

**Question for written answer E-000488/2022/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Issues regarding implementation of the yellowfin tuna management plan and consequences for imports from third countries

On 17 December 2021 the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), which brings together 24 countries, adopted the provisional yellowfin tuna recovery plan. As part of a long-term management plan to protect the species' population, a total catch limit of 401 011 tonnes was set, in line with the recommendations of the IOTC Scientific Committee. However, six countries (India, Iran, Indonesia, Madagascar, Oman and Somalia) oppose this agreement and have announced that they intend to catch the same quantities in 2022 as they did in 2020, therefore opting out of the agreed plan. This being so, the agreement is destined to fail even if the other signatories honour their commitments as total catches will exceed the maximum sustainable yield. The Global Tuna Alliance has already voiced its concerns about this issue.

1. How does the Commission view the decision of these six countries not to participate in the agreement, thereby undermining the authority of the relevant regional fisheries management organisation?
2. What repercussions might this position have on the import of fishery products from these six countries?