



FISHERIES ACT 2020
(section 45)

SEA CUCUMBER REGULATIONS 2024

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 45 of the Fisheries Act 2010 (as amended), and acting in accordance with the advice of Cabinet, I hereby make the following Regulations.

Part I
Preliminary

1. Citation

These Regulations shall be cited as the Sea Cucumber Regulations 2024.

2. Commencement

These Regulations shall come into force on the date as the Minister may by notice appoint.

3. Interpretation

In these Regulations, unless the context requires otherwise –

“*Act*” means the Fisheries Act 2010 and its subsequent amendments;

“*Authorized Officer*” means officer appointed under section 23 of the Act;

“*beche-de-mer*” means the processed sea cucumber;

“*Director of Fisheries*” has the same meaning as defined in the Act;

“*day time*” means the hours between 0600hrs and 1800hrs;

“*harvesting*” includes but not limited to collecting, cultivating and buying of sea cucumber for commercial purposes;

“*sea cucumber*” means an aquatic animal which is an *holothroid*.

Part II
Administration

4. Administration

The Director of Fisheries is responsible for the administration of these Regulations.

5. Power of Authorized officers

(1) An authorized officer may –

- a) request any person to show proof of a license issued under these Regulations;
- b) take reasonable means and steps necessary to ensure that the conditions of the license and regulations are complied;
- c) collect evidence and take photos of sea cucumber products while executing his functions;
- d) may enter premises used for the storage or processing of sea cucumber during normal working hours without a warrant for the purpose of carrying out his functions.

6. Identification cards

(1) An authorized officer must wear an identification card when executing his duties under these Regulations bearing the following –

- a) full name and designation;
- b) clear photograph.

7. Power to arrest

(1) An authorized officer may arrest any person who commits an offence under these Regulations or the Act.

(2) Any person arrested under sub-regulation (1) must be handed over to any police officer as soon as possible to be dealt with accordingly.

8. Use of necessary force

An authorized officer may use necessary force while performing his functions under these Regulations or the Act to protect himself and the public properties.

9. Obstruction of authorized officer

Any person who obstruct an authorized officer while performing his duties under these Regulations commits an offence.

Part III

Application in general

10. General Applications

All applications for a license or a permit shall be made in a prescribed form which only be issued upon payment of a prescribed fee based on the allocation of quota.

Part IV
Harvesting Sea Cucumber

11. License

- (1) No person shall harvest or sell any sea cucumber without a license issued under this Part.
- (2) Any person harvesting or selling any sea cucumber under any license issued under these Regulations shall strictly comply to the conditions of the license.
- (3) A license issued under this Regulation must be in writing and must set out conditions.
- (4) A license must be issued upon payment of a prescribed fee based on the allocation of quota.
- (5) A person who contravenes sub-regulation (1) and (2) commits an offence and is liable to a fine of not more than \$10,000 and the revocation of his license.
- (6) Any person harvesting any sea cucumber shall possess a declaration form and any other approved form issued by the authorizing officer.

Part V
Purchasing and Exporting Sea Cucumber

12. Permit

- (1) No person shall purchase or export any sea cucumber without a permit issued under this part.
- (2) Any person purchasing or exporting any sea cucumber under any permit issued under this Regulations shall strictly comply to the conditions of the license.
- (3) A permit issued under this Regulation must be in writing and must set out the conditions.
- (4) A permit must be issued upon payment of a prescribed fee based on the allocation of quota.
- (5) A person who contravenes sub-regulation (1) and (2) commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding \$10,000, and revocation of his license.
- (6) A person who exports any sea cucumber shall possess a declaration form, a certificate of proof, and any other approved form to be issued by an authorizing officer.

13. Prohibited harvesting

- (1) Any person who harvest sea cucumber using scuba diving or any other forms of underwater breathing apparatus commits an offence.
- (2) Any person who gut a sea cucumber while harvesting commits an offence.

14. Species and sizes allowable for harvesting

- (1) No person shall harvest, sell, purchase, export or have in his possession any species and sizes of sea cucumber other than those listed in Schedule II and Schedule IV of these Regulations.
- (2) Any person who contravenes sub-regulation (1) commits an offence.

15. Spatial and Closed Areas

- (1) No person shall harvest, sell or process sea cucumber in designated closed areas.
- (2) Designated closed areas include uninhabited islands of Kiribati, Line and Phoenix Group and any areas that are protected under the Act.
- (3) Any person who contravenes sub-regulation (1) and (2) commits an offence.

Part VI

Culturing, Purchasing and Exporting of Sea Cucumber

16. Permit

- (1) No person shall culture, buy, sell or export any sea cucumber without a permit issued under this Regulation.
- (2) Any person who culture, buy, sell or export any sea cucumber under any permit issued under sub-regulation (1) shall strictly comply with the conditions of the permit.
- (3) Any person who contravenes sub-regulation (1) and (2) commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 and revocation of permit.

Part VII General Offences

17. Offences and penalties

Any person who contravenes any clause of these Regulations commit an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 and a revocation of license or permit for the period of 3 years.

Part VIII Miscellaneous

18. More information

(1) The Director of Fisheries may require more information from the applicant through the following –

- a) a formal written letter;
- b) one-to-one consultation; and
- c) formal written emails.

19. False information

Any person who furnished false or misleading information required under these Regulations commits an offence.

20. Application may be rejected

(1) An application may be rejected on the following grounds –

- a) the applicant has previously been convicted of a fisheries related offences;
- b) the applicant has previously breached or violated the conditions of his license or permit;
- c) in case of a foreigner or a foreign investor, there is a pending criminal investigation;
- d) the application was made fraudulently.

21. Renewal of license and permit

An application for a renewal of a license or a permit shall be treated in the same manner as a new application.

22. Validity of a license and permit

Any license or permit issued under this Regulations shall expired once the total allocated quota is exhausted or upon reaching the expiration date of the license or permit whichever comes first.

23. Aquaculture activities

- (1) Subject to the Aquaculture Regulations 2022, culturing of sea cucumber species shall follow the existing procedures and regulations under such Regulations.
- (2) For the purpose of these Regulations, culturing of sea cucumber shall not require quota allocation.

24. Amendments

The Minister, in accordance with the advice of the Cabinet, may from time to time amend, review, or revoke these Regulation.

Date this ^{1st} day of ^{August}, 2024.


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HE Taneti Mamau
The Beretitenti.

Published by exhibition at the Office of the Beretitenti this ^{1st} day of ^{August}, 2024.


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Dr. Naomi Biribo
Secretary to Cabinet



SCHEDULE I
(Regulations 10)



Sea Cucumber License Application Form

Section 1: Applicant Information

Full Name of Applicant			
Applicant Citizenship			
Contact Information	Address (Work)		
	Work Number		
	Phone Number		
	Email Address		

Section 2: Company Details

Local Business Registration Name	
Local Business Registration Number	
Type of Company (e.g. Corporation, Partnership, Single Private Company)	
Date of Establishment	
Registered Address	
Business Activities	

Foreign Investment License (if foreigner)	
Island Council Business License	
Are you renewing your Sea Cucumber Export License? Yes/No	
Have you previously exported sea cucumber? Yes/No	
How long have been involved in this business (provide any change in business name in the past)?	
Please provide brief business plan, financial background and details on the training and staffing?	
Please provide list of Fishers who will be supplying your business	

Section 3: Export Details

Name of the Island to harvest for sea cucumber	Have you consulted the Island Council concerned? Yes/No	Are you going to export sea cucumber?		Target species to be exported	Quota requested to be exported	Fishing Method
		Yes/No	Provide the name of the market & country			

Section 4: Compliance Information

- a. Are you aware of and in compliance with all relevant international and local regulations regarding the export of sea cucumbers? ☐ Yes ☐ No

- b. Have you ever been convicted to any fisheries related offences? ☐ Yes ☐ No
(Provide police clearance of no more than a month old)

Section 5: Submission Checklist

Checklist	Tick
Applicant Identification Card/Passport Copy	
Police Clearance (no more than a month old)	
Business Registration Certificate	
Foreign Investment License Certificate (if foreigner)	
Business Local License Certificate	
Financial background	
List of Fishers/suppliers	

I (Applicant Full Name) hereby declares
that the above information are all true to the best of my knowledge and acknowledge
that is an offense to provide wrong information and may result in a fine and
imprisonment or both.

Applicant Full Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____



SCHEDULE II
(Regulations 14(1))

LIST OF APPROVED SPECIES

Common name	FAO Codes	Scientific name
White teatfish	WTF	<i>Holothuria fuscogilva</i>
Black teatfish	BTF	<i>Holothuria whitmaei</i>
Prickly redfish	PRF	<i>Thelenota ananas</i>
Leopard fish	TF	<i>Bohadchia argus</i>
Green fish	GF	<i>Stichopus chloronotus</i>
Brown sandfish	BSF	<i>Bohadchia vitiensis</i>
Surf redfish	SRF	<i>Actinopyga mauritiana</i>



SCHEDULE III
(Regulations 12(6))

EXPORT DECLARATION FORM

(CONFIDENTIAL)

1.Name of entity: 2.Sea Cucumber License:...../.....

3.Date of shipment:..... 4.Export destination:.....

Particulars of species

Species Code	Grades A B C	Product types	No. of bags	Piece per bag	Total weight	Est value per kilo

I having the authority to provide the above information,
hereby declared that the above are provided for the purpose of exporting sea
cucumber products and that they are all true to the best of my knowledge.

Dated the day of 202.....

.....
signature



SCHEDULE IV
(Regulations 14(1))



Sea Cucumber Minimum Size Restrictions

High Grade Species

	Trade Name	Scientific Name	Local Name	Live Length (cm)	Dry Length (cm)
1	Black teatfish	Holothuria whitmaei	Teromamma	22	10
2	White teatfish	H. fuscogilva	Temaimamma	35	15
3	Prickly redfish	Thelenota ananas	Teburaerae	25	15

Medium Grade Species

	Trade Name	Scientific Name	Local Name	Live Length (cm)	Dry Length (cm)
1	Green fish	Stichopus chloronotus	Tekirin	20	10
2	Surf redfish	Actinopyga mauritiana	Tewaeura	20	8
3	Leopardfish	Bohadchia argus	Tetaika	20	10
4	Brown sandfish	B. vitiensis	Tekanimnim	20	10



SCHEDULE V
(Regulation 12(6))



CERTIFICATE OF PROOF

(To be completed by FA before products are transported to South Tarawa)

Name of Fisherman/Agent:	Name of Exporter:
Sea Cucumber License no:	Date:

Sea Cucumber species	No. of Sea Cucumber bags	No. of species per bag	Total weight of each bag (kg)

Total:

White teatfish (WTF), Black teatfish (BTF), Prickly redfish (PRF), leopard fish (TF), Green fish (GF), Brown sandfish (BSF), Surf redfish (SRF)

Signature:	Signature:
Fisheries Assistant:	Authorized officer:
Island:	CFD unit:
Date:	Date:



Local Harvesters/Collectors Application Form

Full Name of Applicant			
Contact Information	Address (home)		
	Phone Number		
	Email contact		
	Home address		

[illegible]

I (Applicant Full Name) hereby declares
that the above information are all true to the best of my knowledge and acknowledge
that is an offense to provide wrong information and may result in a fine and
imprisonment or both.

Applicant Full Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____



SCHEDULE VII
(Regulation 11(6))



Harvesters Declaration Form

Section 1: Fisherman Information

Name of Fisher: _____

Types of fishing gear: _____

Fishing sites: _____

Hours of fishing _____

Registration number: _____

Section 2: Catch Log: Live Sea cucumber

Species name	Number of landed sea cucumber ashore	Length of landed sea cucumber ashore	Weight of landed sea cucumber ashore
Total			

White teatfish (WTF), Black teatfish (BTF), Prickly redfish (PRF), leopard fish (TF), Green fish (GF), Brown sandfish (BSF), Surf redfish (SRF)

Signature: _____

Fisher: _____

Island: _____

Date: _____