indicated that the fleet team did an important work in releasing live sharks during the campaign.
The Auditor must provide evidence (photos or copies) of the report on accidental catches and discarded fish.					
5.6	A management system to prevent possible accidental catching of endangered species must be implemented.	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity..	Y	This was in place and the accidental catching records were verified and there were no endangered species such as turtles. Also, the mesh size of 100 - 150 mm allows most the juveniles to escape or same were removed manually as specified in the observer reports for the three vessels.
5.7	The fleet implements a management program that guarantees that any live animals that may be accidentally caught are immediately released in the water under conditions that guarantee high chances of survival.	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	Same was defined and the method for releasing live animals caught accidentally in water was found to be satisfactory.
5.8	The fleet is equipped with measures to minimize losses and guarantees a quick retrieval, where possible, of the fishing device to avoid "ghost fishing".	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The purse seiner fishing technique reduce the risk of having ghost fishing. It was explained that measures were in place for quick retrieval of fishing device. Also, the fish aggregating device (FAD) were used.
The Auditor must obtain a copy of the aforementioned procedure.					
5.9	The fleet has a full-time on-board inspector, approved by Friend of the Sea, who reports the compliance with the Friend of the Sea criteria, upon request of the latter.	Important	Documental evidence of employment. At least one monthly report of the on-board inspector.	Y	Observers were on board of the vessels during the fishing campaign. The observer reports were verified at time of audit.
The Auditor must verify the presence of the inspector and obtain their CV and contacts.					
5.10	The fishing company implements "Threshold Reference Limits" or "Precaution Limits" for both, biomass and quantity of fish caught.	Important	Evidence of the values implemented	Y	As per IOTC report, the tuna fish stocks except for yellow fin tuna were determined as not overfished and not subject to overfishing. For yellow fin tuna, the report for the year 2015 determined that the fish were overfished and subject to overfishing. It is to be noted that the IOTC commission does not currently have any Conservation and Management Measures in place, other than the FAD limitation measure. The Scientific

					Committee recommends that catches be reduced by 20% of current levels (2014). Currently, the vessels complied with the IOTC requirement.
The Auditor must verify if the "Reference Points" and the "Precaution Limits" are set by the Regional Bodies and must verify they are complied with.					

6 – WASTE MANAGEMENT

No.	Requirement	Level	Reference quantity parameters	Y/N	Comments
6.1	The fishing company recycles, re-uses or re-processes all materials used during fishing, conservation and transport of the fish up to the selling point, including packaging.	**Essential**	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	N	During the audit, it was noted that on board of the vessels Bernica and Franche Terre, the different type of wastes were kept in separate disposal bins (papers, plastics & organic wastes). However, a discrepancy was noted on board of the vessel Morn Seselwa: Even though procedure was defined for waste management, it was noted that the sorting/ segregation of different type of wastes such as plastic waste, food (organic) wastes and paper wastes were not implemented. Food wastes, cans and plastic wastes were disposed in same disposal bin on board of Morn Seselwa vessel.  
6.2	The fishing company implements measures to prevent dispersion of waste in the sea (including fuels and lubricants and plastic matter).	**Essential**	Procedure evidence of conformity.	Y	The fleets respect the plan for prevention of fuels and lubricants to be dispersed in the sea. Logsheets were in place for proper disposal of these wastes.
6.3	The fishing company utilises all the chemical non-toxic alternatives available in order to reduce the use of toxic, persistent or bio-accumulating substances.	**Essential**	Procedure evidence of conformity.	Y	During the site visit, cleaning chemicals which are recommended to be used in food industries were being used (non-toxic).

6.4	The company does not use CFC, HCFC, HFC or other refrigerants that cause ozone depletion.	**Essential**	Procedure evidence of conformity.	Y	The vessels used the refrigerant R-404A which is a type of HFC which do not deplete the ozone layer. However, the refrigerant contributes to global warming. It is recommended to use alternative refrigerants with lower global warming potential. 
The Auditor must provide procedures complete with photographic evidence.					

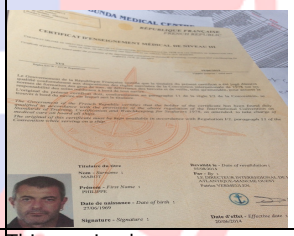
7 – ENERGY MANAGEMENT

No	Requirement	Level	Reference quantity parameters	Y/N	Comments
7.1	The Organisation must keep a register of the energy consumption, updated at least once a year.	**Essential**	The at least yearly frequency of the energy consumption records must be included in the procedure. The register must state at least the following parameters: 1.incoming energy sources 2.energy consumption values and 3. consumption per production phase and 4.per product unit.	**Y**	Energy consumption records were available on board of the three vessels audited. The records were found to be adequate.
7.2	The Organisation should calculate its Carbon Footprint per product unit and undertake to reduce it every year.	**Recommendation**		N	The carbon foot calculation per product unit was not available. It is recommended to calculate the carbon footprint on a yearly basis.
The Auditor must request copies of the registers.					

8 – SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

No.	Requirement	Level	Reference quantity parameters	Y/N	Comments

8.1	The Organisation must respect human rights, complying with the following requirements:				
8.1.1	comply with national regulations and ILO on child labour	**Essential**	Refer to ILO: http://www.ilo.org/global/standards/introduction-to-international-labour-standards/lang--en/index.htm	Y	This is was in place and at time of audit there was no child labour on board of the vessels audited.

8.1.2	pay the workers adequate salaries compliant at least with minimum legal wages	**Essential**	Minimum wages vary depending on the country. The Auditor must verify the Organisation knows about it.	Y	This was found to be adequate with the minimum legal wages. Contracts and pay slips were verified at time of audit.
8.1.3	grant their workers access to healthcare	**Essential**		Y	Medical box was available on board of the vessels audited. The captains followed specific training medical training (for example; level 3). Also, medical check-up were carried out on a regular basis. 
8.1.4	apply the safety measures required by the law	**Essential**		Y	This was in place.
8.2	The organisation should be SA8000 certified.	**Recommendation**		N	The company was not yet certified SA8000.
The Auditor must verify the compliance with the requirements through documental evidence (work-contract samples) and on-site observation.					

Further comments:

Considering the IOTC 2015 Stock Status assessment concluding that Yellowfin tuna stock is overexploited, FOS certification of YF from the Indian Ocean will be valid only for products fished until 31st of December 2016.

YF caught after the 31st of December 2016 will be certified FOS only in case the IOTC will confirm full compliance of the Indian Ocean fishery (or single fleets covered by FOS certification) with its advice (20% reduction of 2014 catch levels) and / or Biomass returning within Bmsy.

CONCLUSION:

The Auditor must fill-in the following fields

□ **The fleet COMPLIES with Friend of the Sea requirements**

□ **X The fleet DOES NOT COMPLY with Friend of the Sea requirements**
The Auditor found the following non-conformities:

MAJOR NON-CONFORMITIES (to be conformed within 3 months

None.

MINOR NON-CONFORMITIES (to be reported within 3 weeks and confirmed within 1 year)

Minor Non Conformity 1:

6.1: Even though procedure was defined for waste management, the following discrepancy was noted:
-The sorting/ segregation of different type of wastes such as plastic waste, food (organic) wastes and paper wastes were not implemented. Food wastes, cans and plastic wastes were disposed in same disposal bin on board of Morn Seselwa vessel.

Minor Non Conformity 2:

1.1.2: Considering the IOTC 2015 Stock Status assessment concluding that Yellowfin tuna stock is overexploited, FOS certification of YF from the Indian Ocean will be valid only for products fished until 31st of December 2016.

RECOMMENDATIONS (to be communicated within the next inspection)

Recommendation 1:

2.2: Fundamental parameters such as: biology of the species, nutrition and predators were taken into account for stock evaluation by FAO and Orthongel. However, correlated studies have not been carried out yet by the organisation. It is recommended that company collate studies/information with regards to same.

Recommendation 2:

7.2: The carbon foot calculation per product unit was not available. It is recommended to calculate the carbon footprint on a yearly basis.

Recommendation 3:

8.2: The company was not yet certified SA8000.