
**INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION
for the
CONSERVATION of ATLANTIC TUNAS**

**R E P O R T
for biennial period, 2010-11
PART II (2011) - Vol. 1
English version **COM****

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS

CONTRACTING PARTIES

(as of 31 December 2011)

Albania, Algeria, Angola, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, European Union, France (St. Pierre & Miquelon), Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea (Rep.), Honduras, Iceland, Japan, Korea (Rep.), Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Russia, Sao Tomé & Principe, Senegal, South Africa, Sierra Leone, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Syria, Trinidad & Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom (Overseas Territories), United States, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela

COMMISSION OFFICERS

Commission Chairman

M. MIYAHARA, Japan
(since 19 November 2011)

First Vice-Chairman

M. AGUILAR, Mexico
(since 19 November 2011)

Second Vice-Chairman

M. TACKEY, Ghana
(since 19 November 2011)

Panel No.

PANEL MEMBERSHIP

Chair

-1- <i>Tropical tunas</i>	Angola, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, European Union, France (St. Pierre & Miquelon), Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Japan, Korea (Rep.), Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Panama, Philippines, Russia, Sao Tome & Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Trinidad & Tobago, Turkey, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela.	Côte d'Ivoire
-2- <i>Temperate tunas, North</i>	Albania, Algeria, Belize, Brazil, Canada, China, Croatia, Egypt, European Union, France (St. Pierre & Miquelon), Iceland, Japan, Korea (Rep.), Libya, Mexico, Morocco, Norway, Panama, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, United States.	European Union
-3- <i>Temperate tunas, South</i>	Belize, Brazil, European Union, Japan, Mexico, Namibia, Philippines, South Africa, Turkey, United States, Uruguay.	South Africa
-4- <i>Other species</i>	Algeria, Angola, Belize, Brazil, Canada, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, European Union, France (St. Pierre & Miquelon), Gabon, Japan, Korea (Rep.), Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Norway, Sao Tome & Principe, Senegal, South Africa, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Trinidad & Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom (Overseas Territories), United States, Uruguay, Venezuela.	Brazil

SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE COMMISSION

Chair

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION (STACFAD)

S. LAPOINTE, Canada
(since 15 November 2009)

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH & STATISTICS (SCRS)

Sub-Committee on Statistics: G. SCOTT (United States), Convener

Sub-Committee on Ecosystems: S. Cass-Calay (United States), Convener

J. SANTIAGO, EU
(since 8 October 2010)

CONSERVATION & MANAGEMENT MEASURES COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

C. ROGERS, United States
(since 18 November 2007)

PERMANENT WORKING GROUP FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF ICCAT STATISTICS
AND CONSERVATION MEASURES (PWG)

T. EL KTIRI, Morocco
(since 19 November 2011)

ICCAT SECRETARIAT

Executive Secretary: MR. D. MESKI

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FOREWORD

The Chairman of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas presents his compliments to the Contracting Parties of the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (signed in Rio de Janeiro, May 14, 1966), as well as to the Delegates and Advisers that represent said Contracting Parties, and has the honor to transmit to them the "*Report for the Biennial Period, 2010-2011, Part II (2011)*", which describes the activities of the Commission during the second half of said biennial period.

This issue of the Biennial Report contains the Report of the 22nd Regular Meeting of the Commission (Istanbul, Turkey, November 11-19, 2011) and the reports of all the meetings of the Panels, Standing Committees and Sub-Committees, as well as some of the Working Groups. It also includes a summary of the activities of the Secretariat and the Annual Reports of the Contracting Parties of the Commission and Observers, relative to their activities in tuna and tuna-like fisheries in the Convention area.

The Report is published in four volumes. *Volume 1* includes the Proceedings of the Commission Meetings and the reports of all the associated meetings (with the exception of the Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics-SCRS). *Volume 2* contains the Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) and its appendices. *Volume 3* includes the Annual Reports of the Contracting Parties of the Commission. *Volume 4* includes the Secretariat's Report on Statistics and Coordination of Research, the Secretariat's Administrative and Financial Reports, and the Secretariat's Reports to the ICCAT Conservation and Management Measures Compliance Committee (COC), and to the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG). Volumes 3 and 4 of the Biennial Report are only published in electronic format.

This Report has been prepared, approved and distributed in accordance with Article III, paragraph 9, and Article IV, paragraph 2-d, of the Convention, and Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure of the Commission. The Report is available in the three official languages of the Commission: English, French and Spanish.

FABIO HAZIN
Commission Chairman

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**PROCEEDINGS OF THE 22nd REGULAR MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS**
(Istanbul, Turkey – 11-19 November 2011)

1. Opening of the meeting

The Commission Chair, Dr. Fabio Hazin, opened the 22nd Regular Meeting of the Commission on 11 November 2011 following a minute of silence observed by the Commission as a mark of sympathy for the Turkish people following the earthquakes which had recently caused so much distress in eastern Turkey.

Dr. Hazin noted the progress made in ICCAT in recent years, but noted that there was still much work to do at the 2011 meeting, expressing his full confidence in the delegations to achieve the adoption of measures based on scientific advice.

The Under-Secretary for Fisheries, Mr. Vedat Mirmahmutogullari, on behalf of Mr. Mehdi Eker, Minister of Food, Agriculture and Livestock of Turkey, welcomed all the participants. Mr. Mirmahmutogullari outlined the major achievements of Turkey in the field of fishery management and stressed the importance of State responsibility for ensuring the sustainability of tuna stocks.

The opening addresses are attached as **ANNEX 3.1**.

2. Adoption of Agenda and meeting arrangements

The Agenda was adopted and is attached as **ANNEX 1**. The Secretariat served as rapporteur.

3. Introduction of Contracting Party delegations

The Executive Secretary introduced the following 39 Contracting Parties that attended the meeting: Algeria, Angola, Belize, Brazil, Canada, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, European Union, France (St. Pierre and Miquelon), Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Japan, Korea (Rep.), Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Russia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom (Overseas Territories), United States of America and Uruguay.

The list of participants is attached as **ANNEX 2**.

The opening statements by the Contracting Parties to the plenary session are attached as **ANNEX 3.2**.

4. Introduction of Observers

The Executive Secretary introduced the observers that had been admitted to the meeting. A Representative from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), depository of the ICCAT Convention, attended the meeting. Chinese Taipei and Curaçao attended the meeting as Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities. Argentina, El Salvador, and Surinam attended the meeting as non-Contracting Parties. The inter-governmental organizations also in attendance were: Agreement on Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP), Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM), Commission Sous-Régionale des Pêches (CSRP), Conférence Ministérielle sur la Coopération Halieutique entre les Etats Africains Riverains de l'Océan Atlantique (COMHAFAT), the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) and the Nigeria-Sao Tome & Principe Joint Development Authority

The following non-governmental organizations were admitted as observers: Association Euro-Méditerranéenne des Pêcheurs Professionnels de thon (AEPPT), Asociación de Pesca, Comercio y Consumo Responsable del Atún Rojo (APCCR), Bluewater Fishermen's Association, Conseil Consultatif Régional de la Méditerranée (CCR-Med), International Confederation of Sport Fishing (CIPS), Ecology Action Centre (EAC), European

Bureau for Conservation and Development (EBCD), Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP), Federation of Maltese Aquaculture Producers (FMAP), Fédération de la Pêche Maritime et de l'Aquaculture (FPMA), Greenpeace, International Game Fish Association (IGFA), Institute for Public Knowledge (IPK), International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF); IWMC World Conservation Trust, Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), MEDISAMAK, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), Oceana, Organisation for the Promotion of Responsible Tuna Fisheries (OPRT), Pew Environment Group, Robin des Bois, US-Japan Research Institute, and the World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF).

The list of observers is included in the List of Participants (**ANNEX 2**). The statements made to the plenary session, submitted in writing by the observers, are attached as **ANNEXES 3.3, 3.4, 3.5 and 3.6**.

5. Summary Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)

The 2011 SCRS meeting was held in Madrid (Spain) from 3-7 October 2011. The SCRS Chair, Dr. J. Santiago, presented a summary of the Report of the SCRS and indicated that the specific recommendations by species would be presented in the appropriate Panels, particularly for those species for which updated assessments had been conducted (i.e., Atlantic yellowfin, blue marlin, South Atlantic albacore and Mediterranean albacore).

Dr. Santiago expressed his thanks for the work of the SCRS scientists and to the previous Chair, Dr. Gerry Scott, and summarized the main work of and the recommendations by the SCRS in 2011 with special emphasis on the following:

- The need for continued and increased capacity building assistance and additional actions to support and involve scientists from developing countries in SCRS work.
- The need to increase analytical and data base management support at the Secretariat, *inter alia* through the hiring of a By-catch Coordinator and a Database Assistant.
- The need to ensure quality control and quality assurance by contracting help to develop stock assessment documentation during meetings and extending invitations to experts from other tuna RFMOs to participate in ICCAT stock assessments.
- The establishment of a research mortality allowance of about 20 tons was recommended for east Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna, to allow the GBYP to carry out its activities.
- The evaluation of the possibility of a “scientific quota” for each tuna and tuna-like species for which a TAC is already in place and for which a large-scale research programme is needed. Such a scientific quota would be part of the TAC but would not exceed a small percentage of this TAC.
- The inclusion of new species of sharks in the *ICCAT Manual* and the completion of the chapter on longline gear, as well as the updating of the descriptions of white marlin and spearfish.
- The harmonization of formats for the submission of by-catch and observer data.
- The need to increase the frequency of VMS signals from six-hour to at least two-hour intervals.
- The establishment of a minimum coverage of 10% as a general rule for size sampling.

The Committee recommended several research activities, including a large-scale tagging program for tropical tuna species in 2012, an ICCAT research programme for small tuna species, an albacore research program for North Atlantic albacore and increased funding for the Enhanced Billfish Research Program for a genetic study. The Committee recognised that undertaking all these large-scale programs at the same time would require a very high level of resources, and suggested that priority be given to the large-scale tagging programme for tropical tuna.

Dr. Santiago also reviewed in plenary responses to three of the eight requests from the Commission, including the recommendations to improve the effectiveness of CPC observer programmes, advice on the suitability of the alternative approach for carrying out the data collection obligations on vessels less than 15 metres and the effect of data deficiencies on stock assessment.

Several delegates expressed their determination to base management on the scientific advice of the SCRS, although it was also recalled that socio-economic factors also needed to be taken into account in the process of quota allocation. It was agreed that further capacity building for developing countries was an important issue which needed to be addressed, as did the increased data collection and research into small tunas. It was noted, however, that many of the SCRS recommendations had financial implications which would need to be considered in STACFAD.

The Commission expressed serious concerns about the low number of Contracting Parties attending the 2011 SCRS, and it was agreed that steps needed to be taken to encourage greater participation.

The Commission thanked Dr. Santiago for his presentation, commended the work of the SCRS, and adopted the 2011 SCRS Report.

6. Consideration of the Report of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT and any necessary actions

Ms. Warner Kramer (USA), Chair of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT, presented the report of the Group, which was adopted by the Commission. Ms. Warner-Kramer also presented the paper she had prepared at the request of the Working Group analysing the legal, management and policy implications of the various approaches available to the Commission in addressing elements discussed. In doing so, she noted that, aside from issues which may require changes to the Convention text, there were many matters which could be addressed in the current legal framework of ICCAT and that progress on some of these had already been made or were the subject of proposals on the table for the 2011 meeting. The SCRS Chair also presented issues arising from the meeting of the Working Group on SCRS Organization, particularly the need to define management objectives and tolerable risk levels, to clarify the goals of ecosystem management, to create a data bank and to standardise reporting formats.

The Commission Chair noted that there were three issues on which decision was required in plenary: Whether the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT should continue, whether there should be changes to the Panel structure and whether Co-operating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities could be afforded a more active role in the organization.

There was general agreement that restructuring of the Panels would be beneficial, but that all Parties must be aware of the financial implications before any final decision could be taken, which would vary according to the various proposals. This issue was referred to STACFAD for consideration.

There was consensus that Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities could present proposals on matters concerning fisheries conservation and management in the meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.

Many Contracting Parties agreed that the Working Group should re-convene, including to consider targeted amendments to the Convention. It was agreed that this would require the Group to be given a very clear mandate and precise terms of reference, for which the Commission adopted the *Resolution by ICCAT on a Program of Work for the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT* (see ANNEX 5 [Res. 11-25]). It was also agreed that the document presented by Ms. Warner Kramer would be further considered at the next Working Group meeting.

7. Consideration of the outcomes of the Kobe III and any necessary actions

Mr. R. Smith (USA), Chair of the Third Meeting of the Tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organisations presented the report of "Kobe III". Mr. Smith noted that the participants had reaffirmed the recommendations regarding port State measures and catch documentation schemes, and had recommended, *inter alia* that data confidentiality protocols be harmonized, fishing capacity be controlled, and scientifically based decision making principles be adopted.

The SCRS Chair presented the findings of the tRFMO workshop on by-catch, which had recommended that the Secretariats of the various tRFMOs draw up a protocol to govern the exchange of data and the minimum standards for the collection of data for review in 2012.

The European Union expressed its hope that all tRFMOs would follow up on the actions recommended during the joint meeting, and indicated that the establishment of Unique Vessel Identifiers was an area which should be given priority, as this would be an effective tool in the fight against IUU activities. The EU also noted that while progress had been made on capacity control, more work was needed in this area.

The United States agreed that it was necessary to make progress on the issues raised by the tRFMOs, particularly in the areas relating to decision making principles and by-catch related matters. The United States, together with co-sponsors Canada, Brazil and Norway, presented the *Recommendation by ICCAT on the Principles of Decision Making for ICCAT Conservation and Management Measures* (see ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-13]) which was adopted by the Commission. The United States, together with co-sponsors Canada, South Africa and the EU, also presented the *Resolution by ICCAT to Standardize the Presentation of Scientific Information in the SCRS Annual Reports and its Working Group Detailed Reports* (see ANNEX 5 [Res. 11-14]), which was adopted by the Commission.

8. Report of the Standing Committee on Finance and Administration (STACFAD)

The Chair of the STACFAD, Ms. S. Lapointe (Canada), reported to the Commission that the Committee had reviewed and adopted the “2011 Administrative Report” and the “2011 Financial Report”. The “Detailed Information on the Accumulated Debt of the ICCAT CPCs” and the “Review of the Payment Plans of Past-due Contributions” were also approved by the Committee.

The budget and Contracting Party contributions for 2012-2013 were presented and adopted by the Commission (see **Tables 1 to 7** to the STACFAD Report). Some Contracting Parties raised the issue of the species to be included in the catch and canning figures on which the individual contributions were based. It was agreed that more clarity on this was needed in the future, and that the issue should be resolved at the meeting of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT.

STACFAD had also approved the *Recommendation by ICCAT on the Establishment of a Meeting Participation Fund for Developing ICCAT Contracting Parties* (see ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-26]) which was adopted by the Commission. This fund will be established in 2012 with 60,000 Euros to be taken from the Working Capital Fund.

The STACFAD Chair recalled the agreement at the 2010 meeting that the right to vote would be rescinded for those Contracting Parties which did not respond to the letters informing them that their arrears equalled or exceeded the amount due for the two preceding years and informed the Commission that those Parties in this category had undertaken to submit a pay-back plan to meet their arrears.

STACFAD also discussed the draft *Deadlines and Guidelines for the Submission of Draft Proposals* (see ANNEX 7.1), which were adopted with minor change, as was the *Resolution by ICCAT on Best Available Science* (see ANNEX 5 [Res. 11-17]).

In accordance with the decisions taken by the Compliance Committee and the Permanent Working Group, the STACFAD Chair proposed a modification to the Rules of Procedure to include these two subsidiary bodies in Rule 13. The proposed amendment was adopted by the Commission (see ANNEX 7.3).

Ms. Lapointe reported that no consensus had been reached on the issue of restructuring of Panels, and that this had been once again referred to the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT.

It was noted that the adoption of the eBCD project would require funding and it was agreed that this would be done through the Working Capital Fund. CPCs which so wish can finance the project through voluntary contributions.

Ms. Lapointe was re-elected Chair of STACFAD.

It was agreed to adopt the STACFAD Report by correspondence. The Report is attached as ANNEX 8.

9. Reports of Panels 1 to 4 and consideration of any proposed recommendations therein

The reports of the Panels were presented by their respective Chairs. The Commission reviewed the reports and the Recommendations proposed by the Panels.

Panel 1

The Chair of Panel 1, Mr. H. Shep (Côte d'Ivoire), reported to the plenary the proposal agreed within the Panel for a *Recommendation by ICCAT to Amend the Recommendation by ICCAT on a Multi-Annual Conservation and Management Programme for Bigeye and Yellowfin Tuna*". The Commission adopted this Recommendation as attached in **ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-01]**. The Executive Secretary drew attention to the impact that the implementation of this Recommendation would have on the Secretariat workload, especially with regard to the implementation of the Regional Observer Programme, and advised that this would have financial impacts which would be reflected in the revised budget for 2013.

The Panel re-elected Côte d'Ivoire to chair Panel 1.

It was agreed to adopt the Report of Panel 1 by correspondence. The Report is attached in **ANNEX 9**.

Panel 2

The Chair of Panel 2, Mr. A. Carroll (European Union), informed the plenary that the Panel had agreed on a draft *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the North Atlantic Albacore Rebuilding Programme*, as well as a *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Atlantic-Wide Bluefin Tuna Research Programme (GBYP)*. These proposals were adopted by the Commission and are attached in **ANNEX 5**, as **[Rec. 11-04]** and **[Rec. 11-06]**, respectively.

The Panel had also discussed the fishing, inspection and capacity plans presented by the parties fishing for east Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna and endorsed the plans put forward by China, Croatia, Egypt, European Union, Iceland, Japan, Korea, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey. It was recognized that while no plans had been received from Norway or Chinese Taipei, no bluefin tuna fisheries would be undertaken in 2012 by either so submission of a plan was not required. The plans put forward by Panel 2 were endorsed by the Commission and are contained in **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 9**.

The Panel also acknowledged that the revised plan put forward by Algeria was in accordance with the management plan for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin, although formal endorsement was not required as Algeria had lodged an objection to Recommendation 10-04. While Turkey had also objected to Recommendation 10-04, it had requested endorsement of its plan from ICCAT.

As no plans had been submitted by Albania and Syria, the Panel was unable to recommend endorsement of these plans. It was clarified that the consequences of this as outlined in the Recommendation would apply, and that these countries would not be authorized to fish in 2012. It was agreed that letters to this effect would be sent to both countries.

The Panel 2 Chair also indicated that Libya had requested authorization to use its unused 2011 quota during the 2012 and 2013 campaigns. There was no consensus on this issue within Panel 2 and it was being referred to Plenary for discussion. There was also no consensus within the Commission on this request. Instead, it was agreed that this issue, together with the request from Algeria for the restoration of its historic quota share, should be deferred to 2012, when the management plan for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna was due for review. Libya indicated that it would not carry forward any unused 2011 quota into 2012, but it looked forward to revisiting this issue at the 2012 ICCAT meeting. In light of this, the Commission endorsed Libya's fishing plan for the 2012 fishing season.

The delegate of Japan reminded all Contracting Parties involved in bluefin tuna farming that it would require evidence that a sampling programme had been carried out in accordance with Recommendation 10-04 before allowing products to be imported into Japan.

The Commission noted that work would continue intersessionally on the format for reporting information on farming, and that this could be used on a trial basis in 2012.

The European Union was re-elected Chair of Panel 2.

It was agreed to adopt the Report of Panel 2 by correspondence. The report is attached in **ANNEX 9**.

Panel 3

The Chair of Panel 3, Mr. M. Aguilar (Mexico), presented the report of the Panel, together with a draft *Recommendation by ICCAT on the Southern Albacore Catch Limits for 2012 and 2013*.

This proposal was adopted by the Commission and is contained in **ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-05]**.

South Africa was elected Chair of Panel 3.

It was agreed to adopt the Report of Panel 3 by correspondence. The Report is contained in **ANNEX 9**.

Panel 4

The Chair of Panel 4, Mr. M. Miyahara (Japan), presented the proposals discussed and agreed within Panel 4:

- *Recommendation by ICCAT for the Conservation of North Atlantic Swordfish [Rec. 11-02]*.
- *Recommendation by ICCAT for Management Measures for Mediterranean Swordfish in the Framework of ICCAT [Rec. 11-03]*.
- *Recommendation by ICCAT to Further Strengthen the Plan to Rebuild Blue Marlin and White Marlin Populations [Rec. 11-07]*.
- *Recommendation by ICCAT on the Conservation of Silky Shark Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries [Rec. 11-08]*.
- *Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT on Reducing Incidental By-catch of Seabirds in ICCAT Longline Fisheries [Rec. 11-09]*.

These proposals were adopted by the Commission and are attached in **ANNEX 5**.

Mr. Miyahara also reported that the “Recommendation by ICCAT on Porbeagle Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries” had been discussed, but that no consensus had been reached. Parties were encouraged to work intersessionally on this issue with a view to putting forward a revised text in 2012.

Brazil was elected Chair of Panel 4.

It was agreed to adopt the Report of Panel 4 by correspondence. The Report is attached as **ANNEX 9**.

10. Report of the Conservation and Management Measures Compliance Committee and consideration of any proposed recommendation therein

The Chair of the Compliance Committee, Dr. C. Rogers (United States), informed the Commission that the Compliance Committee (COC) had approved the:

- Report of the Inter-sessional Meeting of the Compliance Committee (see **ANNEX 4.2**),
- Compliance Tables (see **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 10**) and,
- COC Summary Tables (see **Appendix 3 to ANNEX 10**).

Dr. Rogers informed the Commission that a small informal group had been constituted to review the information used to compile the Summary Tables and to assist in recommending actions, and that this had been very helpful. While he considered that it was unnecessary to formalize this practice, he recommended that it be continued in future. The Group had been represented by geographical area as follows: For Asia, Japan; for South America, Uruguay; for northern Africa, Morocco; for southern Africa, South Africa and for Europe, EU. North America had agreed to forego representation in 2011 in the interests of maintaining a small, efficient group and given that the Chair was from North America.

In light of the findings of the Compliance Committee as reflected in the COC Summary Tables, the Commission agreed to identify nine Contracting Parties pursuant to the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Trade Measures* [Rec. 06-13] for serious issues of non-compliance that diminish the effectiveness of ICCAT conservation and management measures. The Commission will send a letter to each identified Contracting Party notifying them of the decision and the opportunity to respond in writing at least 30 days prior to the November 2012 ICCAT annual meeting. The Commission also agreed to send letters of concern to 27 Contracting Parties noting specific items that need attention and requesting them to also send written replies to the Commission in advance of the 2012 ICCAT annual meeting.

The Committee also put forward the following Recommendations for approval by the Commission:

- *Recommendation by ICCAT to Amend the Mandate and Terms of Reference Adopted by the Commission for the ICCAT Conservation and Management Measures Compliance Committee* [Rec. 11-24].
- *Recommendation by ICCAT to Clarify the Application of Compliance Recommendations and for Developing the Compliance Annex* [Rec. 11-11].
- *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Establishment of an ICCAT Record of Vessels 20 Meters in Length overall or Greater Authorized to Operate in the Convention Area* [Rec. 11-12].

These three proposals were adopted by the Commission and are attached in **ANNEX 5**.

Dr. Rogers (USA) was re-elected as Chair of the Compliance Committee.

It was agreed that the Report of the Compliance Committee would be adopted by correspondence. The Report is attached as **ANNEX 10**.

11. Report of the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG) and consideration of any proposed recommendation therein

The PWG Chair, Dr. R. Lent (United States), reported to the Commission on the measures agreed by the PWG, including the actions to be taken pursuant to ICCAT's Recommendation on Trade Measures [Rec. 06-13] in relation to non-Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities in 2011 (attached as **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 11**). The Commission agreed on the following actions:

– *Bolivia and Georgia*

It was agreed to lift the trade restrictive measures from these two non-Contracting Parties while maintaining identification of both for a period of one year during which activities would be monitored. To this end, the Commission adopted the *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Lifting of Trade Restrictive Measures on Bolivia and Georgia* (see **ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-19]**). The Commission will send a letter notifying these countries of this decision.

– *Cambodia*

It was agreed that identification of Cambodia should be maintained, especially as new information had come to light which may indicate that a Cambodian vessel had been involved in some illegal activities during the past year, although more concrete information was not available at the time to warrant stronger action. The Commission will send a letter notifying Cambodia of this decision.

– *Colombia*

It was agreed to renew the Cooperating Status of Colombia despite not having received the information requested nor any of the obligatory reporting submissions in 2011. At the same time, the Commission determined that Colombia should be identified pursuant to ICCAT's Recommendation on Trade Measures [Rec. 06-13] for diminishing the effectiveness of ICCAT's conservation and management measures. The Commission will send a letter of identification to Colombia outlining the concerns with continued lack of reporting.

It was agreed to renew the Cooperating Status of Chinese Taipei, Guyana, and Curaçao. The PWG reviewed two new applications for Cooperating Status and agreed to grant such status to Surinam, but not to El Salvador, as the latter had not provided all the information required. It was determined that the Executive Secretary would inform these Parties, Entities, or Fishing Entities of the Commission's decision and request further information from El Salvador.

The letters, to be sent from the Commission Chair, to the above-mentioned Parties are attached as **Appendix 3 to ANNEX 11**.

It was further agreed on the "2010 List of Vessels Presumed to Have Carried Out Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing Activities in the ICCAT Convention Area", having removed from the provisional list those vessels which had been delisted by the IOTC. The Commission adopted the ICCAT IUU list, which is attached as **Appendix 4 to ANNEX 11**.

Some revisions were agreed to the current bluefin tuna catch documentation program and the Chair also reported on progress made with regard to the implementation of the electronic bluefin tuna catch document scheme, and the following Recommendations were put forward for approval by the Commission:

- *Recommendation by ICCAT Amending Recommendation 10-11 on an Electronic Bluefin Tuna Catch Document Programme (eBCD) [Rec. 11-21]*
- *Recommendation by ICCAT Amending Recommendation 09-11 on an ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation Program [Rec. 11-20]*

These two proposals were adopted by the Commission and are attached in **ANNEX 5**.

For the implementation of the Recommendation on eBCD, it was stressed that the Terms of Reference should be drafted with the assistance of the Technical Working Group in order to be able to publish the Call for Tenders before the end of January 2012.

The PWG had also agreed on the following:

- *Recommendation by ICCAT Further Amending the Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a List of Vessels Presumed to have Carried out Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Activities in the ICCAT Convention Area [Rec. 11-18];*
- *Recommendation by ICCAT on Access Agreements [Rec. 11-16];* and
- *Resolution by ICCAT on Traceability of Tuna Products [Res. 11-22]*

The above were adopted by the Commission and are attached in **ANNEX 5**.

With a view to improving data collection, the PWG proposed the following:

- *Recommendation by ICCAT on Information Collection and Harmonization of data on By-catch and Discards on ICCAT Fisheries [Rec. 11-10];* and
- *Recommendation by ICCAT on Penalties Applicable in Case of Non-fulfilment of Reporting Obligations [Rec. 11-15].*

The above proposals were also adopted by the Commission and are attached in **ANNEX 5**.

In line with the revised terms of reference of the Compliance Committee, the PWG Chair reported the approval of the following Recommendation:

- *Recommendation by ICCAT to Amend the Terms of Reference of the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG) [Rec. 11-23].*

The above Recommendation was adopted by the Commission and is attached in **ANNEX 5**.

It was noted that reporting obligations in relation to national observer programmes had not been respected by all Parties in 2011, and the Chair reminded all CPCs that this was an obligatory requirement.

Mr. T. El Ktiri (Morocco) was elected Chair of the PWG.

It was agreed to adopt the PWG report by correspondence. The Report is attached as **ANNEX 11**.

12. Assistance to developing coastal States and capacity building

The Commission took note of the ICCAT Secretariat document summarizing the assistance provided in 2011 to developing coastal States. All Parties agreed that such initiatives were of great importance, and it was noted that such assistance should not be limited to meeting attendance but should include training and other means of improving the skills of developing country scientists. The mechanism put forward by the STACFAD Chair for granting and requesting such assistance, as discussed under Item 8 above was approved.

13. Cooperation between ICCAT and CITES

As had been agreed in 2010, the Commission discussed guidelines for cooperation between ICCAT and CITES. The draft put forward by the Secretariat, together with the comments received from two ICCAT Contracting Parties and from CITES were presented. Following consultations among the Parties, a revised document was drafted and the Commission adopted the *Guidelines for Cooperation Between the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)* (see **ANNEX 7.2**). It was determined that the Secretariat should send these guidelines to the CITES Secretariat.

14. Inter-sessional meetings in 2012

The Commission accepted the offer of Japan to host an inter-sessional meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Monitoring Measures in 2012, and also agreed to hold a Third Meeting of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT in 2012, at a date and place to be determined by the Chair and the Executive Secretary.

15. Election of Commission Chair and Vice-Chairs

The Commission elected Mr. M. Miyahara of Japan as Chairman of the Commission, and Mr. M. Aguilar Sanchez (Mexico) and Mr. M.G. Tackey (Ghana) as First Vice-Chair and Second Vice-Chair, respectively.

16. Other matters

There were no other matters discussed by the plenary under this Agenda item.

17. Tentative date and place of the next meeting of the Commission

The Executive Secretary informed the Commission that South Africa had offered to host the annual meeting in 2013 and that Uruguay had expressed its intention to host the 18th Special Meeting in 2012. In the event that

Uruguay was unable to host the 2012 meeting, Morocco offered to act as host. It was agreed that the 18th Special Meeting of the Commission would be held from 12 to 18* November 2012 in either Uruguay or Morocco.

18. Adoption of the report and adjournment

The Commission agreed that the report of the plenary session would be adopted by correspondence.

The outgoing Chair thanked the Government of Turkey for hosting the meeting as well as the European Union for its financing. Dr. Hazin recalled that during his four years as Chairman of the Commission, he had noted significant changes in the way of the Commission had worked, with increased respect for scientific advice, and progress in the area of compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures and in ecosystem management. All this progress had been attained in an atmosphere of friendship and solidarity, which has converted ICCAT into a family and a brotherhood.

All delegates of the Commission joined in expressing their heartfelt thanks to Dr. Fabio Hazin for his leadership, and concurred that his diligence, integrity and openness had contributed much to the advances made by ICCAT over the past four years.

The Executive Secretary thanked all delegates, the Government of Turkey, the European Union, the interpreters, and the Secretariat staff. He also thanked the outgoing Chair and congratulated Mr. Miyahara on his election as Chair for the coming biennial period.

The 2011 Commission meeting was adjourned on 19 November 2011.

The Report of the Plenary Sessions was adopted by correspondence.

* Following the meeting, it was agreed to extend the meeting dates by one day, i.e., from November 12 to 19, 2012.

COMMISSION AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of Agenda and meeting arrangements
3. Introduction of Contracting Party Delegations
4. Introduction of Observers
5. Summary Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)
6. Review of the report of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT (Madrid, May 2011) and consideration of any necessary actions
7. Consideration of the outcomes of the Kobe III and any necessary actions
8. Report of the Standing Committee on Finance and Administration (STACFAD)
9. Reports of Panels 1 to 4 and consideration of any proposed recommendations therein
10. Report of the Conservation and Management Measures Compliance Committee (COC) and consideration of any proposed recommendations therein
11. Report of the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG) and consideration of any proposed recommendations therein
12. Assistance to developing coastal States and capacity building
13. Progress report and guidelines on future cooperation with CITES
14. Inter-sessional meetings in 2012
15. Election of Commission Chair and Vice-Chairs
16. Other matters
17. Date and place of the next meeting of the Commission
18. Adoption of the report and adjournment

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OPENING ADDRESSES & STATEMENTS TO THE PLENARY SESSIONS

3.1 OPENING ADDRESSES

By Dr. Fabio Hazin, ICCAT Chairman

First of all, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Minister for having honored us with his presence at this opening of the 22nd Regular Meeting of ICCAT. Allow me, Honorable Minister, to sincerely thank you, and through you, the Government of Turkey and the Turkish people, for hosting the annual meeting of ICCAT for the second time.

Curiously, my term as ICCAT Chair began here in Turkey four years ago, and it is now coming to an end again in Turkey. So, I feel obliged to double thank this beautiful country, the Turkish people and my Turkish friends for these two memorable occasions, which I will never forget.

I would like also to reiterate my recognition and gratitude for all the support that has been provided by your staff, Honorable Minister, to the ICCAT Secretariat to organize this meeting in the beautiful and historic city of Istanbul.

Honorable Minister, three weeks ago your country suffered a serious earthquake in the eastern part of Turkey which caused numerous victims and considerable economic damage. Just yesterday, another earthquake struck again, causing more loss of lives and destruction. On behalf of ICCAT, I would like to express our profound condolences to and solidarity with the Turkish people.

Let me also take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the European Union for providing financial support for this meeting.

The 22nd Regular Meeting of ICCAT is being held in a context marked by increasing pressure on the tuna resources, for which ICCAT has an extremely important responsibility. I am pleased to note, however, that ICCAT has made significant progress over these last four years. Modern concepts of fisheries management, such as the precautionary approach, which is reflected in the strict observance of scientific advice, and the ecosystem approach, which has been introduced through various measures adopted to protect bycatch and to reduce the impact of ICCAT fisheries in the marine ecosystem, have become firmly entrenched in the work of this Commission.

It was only four years ago that we had a TAC for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna that was well above the level recommended by the SCRS and rampant IUU fishing that resulted in actual catches being almost twice the adopted level. Today, we have a TAC that is below the level recommended by science and strict control mechanisms in place that are among the most sophisticated in all internationally managed fisheries. Of course, this does not mean that our challenges are over or that IUU fishing is finished. We all know that it never will be addressed completely, but we, as well as the international community, are obliged to recognize that ICCAT did achieve significant progress and that we are surely moving into the right direction.

Four years ago, for all practical purposes, we had only one binding measure on the books to reduce the impact of ICCAT fisheries on by-catch species: recommendation 04-10 prohibiting the practice of shark finning. Today, we have almost ten Recommendations protecting seabirds, sea turtles and several shark species, including the prohibition of retention of the most vulnerable ones—measures that were unprecedented in Tuna RFMOs worldwide. Again, the work in this field is obviously far from over. We have to keep the momentum to ensure that ICCAT fisheries are not only sustainable for target species but also with respect to all bycatch caught in conjunction with ICCAT-managed fisheries, with the minimal impact possible on the marine ecosystem. Nevertheless, we all must recognize that the progress we have made in only four years is, indeed, outstanding.

But, leaving the past behind, we need to focus on the future. We will again this year face a very long and extremely busy meeting, with a great number of species requiring the adoption of science-based conservation and management measures, including the definition of new TACs and potential quota allocations. I wish, therefore, all Panel and Committee Chairs very fruitful and constructive work so that we can arrive on November

19th with all stocks managed by ICCAT duly regulated and in full conformity with the scientific advice provided by the SCRS.

Speaking of the SCRS, I would like to take this opportunity to thank its previous Chair, Dr. Gerry Scott, as well as its present Chair, Dr. Josu Santiago, as well as all my colleague scientists for the brilliant work they have done over these years, which is at the very core of all achievements accomplished by this Commission. Science is the foundation of sound management, and, therefore, we should not only continue to support the work of the SCRS but significantly strengthen it.

I would also like to take this opportunity to praise the progress that has been achieved so far by the Compliance Committee, under the very able leadership of its Chair, Dr. Chris Rogers. At the same time, however, it is extremely important to emphasize that we still have more work to do to improve compliance by Contracting Parties, including by establishing mechanisms to sanction non-compliant behavior, particularly in the case of relapses, otherwise the credibility of the Compliance Committee, and consequently of the Commission itself, will be seriously compromised.

We should keep in mind, however, that the issue of compliance should walk hand-in-hand with the need to reinforce the capacity building efforts developed so far by the Commission. Undoubtedly, the strength of ICCAT will always rely on the capacity of all Contracting Parties to fully participate in the work of the Commission, including attendance to meetings. In this regard, I particularly welcome the proposal prepared by the STACFAD Chair, Ms. Sylvie Lapointe, and take this opportunity to thank her for this work.

Still looking to the future, it is opportune to highlight the importance of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT and, in this regard, the progress achieved to-date should be also welcomed. I believe we now have a good document prepared by the Chair of that Group to guide our future steps. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Working Group Chair, Ms. Deirdre Warner-Kramer, for her hard work. I believe the time has come for us to realize that our Convention, finalized in 1966, has reached an old age and needs to be updated. I do hope that we can come to an agreement on that necessity as well as on the process required to make it happen.

Before I conclude my opening remarks, and since this is the last time I will have the opportunity to open an ICCAT meeting, I could not let this occasion slip by without expressing my wholehearted appreciation to the ICCAT Secretariat, in particular to Mr. Driss Meski, who has always served this Commission with competency and dedication, making the life of the Commission Chairman surely much easier.

Finally, I would like to close my remarks by expressing my full confidence in all Contracting Parties and Chairs of Panels and Committees, and my consequent optimism that during this meeting ICCAT will once again adopt all the measures needed to ensure the sustainability of the stocks under its mandate, in full conformity with scientific advice. I wish us all a very productive week. Thank you.

By Mr. Vedet Mirmahmoutogullari, Under-Secretary of Fisheries of Turkey

I wholeheartedly welcome all of you to our fabulous city Istanbul which has unprecedented natural beauty and historical richness. I would also like to state, on behalf of my country, that it is a pleasure to host such an important meeting and to see you in Turkey.

I would like to express my appreciation for the ICCAT Secretariat's efforts to hold the 22nd Regular Meeting of ICCAT in Turkey and I would also like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to all the Contracting Parties for their contribution to the organization of ICCAT's 22nd Regular Meeting in Turkey.

As is known, the habitat of fish, particularly the highly migratory species, cannot be bordered. It is a common responsibility for all States and policy makers to ensure the survival of these species, their sustainable fishing, and conservation, and improving and developing their living space, and their handing down to the next generations without being extinct.

This responsibility could also be realized through the regional and international cooperation of the States. The cooperation should be provided by the sharing of information and experiences in this field. We convene in this Regular Meeting to achieve this goal.

Factors such as the uncontrolled and over-exploitation of living marine resources, the pollution of their habitats, that sometimes cause destruction that cannot be recoverable and even more, the extinction of some species.

Besides these factors, the climate change, invasive species, marine pollution, unregistered and illegal fishing should also be considered as areas of our responsibility needed to be carried out sensitively.

I would like to give you some information as regards the Turkish fisheries and Turkish fisheries policy. The fisheries sector is an important one for my country, from the standpoint that it provides the needed animal protein for our people and creates employment.

There are 20,674 licensed fishing vessels in Turkey. The 90% of the Turkish fleet is composed of vessels less than 12 m and the remaining 10% is comprised of trawlers and purse seiners longer than 12 m. The 90% of the total Turkish catch is obtained from the trawlers and purse seiners in this group.

As it seems, the Turkish fishery is developing not only industrial fishing but also coastal fishing.

The fisheries sector employs nearly 150,000 people. Turkey is 32nd in the world ranking of the fishery sector. In 2010, fishery production reached 653,000 tonnes (t), of which 486,000 (t) were obtained from fishing and 167,000 t were obtained from aquaculture.

While there has not been a very significant change in the production obtained from fishing, a continuous increase is seen in the production obtained from aquaculture.

Turkey has made new regulations for sustainable fishing in the fields that are important instruments in fisheries management, such as:

- Fishing rules applied to fishing gears and species,
- Monitoring and control,
- Data collection, data entry and data analysis.

Henceforth, the Turkish regulations will also be continued in the fields which are needed:

- Fishery regulations are made in accordance with the framework of international rules and in the light of scientific data.
- Turkey combats against illegal and unregulated fishing.
- To ensure more effective and efficient fisheries management, a new Directorate was established within the Ministry of Fisheries, under the name of "General Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture".

I would like to emphasize that the basis of the Turkish fishery policy is the conservation of our resources and their sustainable management.

It should be kept in mind that natural resources are not endless. All of us must certainly provide the balance between protection and exploitation.

I hereby highlight that we are aware of our responsibility.

Turkey makes efforts to implement the decisions that enter into force by the regional and international fishing organizations.

In order to combat against illegal and unreported fishing and to ensure the cooperation among other countries, Turkey became a party to the "Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing".

Turkey believes that for the conservation of the highly migratory fish stocks or the conservation of other fish stocks, the scientific studies carried out by organizations such as ICCAT and GFCM contribute to the reinforcement and sustainability of cooperation among countries.

I emphasize once again that Turkey country will continue to support every kind of international cooperation for the protection of both tunas and other fish stocks in the future, as it did in the past.

In spite of its objection to the quota allocation, Turkey fulfills all the Recommendations adopted by ICCAT. I clarify here that our objection is not to the Total Allowable Catch advised by the scientific committee, but to the allocation of total quota.

What Turkey expects from the Commission is the development and implementation of a fair quota allocation system.

Finally, I hope that the meeting will be successful and I would like to thank everyone for their participation and contributions. I also hope that you will enjoy the historical and touristic places of Istanbul which is one of the most beautiful cities in the world, and return to your countries with good memories. I present my compliments to all.

3.2 OPENING STATEMENTS BY CONTRACTING PARTIES

Algeria

Algeria expresses its appreciation to Turkey for hosting the 22nd Regular Meeting of ICCAT and would also like to express its sincere feelings of compassion and sympathy following the tragedy that befell the region of Van.

As you know, following the 17th Special Meeting of ICCAT that was held in Paris in 2010 and at which Algeria could not be adequately represented, Algeria's bluefin tuna catch quota was drastically reduced from 684 metric tons (t) to 138 t for 2011.

It should also be noted that this inequitable reduction on the order of 4/5 of its initial quota exclusively affected Algeria whose allocation key was reduced from 5.073% to 1.073%.

Following this serious prejudice, Algeria invoked the provision of Article VIII of the ICCAT Convention in presenting an objection to Recommendation 10-04 to denounce the offhanded practice by which this reduction has been carried out in its absence and without its being consulted.

It should be noted that this reduction is therefore more incomprehensible that Algeria, after its adherence, has not spared any effort to honor its commitments and to comply with all the provisions of the ICCAT Convention.

Further, Algeria has never surpassed the catch quota that has been allocated to it and systematically transposes the catch size limits in its regulations as well as the closed seasons adopted by ICCAT.

This is also the case of its obligations regarding the financial contributions to the ICCAT budget for which Algeria is perfectly and regularly up to date and as regards the requirements to transmit information to ICCAT for which Algeria does not cease in putting forth its most sincere efforts.

It is true, however, that despite its proven efforts and support, Algeria experiencing difficulties, like the majority of the ICCAT members, to implement the monitoring and control measures that are increasingly complex and more and more costly.

It should be noted that under the weight of these increasingly binding measures, Algeria is experiencing many difficulties to make the tuna vessels operational which these measures have in terms of cost for these private and public efforts.

In effect, besides the artisanal coastal fleet that fishes tunas and swordfish incidentally, Algeria has planned the development of a national tuna fleet based on the level of catches that it has been allocated since 2003. The result of these investment efforts has led, between 2005 and 2009 to the acquisition of vessels, by private operators, specifically targeting bluefin tuna.

At this stage of the process of development and since Algeria's initial quota was divided by 5, how will it be explained to the owners and operations, who are already struggling to make their new acquisitions operational to be able to pay the bank drafts that they should eliminate 4/5 of these vessels?

Such unjust and unjustified practices which have led to a reduction of Algeria's quota discredit our organization and damage its credibility in confirming more and more acerbic criticism for ICCAT which is facing a more difficult situation.

Algeria has been very responsive to the position of the members that have denounced and who reject these practices; Algeria considers that they are only seeking their own interests and the continuity our organization. We have to pay them a great tribute.

A year after the 17th Special Meeting and after having carried out the full conventional objection procedure, Algeria, relying on the sense of responsibility of the ICCAT Parties, understands that at this meeting its rights will be reinstated and its total catch quota will be restored.

In this perspective, the Algerian delegation shows its willingness of full cooperation with all the Parties in the hopes that the work of this important meeting will strengthen the credibility of our organization.

Brazil

It is a great pleasure for the Brazilian delegation to participate in the 22nd Regular Meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, for the second time being held in Turkey, this turn in the historical and millenary Istanbul. We would like to thank Turkey for the excellent organization of this event and for the warm hospitality of the Turkish people.

On behalf of the Brazilian Government and people, the Brazilian delegation expresses its solidarity and its most sincere condolences to the Government and people of the Republic of Turkey on the human losses caused by the two recent terrible earthquakes that struck the Province of Van, causing hundreds of deaths and destruction in the eastern area of the country.

We would like to thank the European Union for its support for the meeting. We also wish to recognize and praise the hard work done by the Executive Secretary and the Secretariat staff in the very competent preparation for this event.

Let us also take this opportunity to congratulate Chairman Hazin for the closure of his second and last term as the Chairman of the Commission. During his tenure, this Commission undoubtedly achieved an unprecedented progress, towards ensuring the sustainability of the tuna fisheries in the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea. We are very glad to realize that that under his leadership, during the past four years, ICCAT realized the importance of full respect for scientific advice, observance of the precautionary approach and marked improvements with regard to the implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management. That is clearly reflected in several recommendations adopted during this period devoted to the protection of by-catch species, such as sharks, turtles and seabirds. The unparalleled progress this Commission attained in the past four years certainly put it in the forefront among fisheries management organization in terms of responsible fisheries.

Brazil is also pleased to take this opportunity to reaffirm its commitment to the duly implementation of all management and conservation measures adopted by ICCAT, as well as to the sustainability of tuna fishery in the Atlantic Ocean. In recent years, Brazil has achieved a significant progress in the management of fishing activities, including by improved Monitoring, Control and Surveillance.

In 2003, Brazil created the Secretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture, aiming at improving the national fisheries policy. Due to the success achieved by the Secretariat, in 2009, it was upgraded to a full Ministry rank, a fact that clearly emphasizes the high hopes and expectations of the Brazilian people for the development and better control of the fisheries sector.

The establishment of the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture has resulted in the improvement of the Brazilian fisheries statistics as well as in the development of strategic programs for the control of fishing activities, such as the on board observer program (PROBORDO) and the vessel monitoring system (PREPS). The new Ministry also coordinates and implements, in conjunction with the Ministry for the Environment, a joint committee for the management of fisheries resources, responsible for adopting the necessary regulations, with a view to harmonize the development of the fisheries sector, with the necessary sustainability and fulfillment of international commitments.

Once again, this is going to be a very busy year for ICCAT. Although there will be no negotiation of new TAC or quotas for the bluefin tuna, a species which in previous meetings consumed a significant amount of time, there are several species that will require a particular attention of the Commission, including the North Atlantic and Mediterranean swordfish, South Atlantic and Mediterranean albacore, bigeye tuna, yellowfin tuna, blue and white marlins, sailfish, sharks, particularly the silky shark, and seabirds.

Brazil fully supports the evident need to adopt TACs or catch limits in full conformity with SCRS advice for all target species, in conjunction with sharing arrangements capable of preventing their overshooting. Another issue that is very important to the Brazilian delegation during this meeting is the urgent need to further reduce the by-catch in all fisheries for tuna and tuna-like species.

In that context, we hope that the Commission will be able to extend the present recommendation on billfish, prohibiting, however, the landings of blue marlin from pelagic longline and purse seine fisheries, as recommended by the SCRS, and extending the prohibition of retention, now applicable to the oceanic whitetip and the bigeye tresher shark, to the silky shark as well. As also noted by the SCRS, the silky shark was considered one of the most vulnerable species in the Ecological Risk Assessment conducted in 2008, requiring, therefore, immediate and urgent protection, similar to the measures already adopted for the two other shark species mentioned. We also believe that the time has come to further improve the management measures now in place to reduce the bycatch of seabirds and we will diligently work with other delegations to that aim.

We are also very hopeful that during this meeting we can clarify and renew the Terms of Reference of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT, so that it can effectively engage in the much needed exercise of updating the ICCAT Convention, in order to align it with the modern concepts of fisheries management. In our view, such exercise does not require a complete redrafting of the Convention. On the contrary, we favor the approval of precise and very well focused terms of reference, to address specific issues such as the Precautionary Approach, the Ecosystem Approach, the Objection Procedures, and the decision-making process, in particular the time for adopted measures to enter into force and voting rules, including required quorum.

We greatly welcome the document from STACFAD Chair to facilitate the participation of developing countries in the meetings of the Commission and strongly encourage Contracting Parties to expand and strengthen ICCAT capacity building initiatives.

Finally, we would like to reaffirm the disposition of the Brazilian delegation to fully cooperate with the Chairman and with all delegations to make this meeting a very successful one.

Canada

Canada would like to express our deep appreciation to the Government and people of Turkey for hosting the 22nd Regular Meeting of the Commission in this beautiful city of Istanbul. We hope to have the opportunity to explore your city and experience all that it has to offer.

We would also like to express our profound sympathies and sorrow to the families, friends and loved ones of those killed in the recent earthquakes in the eastern province of Van. Our thoughts are with the Turkish people during this difficult time.

Canada is pleased with the significant progress made by the Commission in recent years. Last year's adoption of a management plan for eastern Atlantic bluefin tuna based on scientific advice, as well as the increased focus on compliance in order to ensure that Members are meeting their obligations to sustainably manage the stocks under the purview of the Convention, are all positive steps towards maintaining the credibility of the organization in the eyes of the public. We have seen efforts within the Commission to improve data collection, adopt measures in line with an Ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management, and recognize scientific advice as the foundation of these management decisions. It is important that we continue to make progress in these crucial areas.

This year ICCAT will be developing a new management measure for North Atlantic swordfish. While the recovery plan for this stock has been hailed as a success story within ICCAT, with the stock being recognized as fully rebuilt, we are in the unfortunate situation of having a fishery which is now over-subscribed. While catches are below the TAC for the time being, the possibility of overfishing this stock is a legitimate concern and should be addressed at this meeting. Allocations must recognize strong compliance, ecosystem management and contributions to science, as well as historic and continued interest in the fishery.

Along with responsible decision-making on species-specific issues, Canada wishes to continue to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the Commission by building on the significant progress already achieved by the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT. We are seeking to develop consensus among Contracting Parties around short-term pragmatic and practical solutions, as well as eventual Convention amendments that would ensure ICCAT's position at the forefront of modern fisheries management organizations. We feel this can be accomplished through the development of a concrete program of work for the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT for the next year.

Canada believes that with a strong commitment from all involved, we can meet our obligations as ICCAT members, as well as the expectations of the global community, to sustainably manage fish stocks and ensure long-term opportunities for our harvesters.

Côte d'Ivoire

The Delegation of Côte d'Ivoire expresses its sincere gratitude to the Turkish Authorities for having accepted to host the 22nd Regular Meeting of ICCAT in this marvelous city of Istanbul and also expresses its compassion to the people of Turkey for the tragic event that occurred over the past several days due to the earthquakes. Côte d'Ivoire prays that this will not happen again. We also offer our appreciation to the Commission Chairman, Dr., Fabio Hazin, as well as to the Executive Secretary, Mr. Driss Meski and his staff for the excellent preparation of this meeting.

Côte d'Ivoire's identification in 2009 and 2010, and even the grave crisis that our country is undergoing, has not diminished our determination and our willingness to do our best to comply with the ICCAT recommendations. This is because the delegation that I have the honor to lead includes the highest authorities of the Ivorian administration, whose Director of the Cabinet of the Minister is in charge of fishing and the Fishing Port Director of the Autonomous Port of Abidjan, the most important tuna fishing port of West Africa.

Côte d'Ivoire expresses its gratitude to CICAT for the support given through the various capacity building funds to the coastal developing countries. It hopes it can rely on support from ICCAT and the donating countries for the implementation of the recommendations.

Côte d'Ivoire reiterates its support to ICCAT, an organization whose principal mission is the management of the tuna and tuna-like fisheries on a sustainable basis and hopes this RFMO continues to efficiently manage the resources in the area under its jurisdiction. We will thus continue to support all the well-conceived and scientifically verified measures adopted by the Commission at its annual meetings.

Côte d'Ivoire believes it is essential that all the Contracting Parties continue to cooperate for a sustainable management of the tuna and tuna-like resources through a political will, commitment and cooperation.

For our part, Côte d'Ivoire will make every effort to carry out the many challenges with a view to the implementation of the ICCAT recommendations.

Lastly, the Ivorian delegation would like to wish you every success in the work of this meeting of the Commission.

Croatia

Being a city in two continents, Istanbul is truly unique. It builds its beauty on traditions of both the East and the West, and unites different people and different cultures. Perhaps it is the right place to discuss issues which go around the globe and touch so many different people -the issues of tuna fishery management. Croatia would like to thank the Turkish government for organizing this meeting, and for choosing such a beautiful venue.

This year, in slight contrast to most of the previous meetings, the bluefin tuna is not in the centre of the Commission's attention. But, although it may not be the focus, it is never far from the pinnacle of everyone's interest. Perhaps this is a good year to try and take stock of what has been achieved, and where along the way we are. The initial plan was adopted six years ago, and has seen many different changes. This in itself is one of the reasons why we need to take a step back and see what and how we have done. The measures we have all agreed to implement have grown more and more stringent over the years. We have all tried to do better, to control better, to report better. Croatia believes that the results are becoming visible, and that there are good indications that things have started moving along the upward path. Several independent fisheries indicators including

significant and strong increase of BFT juveniles in a number of nursery areas all along Mediterranean (i.e., Adriatic, Gulf of Lyon, Bay of Biscay, etc) have shown important positive outcomes from recent management measures that has included among others a substantial decrease in catch and minimum size regulation measures. And it is probably the one thing we all really want to see. Croatia has supported and implemented the recommendations, albeit sometimes it was neither easy nor smooth. For a small country whose economy in the food sector significantly depends on fisheries, this is particularly challenging. But, it seems that the efforts are paying, since indications from scientists show that the stocks are getting better. It might be too early to tell, but the initial signs are by all means positive.

Croatia continues to invest its efforts into further improvement of scientific research and data submission. This, we believe, is the key to our success. Furthermore, adherence to all management measure and firm discharge of all obligations is absolutely necessary from all the parties. But, this does not mean that there can be no concerns as to the actual effectiveness of some elements. Croatia has already indicated certain concerns, primarily related to the implementation of the observer programme and some specific elements concerning the biological data underlying some of the assumptions.

Croatia strongly supports the efforts made to understand the biological elements that govern the behaviour of bluefin tuna. It is our firm belief that better knowledge of behaviour, regional specificities of population structure and overall understanding of the stocks is the main element for decision making. Regional specificities of population structure and dynamics govern the nature of the fishery, and these specificities should be taken in consideration when discussing seasons, sizes, capacities or any other management measure.

In the case of Croatia, the fact that the purse seine season coincides with the period when the fish in the Adriatic are highly dispersed and do not school results in significantly lower individual catches of Croatian vessels as compared to the catches in other areas of the Mediterranean. Preliminary data indicate that the average catches per haul are less than 3 tons per vessel. This, coupled with the issue of the implementation of the observer programme, raises concerns for the long-term sustainability of the activity as a whole, which for Croatia could potentially have significant impact on overall economy, including social fabrics of some local communities.

And not less important, Croatia shares concern related to adequate instruments and means given to the scientific communities to perform research and monitor stock status indicators in the years to come. Without a research quota scientists are put on the edge of IUU fishing. In such a circumstances we can't make sure that scientific advice will be timely and enough adequate in quality. Therefore Croatia fully supports idea to allocate a research quota for BFT and looks forward to the discussion on how such a quota is going to be handled, and what kind of model would be the best?

Given the importance of the issues at hand, we are looking forward to fruitful discussions.

European Union

The European Union would like to express its deepest appreciation to the Government of Turkey for hosting the 22nd Regular Meeting of ICCAT in the beautiful and history-rich city of Istanbul. We also wish to extend our warmest thanks to our Chairman, Dr. Hazin, for his successful and effective steering of the Commission works and to the Executive Secretary, Mr. Meski, and the whole ICCAT Secretariat for their hard and good work throughout the year.

ICCAT and its Contracting Parties are increasingly under the spotlight for the way they manage fish stocks in the Atlantic Ocean and in the Mediterranean Sea. Civil society, the Fisheries Industry and NGOs require, and rightly so, that our Organization delivers on its mandate. The European Union believes that we, ICCAT, must live up to those hopes and our obligations.

Taking this into consideration, the EU came to Istanbul with high expectations for this meeting and certainly willing to seize this opportunity to make concrete and considerable progress in the conservation and management of ICCAT species.

To this end, we hope that ICCAT will reaffirm once again the central role of scientific advice in our work. Science is the backbone of responsible fisheries management. Therefore we must make sure that any conservation and management measure is based on the best possible scientific advice. While we recognize the high quality work of SCRS, the European Union believes that there is still room for future improvement of scientific advice. Better, more complete and timely submitted data, broader participation by scientists, capacity

building for developing countries, the use of the best possible models and quality assurance through peer reviews are some of the fields where we firmly believe that ICCAT can make tangible progress at this meeting. We are strongly committed to working towards this objective.

Next to science, a high degree of compliance with adopted measures is essential for the effective action of ICCAT and the achievement of its objectives. The EU attaches the utmost importance to the transposition, implementation and respect of ICCAT Recommendations. Despite its composite nature and its major presence in ICCAT fisheries, the European Union has achieved an excellent record of compliance with ICCAT rules. However, we do not intend to postpone but rather intend to pursue tirelessly further improvements. We also expect from other Contracting Parties a continued commitment for improved compliance with the rules of this Organization.

More generally, we hope that, in a year where no new measures on bluefin tuna are expected, ICCAT will seize the opportunity to focus on other stocks and adopt bold conservation and management measures, notably on bigeye and yellowfin tunas, North-Atlantic and Mediterranean swordfish and sharks.

On a final note, the European Union wants to congratulate the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT for the work done so far. We hope that, on the one hand, the meeting will be able to agree on a clear way forward to modernize the Convention and, on the other hand, to take all the other steps necessary to allow this Organization to tackle efficiently and successfully all the challenges ahead.

The 22nd Regular Meeting of ICCAT faces a considerable number of expectations, hopes and requests. The European Union stands ready to work hard with its friends and colleagues to achieve important results towards a stronger ICCAT driven by best science, sound conservation and management of stocks and a culture of compliance.

Japan

First of all, the Japanese delegation would like to express its sincere appreciation to the Government of Turkey for hosting this meeting and also thank the Chair of the Commission, Dr. Hazin, as well as Executive Secretary Mr. Meski, for the excellent preparation and arrangements of the meeting.

In March, the devastating earthquakes and Tsunami hit the Northeast coastal area of Japan, where fishing is one of the major economic activities. Many people, including fishermen, lost lives and damage to the fisheries industry was enormous. On behalf of the Government and people of Japan, we wish to express our gratitude to the warm supports and heartfelt condolences from ICCAT friends. At the same time, we deeply regret that Turkey has had a similar catastrophic experience recently. We would like to extend our condolence to the people in Turkey and hope that things will recover as soon as possible.

Turning to the business, while ICCAT has made a great progress in the past several years in improving conservation and management of tuna and tuna-like species and their ecologically related species, I must emphasize that there are still many issues to work on and fix here in Istanbul. Several tuna stocks are still experiencing low stock levels and relatively high fishing mortality, and effective conservation and management measures have to be established based on scientific advice and precautionary approaches. Japan is particularly concerned about tropical tunas. Due to the piracy in the Indian Ocean as well as over fishing capacities in other oceans, more fishing vessels, both large longliners and purse seiners, moved or are trying to move to the Atlantic Ocean. Movement of purse seiners is resulting in extensive FADs fishing. It is well known from experiences in the other oceans that FADs operations cause a high level of by-catches of both juvenile tunas and sharks such as silky shark and oceanic whitetip shark. A comprehensive set of measures are required to achieve sustainable use of both target and non-target species.

Another important issue is introduction of eBCD. Although the compliance with conservation and management measures for bluefin tuna fisheries has drastically improved, there are still cases of non-compliance reported to the Commission. We believe that eBCD will further improve the compliance level of bluefin measures.

In this connection, Japan would like to stress the need to expand traceability system from bluefin tuna to other tunas including bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack. The systems for those species do not have to be so demanding as the Bluefin BCD but would be enough if they provide such information on origin and legality of catches as the EU IUU regulations require. We must start the work here in Istanbul and complete it hopefully at the next ICCAT meeting, since the global market already started to require such traceability systems for many fish products.

Japan acknowledges that there has been a good progress in ecosystem and precautionary approaches in ICCAT. ICCAT has been adopting binding conservation measures on ecologically related species such as sharks, sea birds and sea turtles in recent years. ICCAT also introduced some precautionary measures in the management of the eastern bluefin tuna stock and several shark species. It should also be noted that SCRS has expanded the scope of Kobe 2 Strategic Matrix to many species so that the Commission can consider to what extent precautionary approach should be taken into account. Japan would like to continue to work with other delegations to promote these approaches based on the best scientific information available. Finally, we hope that this meeting will be successful and fruitful under your strong guidance.

Libya

It is with great pleasure and commitment that the delegation representing the liberated people of Libya is attending this 22nd Regular Meeting of ICCAT.

At the beginning, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the international community and especially the countries that have supported and continue to support the people of Libya in our struggle for freedom and democracy after having finally toppled a tyrant that has caused atrocities to thousands of innocent people.

We wish to extend our appreciation to the Secretariat and in a particular manner to the government of Turkey for hosting the meeting in this city that has played such an important role in Mediterranean history and retains a leading political and economic role in current times as well.

The preparation of this introductory note has been no easy task.

The people of Libya like their brethren in neighbouring Tunisia and Egypt have seen the passing away of an old regime and the birth of a new liberated country – our passage from one historical phase to the other has however been marred with heavy losses of life and the devastation of buildings and houses and the exodus of hundreds of thousands of our people to neighbouring countries during the period of conflict. Libya is now a free country with democratic aspirations and all of us are pooling in our resources to rebuild a just social network together with the required institutions of governance.

This meeting will of course be focusing on various marine species that the international community is concerned about. ICCAT has already proven its readiness and capability in tackling the blue fin tuna issue. We are confident that together we shall be successful in addressing the problems facing other species and their relative fisheries in the same positive and practical manner.

The Libyan Fishing Authority is presently taking stock of the state of the fishing industry in our country devastated by the civil war and there is a lot that needs to be done in the various sectors. Meetings have been held with the various operators and we can safely declare that the operators in the field of blue fin tuna have reacted very positively. Many vessels are in a good state of repair with their VMS systems still functioning. The legislation adopting the implementation of the ICCAT Rec 10-04 is already in place and within the next three months the Authority will have all the necessary staff and mechanisms to guarantee that this legislation be respected by any operators in the blue fin tuna industry active in our areas of competence.

The Libyan bluefin tuna fishing industry was forced to forfeit the 2011 season due to circumstances beyond their or anybody else's control. This has caused great hardship to the various social sectors concerned; the many families involved not only did not have any income for 2011 but had to face the hardships of war and cannot prospect any income until the 2012 season that is some seven months away. This always coupled to the concern that if the weather conditions are unfavourable the season could also go lost.

We are therefore submitting to this meeting a one-time request to allow our industry to re-coup the quota allocated to them for 2011 which had to be forfeited. We suggest that it could be distributed over the next two years of the current fishing plan which ends in 2013.

We agree with the proposals of other CPCs to reduce as much as possible the by-catches in all fisheries of tuna, tuna-like species and in particular swordfish.

Our intention is to cooperate to the best of our abilities with other delegations present to ensure that this meeting is a successful one and once again reiterate our commitment to adhere to all the recommendations this meeting

shall adopt to safeguard our common marine biodiversity and further enhance the credibility of ICCAT and its members.

Namibia

The Namibian Delegation would like to express its sincere appreciation to the Government of Turkey for hosting the 22nd Regular Meeting of ICCAT in this beautiful, historic city of Istanbul.

The Namibian Delegation would also like to express its sincere sympathy and condolences to the Government and the people of Turkey who were recently hard hit by Mother Nature.

We are grateful to the broad membership of ICCAT for the innovativeness and flexibility with which this Commission has crafted and implemented management measures in the direction of greater sustainable utilisation of the species under its mandate.

As a developing coastal State, Namibia has devoted valuable, scarce resources to the design and implementation of a national Fisheries Management regime. In no more than 21 years as an independent State, Namibia has taken bold steps to manage her fisheries and discharge her flag state obligations in a responsible manner. Namibia's Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) system ranks among the most efficient in the world, conferring full control over all fishing activities and processing plants. The quota management of Namibia's share of marine resources under the purview of ICCAT is incorporated in our rights-based Individual Quota (IQ) management system, ensuring effective implementation of ICCAT management and conservation measures under our National Legislation. An autonomous Fisheries Observer System provides for almost complete observer coverage on most fishing vessels. Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) coverage for all trawlers, longliners and surface baitboats under the national VMS regulatory regime was put into place and Namibia is currently in the process of upgrading the system. Various National Plans of Action for the Management of Fisheries in Namibia has been implemented to combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IUU).

Namibia believes that progress towards efficient allocation of fishing possibilities should be accompanied by concrete measures to address the issue of overcapacity in ICCAT fisheries. Measures to equilibrate capacity are important as the growing interests of developing states to have their fair share of the resources are recognised. It is in the common interest of all parties that productivity of the fish stocks and their economic performance are at the most efficient.

We are therefore looking forward to the fruitful discussions over the next few days and to build upon the outcomes to improve the management of ICCAT fish stocks for the benefit of all members. Namibia wants to wish all the delegates and participants fruitful deliberations.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Belize and Trinidad and Tobago

The report of the second meeting of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT noted the need for ICCAT to enhance its cooperation with regional organizations. This statement was made in relation to the issue of capacity building and assistance to Developing States. Additionally, the "Analysis of Issues for the Strengthening of ICCAT" (prepared by the Chair of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT with inputs by some CPCs), in analyzing provisions to strengthen participation of non-Contracting parties to the Convention, highlighted that the Convention supports cooperation between the Commission and other international organizations. Besides these incentives, cooperation between ICCAT and other regional and international organizations should be considered in terms of other potential benefits.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Belize and Trinidad and Tobago would like to take this opportunity to inform the Commission of the activities of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) Project, which is one of several LME projects being implemented across the globe and supported by GEF, the World Bank and other donors. The overall goal of the CLME project is 'sustainable management of the shared living marine resources of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem and adjacent areas through an integrated management approach that will meet WSSD (World Summit on Sustainable Development) targets for sustainable fisheries'. Hence the CLME project strives to develop the appropriate governance and management mechanisms for supporting an ecosystem approach to fisheries management, which by its nature, must also take into account management of the environment itself. It should be noted that within the CLME project, several sub-projects and cases studies are being carried out to: (i) address gaps in the information base, (ii) identify and implement the required legal,

policy and institutional reforms, and (iii) establish the institutional and procedural approach to large marine ecosystem management.

As may be expected, one of the CLME project's case studies focuses on the management of large pelagic fish resources occurring in the CLME, many of which are tuna and tuna-like species. The Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) is the regional fisheries organization responsible for this particular CLME case study, and has a membership of 17 Caribbean States, six of which are ICCAT CPCs. At present, the CRFM is giving attention to options for a suitable governance and management mechanism for large pelagic fish resources within the CLME, and this would involve some form of co-operation between the CRFM and other regional/international organizations with overlapping interests (e.g. WECAFC) and of course, ICCAT. As noted previously, similar to the CLME project, other large marine ecosystem projects are ongoing within the Convention Area, and will also benefit from cooperation with ICCAT for ecosystem-based management of the tuna and tuna-like fish resources occurring in those sub-regional/regional ecosystems. Hence, ICCAT should give consideration to building formal cooperation with pertinent regional and international organizations, bearing in mind that these large marine ecosystem management initiatives such as the CLME project are occurring within the ICCAT Convention Area, and the potential of the mechanisms being developed by these initiatives to: (i) enhance sub-regional/ regional level activities and contributions regarding the assessment and management of large tunas and billfishes; (ii) advance efforts towards improved monitoring, assessment and management of small tunas at the sub-regional/ regional levels; (iii) promote the ecosystem approach to fisheries management at the sub-regional/regional levels, which in turn will advance the ecosystem approach to management of tuna and tuna-like resources for the entire ICCAT Convention area.

United Kingdom (Overseas Territories)

The delegation of the United Kingdom (Overseas Territories) would like to extend its sincere thanks and appreciation to the Government of Turkey for hosting the 22nd Regular ICCAT meeting in the enchanting city of Istanbul.

Our membership in ICCAT comprises four Overseas Territories: Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands; and St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha. These are small island states in varying stages of development. Meeting all our ICCAT obligations during the year can be difficult and we welcome the work by the Chair of the Compliance Committee to seek to address this by highlighting current requirements which can be either simplified or made less burdensome while retaining their integrity. We consider that this initiative can streamline our work whilst also recognising the importance of accurate and timely data being submitted to the SCRS to guide it effectively in its work.

In recent years the main focus of the ICCAT meetings has been the bluefin tuna fishery. Whilst acknowledging that there will be discussions around this species we very much look forward to detailed discussions on stocks such as yellowfin, bigeye, swordfish and albacore all of which are stocks of interest to the UK Overseas Territories both as a coastal and flag state. We hope that by the end of the meeting we can demonstrate that ICCAT is a responsible RFMO that uses the best evidence available to reach decisions that will provide for healthy and sustainable fisheries in the years to come.

ICCAT has made progress to protect a range of shark species in recent years and we hope that this work can be developed upon in order to safeguard the most vulnerable sharks in the Convention area. During the last two years, the United Kingdom Overseas Territories has worked with a number of contracting parties to try to implement stronger measures to mitigate against seabird by catches in the Atlantic Ocean. Some of these species are severely threatened and we hope to be able to agree a robust recommendation here in Istanbul that will give these species a better chance of survival.

In May 2011, the United Kingdom Overseas Territories attended the future of ICCAT meeting in Madrid. This was a fruitful meeting in that it identified the most important issues for ICCAT to address in order for it to operate more effectively. But it is clear that there also remains much to do, including to bring the Convention up to date and ensure that all members are able to engage on an equal basis, and we look forward to participating in further discussions on these issues during the next 10 days.

In 2011, the United Kingdom Overseas Territories has also been carrying out work to assess the viability of establishing a marine protected Area in the iconic Sargasso Sea. A presentation was given to the sub-committee on eco systems in Miami in May and the scientific case is now in the process of being finalised. The Sargasso Sea has been identified as a crucial habitat for a number of threatened and endangered species including marine

mammals as well as a spawning area for many species of fish some of which are under the purview of future ICCAT. We consider this to be an exciting project which can bring significant ecological benefits leading to economic benefits that can be enjoyed by the coastal states involved and the relevant Fisheries and Maritime Organisations including, of course, ICCAT. During 2012 we hope to be able to involve Contracting Parties in a consultation exercise.

Finally, we would like to extend our warm thanks and appreciation to the ICCAT Secretariat and the chairs of the various ICCAT committees and working groups for their continued efforts during the year. We extend to them, and other contracting parties and delegates, our best wishes for a constructive, and successful, 22nd Regular meeting of the Commission.

Uruguay

The Delegation of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay would like to thank the Government and the people of Turkey for hosting the 22nd Regular Meeting of International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas in this beautiful and ancient city of Istanbul. This is a particularly commendable effort, taking into account the catastrophe that has befallen Turkey recently, for which we would like to express our solidarity. Also, we extend our appreciation to the European Union, the Commission Chairman and the Secretariat for all the work done to organize this meeting.

In Paris we referred to the concept of equality, closely relating it to the allocation criteria and the need for an in-depth analysis of these criteria, recalled in such a way that they include the SCRS advice and the needs of the poor coastal countries.

We stated then that this is the main challenge the Commission faces to achieve its continuity and to carry forward a sustainable management of the resources. In this sense, our country believes it is important to further examine the future of ICCAT, since we understand that the differences and inequalities are an impediment for the development of our organization.

If there is not an equal and fair distribution of the resources, it will be very difficult to attain the commitment of all the Parties in the conservation and management of these resources. We believe that the time has arrived for a more intense participation of the impoverished countries in the work of the Commission, thereby increasing their opportunities and their commitment.

As we have expressed on previous occasions, our delegation believes that the Commission should more strictly support the recommendations from the SCRS generating improved possibilities of the member countries for data collection, participation and research. To do this requires the immediate strengthening of the activities of the SCRS that provide the necessary and required information which will permit this Committee to offer advice in an independent and effective manner to the Commission so that it in turn can take the most appropriate policy decisions.

The state of the resources managed by ICCAT is the result of a very dynamic historical process that started with the large-scale commercial exploitation around 1950. This process involved, among others, the socio-economic, cultural, academic, management, compliance and control aspects. We know that today more than ever measures must be taken to achieve sustainability of the resources and our country is strongly committed to all the activities aimed that will reach this objective.

Uruguay was one of the 12 original signatory nations of the Agreement on Port State Measures in November 2009, demonstrating its clear commitment to the regulations that tend to the elimination of illegal activities. However, we are concerned about the dimension and the direction that the aspects of compliance and control have taken in recent years. We need more commitments and less costs so that compliance is possible and so that the socio-economic situation is not a condition to be monitored.

Our delegation is ready to work with all the Parties in the search for consensus that will permit obtaining these objectives, through dialogue and with a more fair participation of all the Parties.

Uruguay wishes to greet all the participants and wish them a fruitful meeting.

3.3 OPENING STATEMENTS BY COOPERATING NON-CONTRACTING PARTIES, ENTITIES OR FISHING ENTITIES

Chinese Taipei

First of all, I would like to extend my gratitude to the Government of Turkey for kindly hosting the 22nd Regular Meeting in Istanbul. I would also like to thank the members of ICCAT Secretariat and the Chairman of ICCAT, Dr. Fabio Hazin, for efforts they put into preparing this meeting.

Given that ICCAT's competence in conservation and management of the stocks of Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna has been reaffirmed, we are encouraged to see that ICCAT members have been continuing their efforts to save the EBFT stocks from further devastation. In its inter-sessional meeting earlier this year in Barcelona, the Compliance Committee reviewed members' plans on fishing, inspection, and fishing capacity reduction. In addition, evaluation of CPC's compliance, as well as effective response to cases of non-compliance remains a challenge for ICCAT. The spotlight is still on ICCAT, and the CPCs as a whole have to prove to the international community that ICCAT is capable of managing the Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna stock in a sustainable manner, so as to ensure the restoration of the stock for the present and future generations. In this connection and as a token of our determination in cooperating with ICCAT, Chinese Taipei will continue its policy for the past few years of voluntarily refraining from fishing the Eastern bluefin tuna and extend such a moratorium to fishing seasons in 2009, 2010, and 2011.

Another matter on which we pay much emphasis is the current program of modernizing the ICCAT regime. We are delighted to see the paper by the Chair of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT, analyzing issues and suggesting concrete steps for strengthening of ICCAT. This paper to a great extent represents the deliberation in the Working Group and the dedication of its Chair, which should be commended. We would like to urge all the CPCs not to lose sight of this important initiative, and give adequate consideration and attention to this task in the nature of long-term planning even among the busy agenda of the annual meeting. Specifically, we believe that to adequately address many issues raised in the course of the deliberation, a fundamental revision of the ICCAT *Basic Texts* is necessary. We urged all CPCs to make a long-term commitment to commence the work in an appropriate forum, so as to bring the ICCAT machinery up to the contemporary international standards.

Finally, in view that the SCRS has completed its assessments on the status of several stocks, it is important for the Commission to consider the management plans for those stocks in sustainable manners, taking into account the diverse situations among CPCs.

May we offer our most sincere wish for the success of this 22nd Regular Meeting of ICCAT. Thank you.

3.4 OPENING STATEMENTS BY OBSERVERS FROM NON-CONTRACTING PARTIES

El Salvador

The Republic of El Salvador cordially greets the distinguished members of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, in this beautiful city of Turkey. We appreciate the opportunity to participate in such important meetings of this regional fisheries management organization.

El Salvador initiated the development of its high seas fisheries about 10 years ago, with the Pacific Ocean being the major fishing area, where El Salvador participates as a member of the Inter-American Tropical tuna Commission (IATTC) and, more recently, as a Cooperating non-Contracting Party Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). In both organisations, El Salvador has sought the establishment of management and conservation measures in pro of the sustainability of tunas and migratory species of this ocean.

As El Salvador is a Pacific Ocean coastal developing country, it knows the importance of achieving effective conservation measures that guarantee the long-term continuity of the fisheries, since a large part of the El Salvador population depends socio-economically on these fisheries. Our tuna industry has developed and improved the quality of life of an area that was depressed for a very long time.

Therefore, in order to continue developing our high seas fisheries, El Salvador wishes to know and to participate in this distinguished organization and although the Republic of El Salvador is not an Atlantic coastal country, nor has it fished historically in this area, it aims in the future to initiate a responsible fishery in the Atlantic

Ocean. El Salvador reiterates and guarantees that the level of compliance will be to faithfully implement the conservation and management measures issued from the Commission just as it has done in other regional fisheries management organisations where El Salvador actively participates, since this is the country's commitment to carry out fishing in a responsible and sustainable manner.

We thank the distinguished members their consideration of our request for Cooperating Party Status in the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas.

3.5 OPENING STATEMENTS BY OBSERVERS FROM INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

FAO would like to thank the Secretariat of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) for extending an invitation to attend the 22nd Regular Meeting. In particular, FAO would like to acknowledge the effective working relationship that it has with ICCAT and to express gratitude to the host government of Turkey for the warm hospitality that has been extended to delegates.

My name is Dr. Gail Lugten and I am a recently appointed Fishery Liaison Officer based in the Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy and Economics Division. My terms of reference include monitoring, analyzing and reporting on matters relating to international fisheries cooperation, particularly with respect to Regional Fishery Bodies and I look forward to meeting and working with all members of ICCAT.

Since the 2010 Meeting of ICCAT, FAO has undertaken a variety of activities which may be of interest to the ICCAT delegates, and the agenda items to be discussed over the coming days. Of most importance, the 29th Session of FAO's Committee on Fisheries (COFI) that met from 31 January to 4 February 2011 and noted the concern of many RFM illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing was continuing to be a major global threat to the long-term sustainable management of fisheries and the maintenance of productive and healthy ecosystems. In the course of 2011, FAO has continued to actively promote measures which will address and alleviate the ongoing global problem of IUU fishing.

Specifically, FAO continues to promote the FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing. FAO calls on States to sign and ratify this Agreement which so far has 23 State Signatories, plus Approval by the European Union, Accession by Myanmar and Sri Lanka, and Ratification by Norway. Under Article 29 of the Agreement, it will enter into force thirty days after the date of deposit of the twenty-fifth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

COFI also reiterated its support for the establishment of a Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels. The Global Record will be a useful tool to fight IUU fishing and both the COFI meeting and a November 2010 Global Record Technical Consultation have established design principles and implementation processes that will further its development.

In addition to these measures to address IUU fishing, FAO has continued to raise awareness on the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and associated instruments, ecolabeling of fish and fish products, aquaculture certification, bycatch management and reduction of discards, small-scale fisheries and the impacts of climate change. If ICCAT delegates require any further information on the current work agenda of FAO, I would be pleased to liaise between the organization and any interested parties.

In conclusion, may I wish you all a very fruitful and productive 22nd Regular Meeting.

3.6 OPENING STATEMENTS BY OBSERVERS FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

International Game Fish Association (IGFA)

The International Game Fish Association (IGFA) is a non-profit organization that represents recreational anglers throughout the world. IGFA was established in 1939, has active members in over 100 countries, is the governing body for international recreational fishing, and provides rules for ethical angling practices. Many of IGFA's members target the highly migratory species managed by ICCAT. Additionally, IGFA has appointed an International Committee of Representatives and has official representatives in nearly all ICCAT Contracting

Party nations. These representatives have been chosen for their integrity, fishing knowledge and concern for fisheries conservation. They report to IGFA on issues affecting our interests and are a primary way that IGFA participates in the international fishing community.

IGFA wishes to express our appreciation to ICCAT for arranging this 22nd Regular Meeting of the Commission and our gratitude to the city of Istanbul, Turkey for hosting. We hope IGFA, as an observer, will be able to contribute to the management policies of the Commission so that our marine resources are managed in a sustainable manner for all users.

IGFA would like to share the important impact that recreational fishing has in a country's economy. It is estimated that there are approximately 100 million recreational anglers in the world which includes individuals who fish locally as well as those who travel to fishing destinations around the world. Recreational anglers generate revenue in a variety of ways such as buying supplies (tackle, bait, etc.), renting boats, travel and tourism costs (hotels, restaurants, etc.), and tax revenue generated to name a few. When a recreational fishing industry is properly developed as a sustainable industry, economic benefits can be forthcoming for years to come. For example, recent publications have reported that recreational fisheries have had an estimated annual economic contribution of \$599 million (USD) in Costa Rica¹, \$1.1 billion (USD) in Los Cabos², Mexico and \$125 billion (USD) in the USA³.

In order for a fishery to be sustainable it must be managed properly. IGFA wishes to express its basic concern and opposition to the concept of continuing to manage our fisheries on the basis of Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) for several reasons. Managing fisheries at MSY is excessively risk prone and may not properly and adequately consider natural variations in stock abundance and productivity. Managing stocks at MSY typically results in truncated larger fish, even if they are not ultimately harvested. MSY also tends to ignore the economic benefits of catch and release recreational angling and the subsequent conservation benefits derived from it. Instead of managing fisheries at MSY, we would suggest adopting Optimum Yield (OY) as a targeted management objective. In the United States, OY is defined as the amount of fish that will provide the greatest overall benefit to the Nation (or Nations), particularly with respect to food production and recreational opportunities, and taking into account the protection of marine ecosystems. Optimum Yield is prescribed on the basis of MSY as reduced by relevant economic, social or ecological factors.

Furthermore, IGFA would also like to draw the Commission's attention again at this meeting to the importance of combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing and strengthening controls against the detrimental efforts of this practice. IUU fishing, by its very nature, endangers and undermines conservation and management efforts for sustainable fisheries. It continues to be a matter of concern in the ICCAT area.

As an organization with over 72 years of experience in the development of sustainable and responsible recreational fishing practices, IGFA stands ready to assist the Commission and/or any Contracting Parties seeking advice on this issue.

International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF)

The International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) is a global partnership among the tuna industry, science and WWF, the global conservation organization. Our mission is to work toward the science-based conservation and management of tuna stocks and the protection of ocean health by supporting regional fisheries management organizations and advocating for the recommendations of each organization's scientific advisory body.

ISSF would like to thank the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) for the opportunity to present this position statement supporting decisive action based on the research compiled by the ICCAT Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS).

¹ Instituto de Investigaciones en Ciencias Económicas de la Universidad de Costa Rica. *Analysis of the Economic Contribution of Recreational and Commerical Fisheries to the Costa Rican Economy*. San José, Costa Rica 2010.

² Southwick Associates, Inc., Nelson Resources Consulting, Inc. y FIRMUS Consulting. *Contribución económica de la pesca a la economía de los Cabos*. 2008.

³ American Sportfishing Association. *Sportfishing in America, an Economic Engine and Conservation Powerhouse*. January 2008.

Background

Yellowfin. This year, the SCRS assessed the status of Atlantic yellowfin and estimated that it is overfished but that overfishing is not occurring. Continuation of current catch levels (about 110,000 tonnes annually) is expected to lead to a biomass somewhat above B_{MSY} by 2016 with a 60% probability.

Bigeye. The Atlantic bigeye 2010 assessment indicated that the stock is no longer in an overfished state and fishing mortality is slightly below the maximum sustainable yield level (F_{MSY}). The 2010 SCRS recommended that catches be limited to 85,000 tonnes, or less, in order to allow the stock biomass to continue to increase and thus provide a buffer to guard against the stock rapidly returning to an overfished state. Subsequently, ICCAT adopted a TAC of 85,000 tonnes for 2011 (Recommendation [10-01]).

Albacore. The SCRS also assessed Mediterranean albacore for the first time in 2011, and updated the assessment of the South Atlantic stock. Data for the Mediterranean are very incomplete, as monitoring is inadequate in major fishing countries. The available assessment results indicate that this stock experienced overfishing in the early 2000s and fishing mortality is now at about the MSY level. The SCRS recommended that the Commission take action to avoid increasing fishing mortality on the stock. The 2011 analyses indicate that the South Atlantic stock is overfished and is experiencing overfishing. The current TAC level of 29,000 tonnes, if realized, will result in continued decline of the stock. The SCRS indicated that catches over 24,000 tonnes will not rebuild the stock with at least 50% probability.

Action needed

1. Conservation and management measures for bigeye, yellowfin and albacore

ISSF supports the adoption of the following measures, consistent with the analyses of SCRS:

- An annual TAC of 85,000 tonnes for Atlantic bigeye.
- An annual TAC of 110,000 tonnes for Atlantic yellowfin.
- An annual TAC of 24,000 tonnes or less for South Atlantic albacore.
- A limit on catch or effective fishing effort to ensure that fishing mortality for Mediterranean albacore will not increase from the current level.

2. Transshipments at sea

Recommendation [06-11] established a Regional Observer Program that monitors at-sea transshipments by large-scale tuna longline vessels (LSTLVs) and requires most other types of vessels to limit their transshipments to in-port only. ISSF is concerned that, if not properly monitored, at-sea transshipments can create a fertile environment for IUU fishing activities to go undetected. Recommendation [06-11] did not define LSTLVs explicitly, but based on other contemporary ICCAT measures, this probably referred to vessels of at least 24 m in overall length. Subsequently, at its 2009 meeting, ICCAT adopted a measure to lower the size of vessels required to be registered on the ICCAT Record from 24 m to 20 m (Rec. [09-08]). Through Recommendation [09-09], ICCAT then amended three other measures to ensure that the change from 24 m to 20 m was also applied uniformly. Unfortunately, this change was not made explicitly to the Transshipment recommendation (Rec. [06-11]) and therefore, at-sea transshipments by longline vessels between 20 m and 24 m may be legally occurring without proper monitoring. ISSF urges ICCAT to address this loophole and ensure that smaller longliners (20 m-24 m) are properly monitored by the Resolution.

3. Catch retention of tunas

While other RFMOs have adopted tuna catch retention measures, to date ICCAT has not taken steps to do the same. ISSF believes it is time for such action. The dumping of less valuable tuna in favor of higher value catches distorts the data of actual impact on the tuna stock of fishing operations. ISSF urges ICCAT to adopt comprehensive catch retention measures for all tunas, and to consider retention measures for non-tuna by-catch as well.

4. Vessel registry and capacity limitation

ISSF believes that the first step towards managing capacity is to establish limited entry via a comprehensive closed vessel registry with an eye towards ultimately reducing the number of fishing vessels to a level commensurate with the productivity of the ICCAT fisheries. ISSF calls upon ICCAT to develop a record of tuna

fishing vessels with unique identifiers⁴ (e.g., IMO numbers), adopt a limited entry, closed vessel registry, and consider the Kobe III call for a freeze in fishing capacity by developed fishing nations and creating mechanisms to transfer capacity to the developing countries with aspirations.

5. Observer coverage

Comprehensive observer coverage on purse seine vessels is a critical component of sustainable fisheries management for tropical tunas. Other RFMOs have already implemented, or are moving towards, 100% coverage and ICCAT should do the same. ISSF urges ICCAT to adopt 100% observer coverage on purse seiners in its tropical tuna fisheries.

6. Reference points

The use of reference points and decision-making guidelines for conservation and management measures is fundamental to modern fisheries management. ISSF welcomes the broad support given by the 2nd meeting of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT to the Principles of Decision Making considered at that meeting. Similar Principles were also considered at the 3rd Joint Meeting of Tuna RFMOs, particularly for stocks that are overfished or experiencing overfishing. ISSF urges ICCAT to adopt principles of decision-making for conservation and management measures for its managed stocks of tuna and tuna-like species.

7. Sharks

Taking into account the recommendations of the 2011 SCRS, ISSF urges ICCAT to adopt appropriate conservation and management measures for silky sharks, as it has done for bigeye thresher, oceanic whitetip and hammerhead sharks.

Lack of accurate catch data is a major concern in terms of shark assessment and conservation. An element in ISSF's Global Improvement Plan will require purse seine vessels to land incidentally caught sharks (and other species), except individuals that are released alive or those whose retention is prohibited by an RFMO Resolution or the vessel's flag state's own regulations. ISSF urges ICCAT to require retention and full utilization of non-prohibited sharks.

Oceana

Oceana appreciates this opportunity to participate as observers to the 22nd Regular Meeting of the Commission in Istanbul, Turkey. We hope that this year's Commission meeting will be an opportunity to discuss and adopt measures that ensure the sustainability of fisheries for Atlantic highly migratory species and minimize bycatch in those fisheries.

In the past few years, there have been numerous proclamations on the efficacy, or lack thereof, of ICCAT in conserving highly migratory species of tunas and sharks. Despite a Convention objective of conserving tuna and tuna-like species in the Atlantic Ocean and adjacent seas, it is clear that unmanaged fisheries and overfishing remain major issues. This is especially true for most species of sharks and Mediterranean swordfish, which still lack proper management or conservation measures. In addition, ICCAT fisheries continue to kill vulnerable by-catch species such as marine mammals and sea birds.

Highly migratory sharks

Highly migratory sharks, which are especially vulnerable to overfishing, are caught in ICCAT fisheries both as targeted and incidental catch, but most have yet to be managed as required by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. In addition, the ICCAT shark finning ban contains some weaknesses, which limit its ability to effectively prohibit finning from occurring. Finally, ICCAT reporting requirements for sharks are unclear and can contribute to under-reporting of shark catches.

To remedy these issues, Oceana calls on the ICCAT Contracting Parties to:

1. Prohibit retention of endangered or particularly vulnerable shark species, especially porbeagle and silky sharks.
2. Establish science-based precautionary catch limits for blue and shortfin mako sharks.

⁴ This includes participation in the global Consolidated List of Authorized Vessels (CLAV).

3. Require reporting of catch data as a prerequisite for landing a particular shark species.
4. Improve the ICCAT finning prohibition by requiring that sharks be landed with their fins wholly or partially attached in a natural manner.

Mediterranean swordfish

Management of Mediterranean swordfish has repeatedly been neglected to the detriment of the species. According to the ICCAT Standing Committee for Research and Statistics (SCRS), this stock is overexploited with spawning biomass below sustainable levels, overfishing is occurring, and 50-70% of catches are comprised of juvenile fish. Moreover the ICCAT SWO-Med catching vessels list established through Recommendation [09-04] has been demonstrated to be useless in meeting the Recommendation's objectives.⁵

The complete absence of real management measures makes the Mediterranean swordfish fishery an open access one. Therefore, the adoption of a comprehensive, enforceable management plan for Mediterranean swordfish must be a priority for ICCAT Parties.

Oceana strongly urges ICCAT Contracting Parties to adopt a sustainable management plan intended to recover the stock including, at a minimum:

- A vessel list exclusively authorizing Mediterranean surface longliners to catch swordfish,
- A Mediterranean catch limit in accordance with scientific advice,
- A Minimum landing size in accordance with the most recent science,
- A capacity assessment to be undertaken by SCRS to be used in future revisions of the management plan,
- Deterrent measures for those Mediterranean states that continue to harbour illegal driftnets in violation of Recommendation [03-04].

Vulnerable by-catch species

Numerous vulnerable species are caught as by-catch in ICCAT fisheries including sea turtles, marine mammals and sea birds. Oceana calls on ICCAT Contracting Parties to put in place a system that includes mandatory reporting of catches of these by-catch species, assessments of the impact of ICCAT fisheries on these species and mitigation measures to reduce by-catch.

In conclusion, this year's Commission meeting offers an opportunity to adopt warranted measures for sharks, Mediterranean swordfish and vulnerable by-catch species. Oceana calls on the ICCAT Contracting Parties to adopt strong measures that ensure future sustainability of both ICCAT fisheries and by-catch species.

Pew Environment Group

The Pew Environment Group thanks delegates at this meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) for allowing us the opportunity to discuss ways to improve the conservation status of Atlantic tunas and sharks, to promote compliance with existing measures and to combat IUU fishing. We thank the Turkish government for its excellent efforts in organizing this meeting.

We call your attention to our policy statement, "*Time to Tackle What's Really in the Net*", which was circulated electronically to all Contracting Parties (CPs), and is available on our website at www.pewenvironment.org/ip, along with copies of our other materials. The following supplements that policy statement and other documents.

Recommendations

ICCAT, like other regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs), faces a multitude of challenges managing the fisheries in its convention area. As priorities at the 2011 annual meeting, we recommend that ICCAT members take action to strengthen controls against IUU fishing of Atlantic bluefin tuna and other species, end overfishing, support sustainable fishing methods, conserve threatened sharks, and strengthen ICCAT's charter to follow through on internationally agreed commitments.

⁵ For further information see the following Oceana document: March 2011
http://eu.oceana.org/sites/default/files/euo/OCEANA_WorkingDoc_Recommendations_SWO-MED_Nov2011.pdf

Strengthen controls against IUU fishing

IUU fishing is one of ICCAT's most pressing problems, threatening the sustainability of the stocks and undermining ICCAT's credibility. It affects mostly Atlantic bluefin tuna (BFT) but also other ICCAT species, including bigeye, yellowfin, and skipjack tuna, and many shark species. The Pew-commissioned *Mind the Gap* report was provided to CPs last month. It found that, despite some progress made over the past years by ICCAT and fishing States to improve compliance measures, the actual global trade of eastern Atlantic bluefin tuna in 2009 and 2010 was double the quota set by ICCAT for those two years. If these elevated catch levels continue, Mediterranean bluefin tuna has less than a 24 percent chance of rebuilding by 2022, according to ICCAT's Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS). We are ready and available to discuss the *Mind the Gap* report, its methodology and the data used, with interested parties, in order to answer any questions CPCs or others may have.

Similarly, although ICCAT banned the use of driftnets targeting large pelagic species in the Mediterranean in 2003, this practice continues, targeting bluefin tuna and swordfish. ICCAT must take targeted and urgent action on bluefin tuna and establish a robust system capable of addressing IUU fishing for all species in the ICCAT area as soon as possible.

An eBCD that covers all bluefin tuna caught, farmed, harvested, and traded would reduce fraud by requiring electronic validation from the appropriate authorities before the fish could proceed through the supply chain and allow for more accurate and timely catch reporting.

We urge ICCAT members to improve compliance with its bluefin tuna quotas by following through on their commitment to put a plan in place that fully implements and funds an eBCD system in time for the 2012 fishing season. Pew also urges CPCs to apply appropriate action to members that continue to violate Recommendation 03-04. Additionally, operators known to have engaged in illegal driftnet activities should be listed under ICCAT's IUU vessel list; for this to occur, Recommendation 08-09, paragraph 12, should be amended to include identified operators associated with this fishing method.

Improve Port State Measures (PSMs)

The negotiation and subsequent adoption of the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) in 2009 shows international recognition of the role that port States can play in stopping IUU fishing. The U.N. General Assembly has urged States to cooperate regionally through RFMOs to adopt all necessary port measures consistent with international law. Our research reveals a number of gaps in ICCAT's PSMs. ICCAT should establish a systematic and comprehensive regime of PSMs that sets minimum standards of PSMs, consistent with the PSMA, and applicable to all vessels entering ICCAT ports.

We are aware that a number of ICCAT members cannot fully implement the provisions of the PSMA immediately, but this should not be an impediment to ICCAT acting to strengthen its PSMs. In particular, at this year's meeting, ICCAT members should consider improving ICCAT recommendations already in force to incorporate the following reforms:

- Require all vessels to provide information prior to entering ports that would allow relevant port State officials to determine whether any action is needed.
- Establish requirements to inspect non-bluefin tuna vessels, especially if IUU fishing is suspected.
- Adopt a pro forma for inspection reports to be used in all port inspections to review compliance with ICCAT conservation measures.
- Adopt a requirement to deny any kind of port use to vessels known to have engaged in IUU fishing, regardless of the species caught.
- Allocate special funds for the effective implementation of ICCAT PSMs by developing countries.
- Require vessels operating in the ICCAT area to obtain an IMO number.

Our research (www.portstateperformance.org) indicates that activities of IUU-listed vessels in the ICCAT Convention area largely go unnoticed. It also shows that a number of the IUU vessels that can be tracked enter CPC ports in contravention of ICCAT measures. We recommend that ICCAT require unique vessel identifiers (UVIs) for all vessels operating in the ICCAT Convention area. In addition, the Kobe III meeting acknowledged the need for tuna RFMOs to make progress on the implementation of UVIs.

Immediately end overfishing of yellowfin tuna and South Atlantic albacore

In 2011, the ICCAT SCRS undertook numerous stock assessments, many of which indicate that current levels of fishing are unsustainable. In particular, members should agree to precautionary catch limits and capacity levels that will immediately end overfishing for all species.

Mandate gear modifications such as the compulsory use of single monofilament nylon traces to protect sharks

Many longline vessels use a wire leader (also known as a steel trace) to secure their catch on the line. Scientific studies have shown that a nylon monofilament leader is actually a better gear option than wire leaders for reducing bycatch of sharks as well as increasing the catch of some targeted species. In addition, ICCAT has adopted three conservation and management measures that prohibit retention of certain shark species (hammerheads, oceanic whitetips, bigeye threshers), but the use of wire leaders by longline fleets makes compliance with these measures difficult. Gear modifications such as the compulsory use of single monofilament nylon traces should be mandated, along with a prohibition of steel or wire traces in ICCAT fisheries.

Manage FAD use in the Gulf of Guinea

FADs are used extensively in the eastern Atlantic, in particular in the Gulf of Guinea to target skipjack and yellowfin, and their uncontrolled proliferation has led to unsustainable levels of juvenile yellowfin and bigeye catches. For such a widely used gear, it is surprising that ICCAT has not implemented a strict management regime, especially considering the impact of FAD fisheries on juvenile tuna, billfish, and sharks. We recommend that ICCAT implement 100 percent observer coverage for tropical tuna purse-seine fisheries, require members to submit FAD management plans, set a precautionary limit on the numbers of FADs that can be deployed, and call on the SCRS to report annually on the extent of FAD use, lost FADs, and their ecosystem impacts.

Conserve threatened shark species

Sharks caught in high-seas fisheries are among the ocean's most vulnerable animals. More than half of the shark species taken in high-seas fisheries are classified on the IUCN Red List as Endangered, Vulnerable, or Near Threatened. The UN General Assembly has adopted eight resolutions that call on RFMOs to improve the management of shark fisheries. Until robust stock assessments are available, conservation and management measures should be developed to protect sharks as a precautionary measure and implemented based on ecological risk assessments.

Officials at the conclusion of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea specialist meetings in 2009 recommended that high-seas fisheries stop targeting porbeagle sharks, and the ICCAT 2008 ecological risk assessment showed silky sharks to be a highly vulnerable species. We therefore recommend that ICCAT adopt prohibitions on retention of both porbeagle and silky sharks.

Additionally, shortfin makos in the North Atlantic are experiencing overfishing and are considered one of the most vulnerable shark species. Until a scientifically based catch limit has been established and implemented, the retention of shortfin mako sharks should also be prohibited.

Prohibit the removal of shark fins at sea to improve enforcement of the shark finning ban

Up to 73 million sharks are killed annually to support the global shark fin trade. ICCAT was the first RFMO to ban shark finning, but loopholes still hamper enforcement of the ban. In 2010, the resumed Review Conference of the U.N. Fish Stocks Agreement called on countries to implement "fins naturally attached" provisions. The existing ICCAT ban on finning can be strengthened by prohibiting the removal of shark fins at sea, which will also facilitate collection of species-specific catch data and help ensure compliance with existing ICCAT conservation and management measures for sharks.

The Pew Environment Group also recommends ways to strengthen the Commission and improve voting procedures as outlined in our policy statement, including essential follow through on the Kobe III meeting held this year in July. We look forward to working with ICCAT delegates towards a productive and positive meeting.

Robin des Bois

Robin des Bois would like to thank the Turkish government and the Turkish people for their kind hospitality. Robin des Bois would also like express their solidarity towards the victims of the recent earthquake.

Robin des Bois hopes that the « Arab Spring » will be beneficial for bluefin tuna. The NGO is preoccupied by the movements, of tuna fishing vessels and their escorts, in the Gulf of Sidra and Libyan waters while a number of NATO and military ships from ICCAT Contracting Parties were busy around this area. Robin des Bois is surprised that these movements could not be promptly explained. Countries at war often find their biodiversity pillaged.

The flow of illegal fishing and international smuggling of bluefin tuna is steady. Cooperation between ICCAT and CITES is on the agenda of this meeting. The current proposed document remains vague. Robin des Bois calls on Contracting Parties to define an operational strategy that builds on the two complementary Conventions and their respective instruments (BCD/eBCD- BFTRC of ICCAT and Appendix II of CITES). We recall that Robin des Bois supports listing bluefin tuna in Appendix II of CITES, under which international trade is controlled.

We further note that information on the fate of vessels « removed » in the framework of reducing fishing capacity is rare. Precise information on the ships fates would be useful, and would foster mutual confidence, validating each countries plan to reduce their capacity.

Yellowfin, skipjack and bigeye tunas are victims of collateral damage due to pirating in the Indian Ocean. Since 2000, before the proliferation of piracy, ICCAT was looking at the management of yellowfin and skipjack and particularly at juveniles. Looking further than concerns and reports, a global management plan including the problem of FADs is urgently needed.

Is it due to the impact of purchasing advisors and consumers orientating towards other species than bluefin tuna? Robin des Bois worryingly notes that in 2010, pressure on North Atlantic albacore populations has increased.

In order to ensure an equitable exploitation of marine resources and to contribute to the efficiency of management plans, Robin des Bois is hoping that ICCAT systematically indicates not only the flag of the fishing vessels and tugs but also the nationality of the subjacent operators.

Urgent mitigation measures need to be taken by ICCAT to reduce by-catch of Albatrosses and Petrels in tuna and tuna like species in long-line fisheries. As an initial step, Robin des Bois underlines the urgent need for ICCAT to reach this year a consensus on protecting the Albatross and Petrels from 20° south throughout the whole area of ICCAT fisheries. Recent worldwide estimates of seabird by-catch by long-line fisheries range between 160,000 and up to 320,000 each year of which a large proportion are Albatrosses and Petrels. If ICCAT does not react now some of these mythic seabird species could become a myth.

Finally, Robin des Bois regrets that the impacts of pollution on tunas and tuna-like species are not taken into account by ICCAT. The commission should fulfil its mandate and include these threats into its management strategies.

REPORTS OF INTER-SESSIONAL MEETINGS

4.1 REPORT OF THE ELECTRONIC BLUEFIN TUNA CATCH DOCUMENT (eBCD) WORKING GROUP (ICCAT Secretariat, Madrid, Spain, 27-28 January 2011)

1. 1.Introduction

2. The EU provided a brief overview of Recommendation 10-11 and proposed implementation schedule of the eBCD system

The EU recalled that the objective of the eBCD is already reflected in the Rec. 10-11: Implement the BCD with an electronic support. For a centralized system, it should be decided whether to outsource the system or have it at the Secretariat (ownership and management). Any decision will entail the amendment of Rec. 09-11.

3. Japan provided a brief re-cap on the eBCD Working Group meetings that took place in the margins of the ICCAT annual meeting

Japan recalled the general agreement of the Working Group to install an electronic system and the need to work further together.

4. The Secretariat updated the Working Group on further developments of the Secretariat's electronic BCD system

The Secretariat informed the participants of the expertise needed (in particular for the security issues and the back-up) as well as of the additional work which would require additional human resources within the Secretariat to coordinate the implementation of the eBCD (integration of current data base). The Secretariat considered that in order to implement the new system it would need external assistance (development and maintenance).

The Secretariat also made a presentation illustrating the traceability complexities of bluefin tuna especially in the farming sector (i.e. mixed catches from different BCDs to one cage).

Methodologies to compare the harvested weight with the weight at the size of capture/caging were discussed. Although it was reminded that there is no Recommendation that provides a basis to prevent fish from different catch origins (i.e.: fishing operations identified by its unique BCD number) being mixed in the same cage, except in the case of carry-over and of different CPC origins. It was confirmed that the system would compare harvested weights with the respective captures and/or cagings. This was further discussed under agenda item 5.

The Secretariat presented a possible draft web form for eBCD data input.

5. Brainstorming discussions based on the procedures and issues raised at each step in the BCD chain

5a. ICCAT BCD (eBCD ID generation)

Numbering: Each eBCD will receive an auto-generated number as soon as a catch is entered into the system by an operator (vessel, trap or representative). This unique number will continue to exist throughout process. At generation, the eBCD will be in the status "pending validation", and only after CPC validation will it become "final". After this stage, the catch information cannot be altered by the operator. The CPC authorities, however, should be able to edit and delete this information if needed.

Number format: the BCD number generated by the eBCD system will stay in the same format, although the dash between the CPC country code and year will be removed (CCYY-123456). The structure would be: "CC"= {ISO-1366 alpha2 country code system}; "YY" = "the last 2 digits of the catching year"; "123456"= "BCD number with 6 digits always having the "zeros" filled in.

When a catch is split, the 'new' sections of the BCD will obtain a new sub-number formed by the original BCD number, a dash, and two letters and a two-number index (e.g. CCYY-123456-CG02, and in the case of

harvesting CCYY-123456-CG02-HA01).The following codes could be used for: trade TD, transshipment TS, caging CG, Harvesting HA, etc.

In the case of 'grouped BCDs' (refer to section 5f), a new BCD number could be generated using the farm CPC code. Such BCDs must be generated no later than the date of caging to which the catches and BCDs relate.

The system should keep internally all the BCD links and be able to provide a graphical representation of all related BCDs, either in the form of a flowchart or schematic.

JFOs: in case of catches originating from JFOs, each participating vessel must complete a BCD. This could be done through a designated “JFO” button, assisting in the completion of all BCDs in same JFO, and ensuring that the sum of the allocated catches does not exceed the total weight caught under each fishing operation. The system would be more efficient if there was the facility for BCDs to be ‘grouped’ where the BCD catch entry from the catching vessel would reference all vessels receiving an allocation under the JFO.

The Group recommends this in an effort to enhance the functionality of the system and traceability; however this does not constitute an amendment to Recommendations [09-11], [06-07] or [10-04].

5b. Catch information

Regional Observer: the eBCD should allow the observer to sign digitally in the system at the time of capture, caging and harvesting. The observer weight estimate should also be visible on the eBCD [in accordance with the tolerance levels in Recommendation [10-04]. The system will also not allow validation of the farming and/or harvesting section if the number and/or weight estimation by the observer is outside of that margin of tolerance.

As provided under Recommendation 10-04, CPC 'catching' Authorities need to be able to update the quantities reported in the catch section of the BCD following the conclusion of investigation(s) of >10% discrepancy between reported and observed catch no./weight and reported and observed caged no./weight(+ record of mortality).

In the event that internet access is interrupted on a fishing vessel, the observer has no access or the vessel does not have the facility, the system should allow the information to be entered by representative of the observer (observer provider) on shore.¹

Tagging: it should be possible to enter all tag numbers and weights inside the eBCD system (e.g. with a designated button "Tagging input"). In this case, the CPC validation of the catch section is not necessary, so the system should skip this.

By-catch, sport and recreational fisheries given the more distributed nature of these catches, a representative from the CPC (e.g. port authority) and / or the fishing vessel master should be able to register the catch in the eBCD system. By-catch and recreational vessels may not necessarily be in the ICCAT record of vessels, hence will need to be held in a separate vessel list which is automatically generated by the system to allow the entry of by-catch into the system and the required eBCD validation. There could also be a link with the designated port when by-catch is entered into the system.

CCSBT (SBF): a check box for Southern bluefin tuna “CCSBT (SBF)”is needed. Only Catch information and Trade information would be entered.

5c. Trade information for live fish trade

Covered under sections 5b and 5d.

5d. Transfer information

There was a reluctance to omit coverage of multiple transfers in the BCD. There was a discussion on the role of both the BCD and the ITD (ICCAT Transfer Declaration) the BCD had the objective to demonstrate 'traceability' and the ITD is a record of 'authorisations'. Hence since the catching vessel master has to fill in sections 2, 3 and 4at the time of capture should allow completion of these sections prior to the validation of

¹ The same flexibility should be considered for the fishing captain or master.

section 2 and 3. The master of the tug(s) would then complete a repeated section 4 at the time of each subsequent transfer. If no internet access is available at the tug vessel, this input can be undertaken prior to caging by the tug master / representative or farm operator.

The items "number and weight of dead fish" should be in the system, indicating the dead fish during the transfer from seine net to transport cage.

There was a recommendation by the group to prohibit the 'splitting' of catches before caging/farming in an effort to enhance the functionality of the system and traceability, however this does not constitute an amendment to Recommendations [09-11], [06-07] or [10-04].

5e. Transhipment information

“Position” is no longer necessary since transhipment at sea is prohibited.

This section should allow multiple entries in the case of split/partial transhipments by creating a partial transhipment button.

5f. Farming information

The "number and weight of dead fish" included in section 4 only refers to the time of capture and first transfer. It is therefore necessary to include the same fields in the farming section where mortality from subsequent transfers and caging can be recorded. Apart from control aspects this would also contribute to more precise growth estimates.

In light of the new definitions of 'transfer operations' under Recommendation [10-04] subsequent versions of sections 3, 4 and 6 would need to be completed if fish is moved from one farm to another.

As under Point 5b. if following an investigation the no./weight at the time of caging is more than 10% higher than the no./weight at the time of capture, the catching CPC will decide on the final quota uptake before amending the no./weights in section 2. An alert should be created by the system for quantities in excess of the individual quota of the catching vessel and sent to the farm CPC authorities (in preparation for the release procedures provided under Recommendation 10-04).

If fish are moved from one cage to another within the same farm, a new section 6 should be completed to allow the entry of the new cage number.

For catches originating in the same CPC [but not necessarily caught on the same date], related BCDs can be grouped into one BCD. The 'Grouped BCD' will be issued a new number and the system will contain the references to the originating BCDs and associated catches and transfer. BCD Grouping must be undertaken on catches caged on the same date and into the same cage [same cage number] and generated following validation of section 6. The 'Group BCD' [from Section 6 onwards] will then be treated as one BCD and the system will alert the farming CPC in case that the number of fish harvested is more than that of the caged fish.

Current Recommendations already provide for the physical separation of carry-over from other catches. However, to improve the traceability within the farms it was also discussed to group BCDs related to carry-over in the same way. There was however no agreement due to the expected complexity of this issue (e.g. grouping group BCDs).

Consequently the group recommended different catches and associated BCDs from the same CPC can be grouped together into one BCD prior to caging. This does not however constitute an amendment to Recommendations [09-11], [06-07] or [10-04].

5g. Harvesting information

As in point 5b, a digital secure signing procedure must be developed that allows the BFT-ROP observer to sign in the system.

Lots harvested from BCDs will generate a BCD designation with the two-number index as per point 5a (e.g. CCYY-123456-HA02).

5h. Trade information

As it stands in the paper based BCD programme, an importing CPC can only change CPC of destination not the exporter. It should however be possible in the system for an importer/buyer and/or importing CPC authorities to reset its attribution in the workflow, thus giving back access in the system to the BCD to exporter. As a result, an exporter/seller is able to change the recipient of the BCD/consignment to another importer/buyer.

The list of registered/designated importers should be accessible in the system (e.g. with a drop down box) (such a system exists in the CCAMLR system). For this reason CPC Authorities would need to submit a list to the Secretariat and update on any changes.

Once selected email alerts would be sent to importers concerning the forthcoming consignment facilitating the conclusion of commercial agreements between exporter/importer.

Transportation documentation does not need to be (scanned) associated with a BCD and stored in the system since it only has legal 'value' in hard copy form (although further legal confirmation of this may be required). This is also applicable to trade information for live fish trade.

6. Agreement on the technical design and architecture of the system

Security: The security should be at the database level [system] and not in the BCD item itself. Meaning every login/user should have a password (and not each BCD). The system would dictate on which login/user could have access to a specific BCD or which sections of BCDs.

The login/users rights should be grouped in roles, so that each role combined with the read/write permissions of the different data objects would define the security policy. By this way the 'access rules/rights' could be defined with the required detail (e.g. vessel operator can only access sections 1-4 of its own vessel; validators can only access BCDs of its own flag State; etc.).

The Secretariat will draw up a first matrix of 'access roles'. Examples of roles are vessel master, trap operator, vessel representative, port authority, CPC validators, importer/buyer, exporter/seller, regional observer, CPC administrator, farm operator, etc.

This is a complex procedure, for this reason it was suggested to convene a small Task Force to develop the 'access roles' for each actor.

Workflow: The main workflow functionality should be in the eBCD system itself. As soon as a user logs in, he/she will see receive a list of actions that are needed.

On top of this, the system should notify (using emails and based on a predefined list of actions issued after each event) the next actor(s), so they are reminded that follow-up action is needed on their part. These notifications should not contain passwords, only the [list of] BCD numbers that they need to treat.

Non-compliance: Such email alerts can also be sent when the system detects potential non-compliance (e.g. catch is entered in excess that a vessel individual quota). Any non-treatment would also allow the system to generate a report of such non-compliance to CPC authorities and/or the Compliance Committee.

Accounts: In order that all access to the system and changes are tracked in detail, every user should have a user/login account. There could be a maximum of:

- 3 accounts per vessel/trap/farm
- 1 per regional observer
- Unlimited (20?) for CPC authorities (which can designate a series to port authorities).

Subscription: The system could provide two different methods of subscribing new user accounts:

- 1) There should be a subscription page where an actor provides his/her credentials, and choice of password. The CPC Authorities would then need to validate this account based on the correct allocation of the actors

specific 'roles'. Some parts of the subscription form would have non-public elements (e.g. permit number).

- 2) CPCs shall send to the ICCAT Secretariat or upload directly into the system the [a list of] of entitled users and their respective roles. On storage, the system will automatically generate the user logins and passwords and put that information at the disposal of the authorised CPC users.

The subscription process [including the sending of the lists if option 2.] that includes complete user lists of CPCs authorities, vessels, traps, farms, port authorities should be completed in good time before the fishing seasons (by perhaps 1 March). In accordance with the appropriate Recommendations, amendments and edits should still be possible during the fishing season(s).

Password: the [first] password will be generated automatically by the system, after which the user will be allowed to change it. The password should meet some minimum requirements, e.g. be 8 characters long and contain at least one capital, one small letter and one number. There should be a "lost password" procedure, for which the CPC authorities could be needed to validate or confirm. Passwords will also expire and will need to be periodically changed (every 3-12 months).

A secondly level of security could be used for the more important actions, such as validations (e.g. a new window would be open requesting users to re-enter the same password or different password before submitting) (e.g. internet banking transfer protocols).

Signatures: On top of the login/password security, the system should provide a second layer of security for administrators, validating persons and observers. For administrators and validators, a secure system should be created with possibly security certificates or tokens. For the regional observers a less heavy procedure is required; they could provide a security code as signature.

Tracking: The system should log all the events (who/when/what login access) and track all the transactions (changes in data), so that every edit can be traced back to the editing account, person and date/time.

Business rules: The system will have a set of automatic validation rules that limit the input of certain data or in other cases generate warnings (e.g. unrealistic entries). It must however not prevent the entry of potentially non-compliant information. In such cases alerts will be sent as per 'non-compliance section' above.

Architecture: The system should be very reliable and provide 24/7 availability to potentially hundreds of simultaneous users.

A feasibility study would best illustrate whether the most cost effective and technical capable solution would be to host the system physically at the Secretariat's premises, or hosted by an IT service provider. Main issues to address: network bandwidth and reliability, power reliability, backup, failover solutions, redundancy protocols and synchronisation procedures.

Interface: the eBCD system should facilitate information coming from electronic logbooks. An interface would therefore be needed to allow the eBCD system to 'communicate' with CPC users (web-service approach).

7. Implementation plan and scope of the eBCD system

It was agreed that a feasibility study before the Commission annual meeting would best illustrate whether the most cost effective and technical capable solution would be to host the system physically at the Secretariat's premises, or hosted by an IT service provider. Main issues to address: network bandwidth and reliability, power reliability, backup, failover solutions, maintenance, redundancy protocols and synchronisation procedures. The Secretariat informed that currently in the premises of the Secretariat secure electricity and ADSL line support could not be provided, requesting substantial upgrades of the IT infrastructure at the ICCAT Secretariat.

8. Technical development and budgetary issues including outsourcing and tendering

Elements of development of the eBCD system as well as the user management system would need to be outsourced (confidentiality aspects). The Secretariat would account for the project follow-up, as well as the redesign of the current database system that will be linked to eBCD system (ICCAT Record of Vessels, ICCAT Record of Traps, ICCAT Record of Farms, ICCAT Record of Ports, VMS, JFO database...).

The feasibility study could not be performed by the Secretariat itself due to budgetary constraints and committed budget lines under their fiscal budget.

Not all data from the current BCD database should be migrated. Only BCDs that have sections to be completed (carry-overs, frozen bluefin tuna) will be copied to the new system. These BCDs will be manually encoded. A proposal would have to be presented to the Commission concerning a cut date between the old and the new system.

In order to get an idea on the project costs, a call for Qualification of Interest or Expression of Interest could be launched. The candidates who prove that they have the technical capacity to finalize the project would then go to the tendering procedure. This would also provide the Secretariat with conceptual ideas and methodologies that they could use to develop an operational prototype prior to the 2011 ICCAT Annual Meeting.

The Secretariat would need to receive the source code of any outsourced development work. If this system would be re-used by other RFMOs, it could even be envisaged to request the development as open source.

A question arose on how CPCs would pay for the system. Would only those CPCs active in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna fishery pay, only importing CPCs or shared between all CPCs. Alternatively as in CCAMLR a 'user funded system' [for recurring costs] could be envisaged where costs are reclaimed by charging a certificate fee (e.g. 200 Euros) on issuance / import.

The way forward:²

- 1) Prepare a paper with the description of the skeleton of the system (flows of the system, triggering system of notification, security, etc.),
- 2) Add an agenda item on the eBCD for the meeting of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT (16 to 20 May 2011) to discuss the consequences of a new system (budget, amendment to Recommendations, etc.) and to be able to prepare the basis for a call for tender,
- 3) Include before June 2011 an estimate budget in the proposal for the ICCAT budget 2011-2013 that would take into account the development and the maintenance of the eBCD system,
- 4) On the basis of an estimate of the Secretariat, request voluntary funds to cover expenses regarding the Feasibility Study, a working prototype and other initial needs until a budget is adopted for this project by the Commission.
- 5) Prepare a document for the annual meeting presenting the work undertaken by the eBCD Working Group.

² This was prepared based on the agreement in the first Working Group meeting in January 2011 and does not reflect further discussions by the Group in July 2011.

4.2 REPORT OF THE INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (Barcelona, Spain, February 21 to 25, 2011)

1. Opening of the meeting

The Inter-sessional Meeting of the Conservation and Management Measures Compliance Committee (the Committee) was opened on Monday, February 21, 2011, in Barcelona, Spain, under the chairmanship of Dr. Chris Rogers (United States).

2. Appointment of the Rapporteur

Mr. Marco D'Ambrosio (European Union) was appointed Rapporteur.

3. Adoption of the Agenda and meeting Arrangements

As already requested in its letter to CPCs (Circular #436/2011), Algeria requested that the Compliance Committee review the 2011 eastern bluefin tuna TAC allocation key agreed in Paris. After recalling his communication (Circular #488/2011), the Chairman underlined that the Committee had no competence in revising the allocation key but could only assess the correct application of the current measure. Any modification to the bluefin tuna allocation key or to bluefin tuna conservation measures must be deferred to Panel 2. This view was also supported by other CPCs and no specific point was added to the Agenda.

After further discussion, the Tentative Agenda was amended as follows:

- Under point 4, reference is also made to paragraphs 41 to 49 of Rec. 10-04;
- Under point 4 it was agreed to discuss the objections filed by three CPCs to Rec. 10-04 and the commitments of the CPCs for implementation of the measures prior to the start of the fishing season;
- Upon request of the Delegations of Honduras and Japan, under point 7 it was decided to receive an update and discuss the case of the vessel MILLA A (Circular #4973/2010).
- Under point 8, it was decided to consider the requests for clarification about the interpretation of several measures that had been previously circulated by the Secretariat.

With the above modifications, the Agenda was adopted and is attached as **Appendix 1 to ANNEX 4.2**.

The List of Participants is attached as **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 4.2**.

The Executive Secretary then informed the delegates of the meeting arrangements. Additionally, he called for the creation of a Selection Committee to evaluate the offers received under the call for tender for the 2011 Regional Observer Program. Contracting Parties were requested to nominate representatives to participate in this Selection Committee.

4. Review and approval of fishing, inspection and capacity reduction plans in accordance with paragraphs 9 through 13 and 41 through 49 of Rec. 10-04 (including objections to Rec. 10-04)

Algeria, Turkey and Norway had lodged objections to Rec. 10-04 according to Article VIII of the ICCAT Convention and were requested to provide further explanations on this matter. Specifically, the Chairman requested these three CPCs to indicate any actions that would be taken to manage their respective fisheries for eastern bluefin tuna in recognition of their objections.

Algeria explained that it disagreed with the reduction of its 2011 allocation compared to that used in 2010. It questioned the legal basis on which this decision was taken and therefore objected to the application of the Rec. 10-04. In reply to requests from other CPCs, Algeria explained that, although the Algerian fleet had the physical capacity to fish a quota based on the 2010 share, it still lacked the expertise and technological means to do so. However, even if the concerned quota would have remained un-fished, the objection to the recommendation was a matter of principle. The Chairman recalled once more that the Committee has no competence to amend decisions taken by the Commission and that it would not be appropriate to discuss the specific legal basis for the allocation process contained in Rec. 10-04. The Chairman stated his view that the Compliance Committee

should instead assess the impact of the objections on the entry into force of measures and review the various plans presented by Algeria, and the other CPCs.

Algeria further explained that it objected the Recommendation as a whole as objecting to only certain provisions of a recommendation is not contemplated in the Convention. There was general agreement with this view. Japan advised that it would not be in a position to import any bluefin tuna which would not be in compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures, including Rec. 10-04. Algeria responded that it would not put other importing CPCs in a situation where they had to refuse entry to tuna not caught in conformity with ICCAT rules.

In relation to its objection, Turkey repeated its position stated during the meeting in Paris in November 2010; namely, that the current quota allocation key does not take into account historical catches of bluefin tuna by Turkey. Therefore, Turkey objected specifically to paragraph 8 (allocation key) of Rec. 10-04. However, Turkey re-affirmed its commitment to the bluefin tuna stock recovery plan and therefore confirmed that it would respect the quota and other monitoring and reporting provisions specified in Rec.10-04.

Norway explained that ~~this~~ objection to Rec. 10-04 was due to the lack of transparency in the decision-making process at the annual meeting. A new version of Rec. 10.04, which included a new allocation key, was introduced at the last day of the annual meeting. Norway recognized the right of CPCs to present proposals, but emphasized that the amended allocation key was neither mentioned nor explained when the revised Rec. 10-04 was introduced. Norway further stated that the changes to the allocation key were made without any preceding agreement on sanctions towards parties that do not comply with ICCAT regulations or any discussion in Panel 2 or in the Plenary regarding the criteria for such changes. It was made clear that Norway's objection would not have direct effects on the bluefin tuna stock since Norway prohibits a directed fishery for bluefin tuna and that the Norwegian quota would not be fished.

There was a common view among CPCs that the right to objection is fundamental in organisations such as ICCAT. However, there was also a consensus on the fact that the application of this right should not jeopardize the recovery of eastern bluefin tuna.

The Committee then discussed the early entry into force of Recommendation 10-04, also in light of the objections presented. Following the ICCAT Convention, measures enter into force six months after their notification (in this case, June 14, 2011). As a result of the objections, the provisions of Recommendation 10-04 would not enter into force until August 14, 2011, which is after the end of the major eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna (E-BFT) 2011 fishing season. Lack of implementation until such date would have a negative impact on the effectiveness of the recommendation. There was consensus among CPCs to make every possible effort to ensure a voluntary early implementation of the recommendation, consistent with the requirements of domestic laws and regulations.

The Committee then reviewed the E-BFT Allocation Scheme for 2011. The table provided a summary of the final national quotas after adjusting for previously authorized voluntary reductions from 2009 and for pay back of prior year overharvest. Algeria, Iceland, Morocco and Chinese Taipei had reported carry-overs from the 2009 fishing season which were duly notified within the deadline (March 1) before the beginning of the 2009 season. Syria made its request slightly after the deadline, making its request at the 2009 inter-sessional Compliance Committee meeting, but still before the beginning of the fishing season, and no objection was raised by any CPC at that time. Taking this into account, the Committee decided to adopt the concerned document without modifications. The adjusted quota table is attached as **Appendix 3 to ANNEX 4.2**.

However, considering that many of the E-BFT provisions do not normally foresee derogations to the deadlines established for reporting information, it was decided to discuss under point 10 (Other Matters), how the Compliance Committee should address late reports and notifications in the future.

Subsequently, the Committee proceeded to the analysis of the Fishing, Inspection and Capacity Plans to be endorsed under Rec. 10-04 (**Appendix 4 to ANNEX 4.2**).

In the initial discussion of the plans, it was noted that the format and level of detail varied greatly because Rec. 10-04 did not specify a format or the required content. Additionally, it was acknowledged that some plans were received at the Secretariat just prior to the Compliance Committee meeting and revisions were being submitted even during the course of the meeting. This caused delays in translation and distribution of the documents at the meeting, so it was not certain that final documents could be produced for all CPCs before the end of the meeting.

Consequently, it was recognized that further work subsequent to the COC meeting would be required before some of the plans could be endorsed. The Committee therefore agreed that there could be four possible outcomes of its review of the plans:

- 1) *Endorsement*: If there is no serious fault or other deficiency in the Plan, the COC may endorse it.
- 2) *Endorsement by Correspondence*: If the Plans do not contain a “serious fault” but are deficient in detail or are incomplete, the COC may send notification to the concerned CPC that additional information is needed before the Compliance Committee can endorse the plan. If the required information is provided before a specified deadline, and fully addresses the noted deficiencies, the plan could be endorsed. On this matter, the Chair circulated draft letters to be sent to the concerned CPCs which were discussed and adopted by the Committee as annexed (**Appendix 5 to ANNEX 4.2**).
- 3) *Not Endorsed*: If a CPC’s plans are not endorsed by the Committee, the situation would be referred to the Commission, which shall decide on suspension of bluefin tuna fishing by that CPC in 2011 by mail vote.
- 4) *Not Applicable*: If the CPC lodged an Article VIII objection and/or had indicated it would not fish its quota, the Committee would note that an endorsement is not required under the procedures established in Rec. 10-04, paragraph 9.

The Chairman noted that plans were not received prior to the start of the meeting from Albania, Croatia and Egypt. Later in the meeting, a plan was received from Egypt via correspondence.

The plans received from the CPCs were then presented and discussed individually. From the discussions, a common understanding was reached on the fact that Rec. 10-04 does not require CPCs to submit together with their fishing plans information on the actual vessels authorized and the assignments of individual quotas to these vessels. This information must be submitted at the latest 30 days before the start of the fishing season. However, on this same matter, it was also noted that there might be a contradiction between paragraphs 11 and 56 of the recommendation on the timeframe for submission of this information. The Committee therefore decided to refer the issue to Panel 2 for further clarification and amendment of Rec. 10-04 as necessary. Regardless, CPCs were encouraged to provide the list of vessels and individual quota assignments at the meeting if possible and several CPCs were able to supply complete information.

Albania

The Chairman noted that no plans were received from Albania and that no endorsement could be envisaged at this stage. It was decided to address a letter (**Appendix 5 to ANNEX 4.2**) to Albania requesting to submit appropriate information (case 2).

Algeria

As already mentioned, Algeria lodged an objection to Rec. 10-04. As a consequence, there was agreement at the meeting that Algeria was not required to present fishing and inspection plans under the recommendation. However, it was reminded that Algeria was still bound by Rec. 08-05 and should therefore submit plans under its provisions. Nevertheless, the Chair noted that the terms of reference of the Committee would not allow endorsement of any plans submitted under Recommendations other than Rec. 10-04.

Despite its objection, and with the aim to ensure transparency and its commitment to bluefin tuna conservation, Algeria presented and discussed plans but clearly explained that it did not seek endorsement from the Committee. Rec. 10-04 was therefore not applicable (case 4).

China

The fishing plan submitted stated that two vessels owned by a single entity would be operating in a group manner during the season and no individual quota would be allocated to them. Although there was no obligation for China to indicate individual quotas assigned to vessels at this stage, Rec. 10-04 requires doing so at the latest 30 days before the start of the season. For this reason, the Committee decided to address a letter to China (**Appendix 5 to ANNEX 4.2**) asking for a commitment to assign individual quotas (case 2).

Croatia

The Committee reviewed the plans submitted by Croatia. Some CPCs observed that allocation of individual quotas to vessels was done irrespective of their length and capacity and expressed concerns on the viability of such approach, in particular with regards to compliance with such quotas which were considered too small to be economical for those vessels. The Croatian delegate informed the Committee that particular emphasis would be given by the authorities to the monitoring and control of the fleet so to ensure strict adherence with the fixed limits.

On measures foreseen under paragraph 87 of Rec. 10-04, Croatia outlined it intended to make use of a new generation of stereoscopic camera, together with sampling from incidental mortalities during transfers from purse seiners to cages and with pilot scientific studies for counting and weighing specimens. At least one CPC expressed concern on the reliability of these studies and asked Croatia to complete the sampling with some targeted killings as necessary. The Croatian delegate explained that such a practice would be too costly for the fishing industry given the fact that although paragraph 29 of Rec. 10-04, by derogation to paragraph 28, allows catch of bluefin tuna smaller than 30 kg (but of at least 8 kg) in the Adriatic Sea, this derogation only applies to live tuna. Taking this into account, fish killed for sampling purposes could not be marketed and this would represent a clear economic loss. The Committee accepted this explanation, encouraged Croatia to pursue its efforts in developing more precise stereoscopic video recording techniques and decided to endorse its plans (case 1).

Egypt

When reviewing the plans submitted by Egypt, the Committee felt that further information concerning the implementation of the observer programmes and on the use of VMS was needed. Furthermore, some CPCs wanted to obtain more information on the disposition of catches and, if the purse seine catches were destined to fattening farms, where these farms would be located. Additionally, it was noted that the dates of beginning and end of the fishing season for purse seiners as they were indicated in the plan were not correct. For the mentioned reasons, the CPCs asked the Chair to send a letter to Egypt (**Appendix 5 to ANNEX 4.2**) seeking clarification on these issues (case 2).

European Union

Further to the presentation of its plans, at the meeting the European Union provided some further clarifications concerning the differences in the individual allocation of quotas to vessels and the implementation of pilot schemes for the counting and weighing of bluefin tuna to be transferred from purse seiners to cages, in addition to the monitoring obligations according to Rec. 10-04. The European Union informed the CPCs that it would make use of stereoscopic cameras during these inspections. In addition, sampling programmes will be implemented using incidental mortalities during the transfers. Should the sampling of these fish be insufficient for a representative sample, additional killing for sampling purposes would be conducted. Following these explanations, the Committee decided to endorse the plans (case 1).

Iceland

The plan submitted by Iceland did not include any information concerning the return to port once the quota assigned to the single vessel authorised to fish bluefin tuna is exhausted. Furthermore, no list of authorised ports for landing was supplied. For these reasons the Committee asked the Chair to send a letter to Iceland (**Appendix 5 to ANNEX 4.2**) requesting further information on these issues (case 2)

Japan

After discussing the apparent contradiction among paragraphs 11 and 56 of Rec. 10-04 in the timeframe for submission of information on the individual vessels quotas (see above), the CPCs decided to endorse the Japanese plans also considering the commitment made by Japan in submitting the information required under those paragraphs at the latest 30 days before the beginning of the fishing season (case 1).

Korea

When presenting its fishing plan, Korea explained that the purse seiner which fished for bluefin tuna in 2010 had been sold and was in the process of being replaced with the vessel El-Hader 2, currently flying the Libyan flag.

The procedure of acquisition was being finalised but came to a stop given the current political unrest in Libya. Still, Korea planned to finalise the registration procedures and to reflag the vessel before the beginning of the season. The CPCs decided to endorse the plans but drew the attention of Korea on the need to complete all the necessary procedures and post the name and details of the vessel on the ICCAT website ahead of the fishing season (case 1). Korea requested further discussion on the procedures for listing of authorized vessels under Agenda Item 10.

Libya

When reviewing the fishing plan presented by Libya, the CPCs noted that no actions for the implementation of the provisions of paragraph 87 of Rec. 10-04 were foreseen. Additionally, it appeared that the sum of quotas allocated to different segments of the fleet was higher than the total quota allocated to Libya. Furthermore, at least one CPC wished to obtain more information on the reactivation of a farm which was not operated since 2006. For these reasons, the CPCs asked the Chairman to send a letter to Libya (**Appendix 5 to ANNEX 4.2**) to address the noted issues (case 2).

Morocco

The plans presented by Morocco were reviewed by CPCs. Following requests from some CPCs, the Moroccan delegate explained that in order to comply with paragraph 87 of Rec. 10-04, stereoscopic cameras would be used in conjunction with sampling of fish obtained from incidental mortality during transfers. Assurances were given that, if these mortalities would not constitute a representative sample, they would be coupled with the necessary number of targeted killings. Furthermore, the Moroccan delegate informed the Committee that the list of traps will be submitted within the deadline established in paragraph 59 of the Recommendation and that the authorised purse seiners in the 2011 season would be limited to two units. On the basis of these additional clarifications, the Committee decided to endorse the plans of Morocco (case 1).

Norway

Norway was allocated a quota for bluefin tuna within the framework of ICCAT for the first time at the inter-session meeting of Panel 2 held in Tokyo in January 2007. This was followed by the adoption of a regulation establishing a prohibition for Norwegian vessels to fish and land bluefin tuna in Norway's territorial waters, in the Norwegian Economic Zone and in the international waters. Therefore, Norway has not used its national quota. As already reported above, Norway objected to Rec. 10-04. Since Norway has prohibited fishing for bluefin tuna, the Committee agreed that the requirement to present and endorse fishing and inspection plans was not applicable to Norway (case 4).

Syria

Although Syria transmitted a fishing plan, it did not transmit an inspection plan. Furthermore, the fishing plan did not give information on the destination of the bluefin tuna catches from purse seine operations. CPCs wished to know whether these would be destined for processing and export or to fattening farms and, if so, where these farms would be located. Taking this into consideration, CPCs asked the Chair to address a letter to Syria (**Appendix 5 to ANNEX 4.2**) in order to obtain the necessary clarification (case 2).

Tunisia

The plans submitted by Tunisia were reviewed by the Committee. Following the requests of some CPCs, the delegate from Tunisia informed the Committee that the National Observer Program would be fully implemented in accordance with provisions of Rec.10-04 and that, taking into account paragraph 87 of the same recommendation, Tunisia would run pilot schemes for the counting and weighing of bluefin tuna during transfers from purse seiners to towing cages. In this sense, samples from incidental mortalities would be used and, should these not be sufficient, they would be coupled with a strictly necessary number of targeted killings. Given these explanations, the Committee decided to endorse the plans (case 1).

Turkey

Taking into consideration Turkey's objection to Rec. 10-04, the general understanding of the Committee was that Turkey was not required to present plans under this recommendation. However, Turkey decided to submit fishing and inspection plans and to seek endorsement from the Committee. There was a general agreement that

nothing in the ICCAT Convention or in Recommendation 10-04 prohibited this approach and the Committee decided to discuss the plans.

Some CPCs indicated that individual quotas allocated to vessels seemed to be too low to be economical. Turkey explained that it had already made tangible efforts in reducing the overcapacity of its bluefin tuna fleet and that these were in line with objectives in the capacity reduction plan. Therefore, no further reductions could be made at this stage. Nevertheless, the delegate from Turkey reassured that management and conservation measures, including the ICCAT Regional Observer Programme and the deployment of national observers, would be strictly applied in order to ensure full respect of the assigned quota. Furthermore, upon an explicit request from the European Union, Turkey expressed that it is open to collaborate with other CPCs, including the EU, in the field of joint inspections in accordance with the relevant provisions of ICCAT Convention. Following the discussion and the commitments made by Turkey, the Committee agreed in endorsing the plans (case 1).

Chinese Taipei

Despite the fact that it received a quota of bluefin tuna under Rec. 10-04, Chinese Taipei informed the Committee that it did not intend to fish its quota and, to this extent, since 2009 a prohibition for Chinese Taipei vessels to fish bluefin tuna was in force. For these reasons, Chinese Taipei did not submit any plan. To the question from one CPC on how this fishing ban was implemented, the delegate made reference to the use of VMS and the fact that most of its vessels operate in the tropical waters between 25°S and 25°N. There was a common agreement of the Committee that the requirement to submit plans under Rec. 10-04 was therefore not applicable (case 4).

With reference to the letters to be sent to Albania, China, Egypt, Iceland, Libya and Syria, it was agreed to post the replies in the password protected area of the ICCAT website, as well as to distribute them to all CPCs through circulars. The deadline for replies was set at March 11, 2011. In reviewing the replies, other CPCs would be able to request, through the ICCAT Secretariat, further clarifications from the concerned CPCs. Based on the answers received, and if no objection is raised by any CPC by March 21, 2011 at the latest, the Chair would assume that the Committee granted endorsement to the concerned plans. If by March 21, 2011, an objection is raised to the answers received from any one of the concerned CPCs, the Chair will note that the plans for that CPC could not be endorsed. The matter would then be referred to the Commission Chairman in order to launch the mail vote procedure for suspension of bluefin tuna fishing by that CPC in 2011.

After the presentations of the plans, it was commented that, given the evident difference in the level of detail and content provided by CPCs in their plans, there might be a need to develop a common template for future submission. This would help both in the preparation of the plans and also in their evaluation by the Compliance Committee.

The Chairman also recalled that Rec. 10-04 provides that if the Compliance Committee finds a serious fault in the plans submitted by a CPC and cannot endorse them, the Commission shall decide on suspension of bluefin tuna fishing by that CPC in 2011 by mail vote. Taking this into consideration, he noted that there was a clear need to ensure a fair, transparent and objective assessment of each CPC's plans and, in particular, to define the concept of "serious fault".

In order to promote the debate, the Chairman tabled a document containing a checklist of requirements to be addressed in the plans and to submit it to the Committee for consideration. Despite an initial promising discussion, at this stage the Committee was not able to adopt the document but noted that Panel 2 should consider it in establishing a procedure for evaluating plans in the future, attached for future reference as **Appendix 6 to ANNEX 4.2**.

The Committee reviewed and adopted (attached as **Appendix 7 to ANNEX 4.2**) reporting on CPCs capacity reduction plans as required by Rec. 10-04. Reductions in 2011 had to be at least 75% of the existing overcapacity compared to the baseline. Based on the methodology developed by the SCRS to assign capacity to each type and size class of vessel, the document took the 2008 capacity as a reference point (baseline capacity) against which calculating future reductions.

It was noted that the 2008 baseline information used by some CPCs at the 2010 Compliance Committee Inter-Sessional Meeting was not the same as that used at the 2010 Panel 2 meeting. After some discussion, adjustments to the baselines were made to take into account updated information received from some CPCs. Following the discussion, the Committee was able to endorse the Capacity reduction plans of all CPCs except those of Albania and Algeria.

Albania did not provide a capacity management plan because it joined ICCAT in 2008 and therefore has no reference baseline from which the reduction can be calculated. Regarding Algeria, since it objected to Rec. 10-04, there was no requirement to present a capacity reduction plan consistent with the 2011 quota assigned to Algeria in that recommendation.

5. Consideration and review of other requirements of the multiannual recovery plan for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna.

The Chairman reviewed the other monitoring and reporting requirements for CPCs under Rec.10-04. Following a request for clarification on paragraph 20, the Chairman concluded that there was a common understanding that Joint Fishing Operations are permitted if they involve a CPC with less than five authorised purse seiners. Both CPCs must authorize the JFO and are jointly subject to the prior notification and reporting requirements.

On paragraph 79, it was clarified that the monitoring by video is limited to transfer activities only and it is not required when tuna is harvested from the farm cages for marketing. Furthermore, after discussion, it was acknowledged that videotaping in the case of harvesting from traps cannot practically take place in the water. It was agreed that failing to film in the water in such situations will not be considered as a serious violation by the Committee. It was decided to forward this paragraph to Panel 2 for review, and revision as necessary.

The Chairman reviewed Rec. 06-07 and CPCs with farming activities were reminded of the importance of providing on a regular basis data from harvest sampling to contribute to the scientific evaluation of growth rates.

No issues of interpretation were raised when reviewing Rec. 09-11 on the Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation Scheme. It was recalled that extensive discussions on the implementation of the BCD scheme had taken place at the inter-sessional Compliance Committee meeting in 2009, and this served to achieve a common understanding of the requirements. The Chairman also noted that a report is expected from the Working Group on the Electronic Catch Document Scheme.

6. Determination of procedures for the implementation of the ROP-BFT for the 2011 season

As a follow-up to discussions held in Paris, the Secretariat made a presentation of the standard formats for the reports and data collection forms for implementation of the Regional Observer Program (ROP) for Bluefin Tuna. This document was developed to solve the reporting problems experienced during the 2010 fishing season.

CPCs welcomed the document. However, some CPCs still raised concerns on the quality of the training of the observers, on their equal treatment with regards to pay, and on the overall costs of the program to the participating CPCs.

Concerning the 2011 ROP call for tender, the three CPCs forming the Selection Committee completed a technical and financial evaluation of the bids received and made a selection. The Secretariat informed the Committee that it had awarded the contract to the Consortium MRAG/COFREPECHE for the implementation of the 2011 Program.

The Secretariat then reminded the delegates that early submission of vessel lists and deployment requests would greatly facilitate effective and economical implementation of the ROP and could avoid the logistical problems faced in 2010.

7. Consideration and review of requirements established by other conservation and management measures, in particular those requirements which formed the basis of letters of concern and identification approved during the 2010 annual meeting

It was recalled that at the 2010 ICCAT Meeting in Paris, several CPCs noted that all aspects of compliance should be addressed during this meeting of the Compliance Committee and not solely those relating to bluefin tuna. In particular, it was noted that other areas of compliance such as provision of Task I and Task II data, respect of reporting deadlines, information relating to possible IUU activities, and port inspection reports, amongst others, should also be examined.

Letters of concern or identification were sent by the Chairman to some CPCs as a result of the Committee deliberations at the 2010 meeting. Although responses are only required at the latest 30 days before the

upcoming annual meeting, CPCs were encouraged in those letters to provide responses in advance of the inter-sessional meeting of the Compliance Committee.

Some CPCs noted that some claims made in these letters were too vague to be properly addressed and rectified. It was recommended that in the future more precision is provided on the deficiencies or violations so to ensure an adequate response.

The United States noted that its Letter of Concern indicated late transmission of the compliance tables and recalled that the issue of the deadline for this report had been raised several times. While the Compliance Committee had agreed at the 2008 meeting that compliance tables should be submitted along with Task I data by July 31 each year, Rec. 98-14 is still binding, and this recommendation specifies a deadline coinciding with the submission of Annual Reports in October. The United States also questioned the reference in its letter to reconciliation of bluefin tuna trade data that was first raised at the 2009 Compliance Committee inter-sessional meeting. The United States had previously reported on communications made with other CPCs involved with the import and export transactions noting that no replies had been received. In the U.S. view, no further action was possible unless and until responses were received from the other parties concerned. Additionally, the United States questioned whether imports of swordfish from non-Contracting Parties that did not post their validating authorities on the ICCAT website was in fact a violation of the recommendation given the flexibility provided in the statistical document recommendations. The United States would follow up on these issues in its formal response to the Letter of Concern to be transmitted at a later date.

Following a request from Japan, Algeria provided an update on the judicial proceedings concerning catches of 820 t of bluefin tuna made in 2009 without proper authorisation. These fish had been transferred to farms in Tunisia and Malta without catch documents and this situation had been previously discussed by the Compliance Committee. The Algerian delegate informed the Committee that the case is still under consideration in court and that CPCs will be kept informed on the future developments.

The discussion then focused on the vessel "MILLA A" already included in the provisional IUU list. Honduras provided the CPCs with its interpretation of the facts and informed that it had never officially received the report of the Joint Inspection of the European Union since it was sent to an "unofficial" mailing address. The European Union delegate commented that the official report was sent a few days after the inspection to the official address which was provided by the local authorities but no answer was received.

More generally, several Parties regretted that Honduras was absent at the 2010 meeting in Paris because this would have allowed for prompt resolution of the issue. It appeared that the vessel authorization on the ICCAT list had not been renewed promptly in 2009 and 2010 as the procedures of Rec. 08-05 require the list of bluefin tuna vessels to be renewed annually in advance of the season. Additionally, although Honduras showed that the vessel had operational VMS, these messages were not being received at the Secretariat. It was noted by the EU, that the MILLA A was inspected by one of its patrol vessels in both 2009 and 2010 under the Joint Inspection Program. In each case, a report was issued regarding the vessel authorization and VMS status.

The Chairman recalled that Rec. 09-10 provides for an inter-sessional procedure for de-listing of vessels from the adopted IUU vessel list. It was agreed by the CPCs that this de-listing procedure, however, could also be applied to the provisional list. Since any action related to adjustment of the provisional list rests with the PWG, the COC Chair urged Honduras to send a letter to ICCAT stating the facts of the case regarding the vessel authorization, the status of its VMS capability and other monitoring measures to be applied in 2011 and to request removal of the MILLA A from the provisional IUU list through inter-sessional means.

8. Review of active ICCAT Conservation and Management Measures and Monitoring and Control Measures to clarify issues of interpretation, to determine priorities for consideration by the Compliance Committee, or to recommend other pertinent actions to the Commission

The Chairman reviewed the Chair's Reporting Requirements Review (**Appendix 8 to ANNEX 4.2**) giving a detailed overview on each of the reporting requirements previously adopted by ICCAT and applicable to CPCs. During the course of this review, some requests for clarification were made and some precisions were given. When it was not possible, for clarifications to be made by the Compliance Committee, it was decided to refer the matter to the relevant ICCAT body (Commission, PWG or Panel in charge of the specific measure).

The Committee discussed the apparent conflict between its decision in 2008 to set the deadline for submission of Compliance Tables by 31 July and active Rec. 98-14 which establishes submission with Annual Reports at the SCRS meeting. It was noted that the July 31 deadline was not realistic for some parties. The Chair offered to

draft a revised recommendation to address both the deadline and update the reporting formats and review procedure. Such a Chairman's text could be considered at the next annual meeting.

It was agreed that the internal actions reports required under Rec. 09-08 and the report on the LSTLV Management Standard could be submitted as part of each CPC's Annual Report to the Commission.

There was no consensus on how to resolve conflicts with information on carrier vessels posted to the ICCAT list. Currently, flag states of the catching vessels submit information on authorized carrier vessels to the Secretariat. Several flag states may authorize the same carrier vessel but provide different details on the carrier vessel to the Secretariat.

After some discussion on the provision of information on validating authorities for statistical documents, it was decided to refer this matter for consideration by the Permanent Working Group on the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG).

The CPCs discussed the continuing need for size sampling requirements at farms. It was clarified that Rec. 06-07 requires sampling at the time of harvest from cages, while Rec. 10-04 requires size sampling at the time of caging.

It was agreed that new lists of bluefin tuna catching vessels and bluefin tuna other vessels (support vessels, tugs, processing/carrier, etc.) must be provided to the Secretariat each year according to the prescribed deadlines.

9. Consideration of Guidelines for an ICCAT Schedule of Compliance Actions and possible establishment of a Compliance Task Force

The Chairman presented a Draft Resolution on the Creation of a Compliance Review Group on the establishment of a Compliance Task Force. The task force would assist the Chairman in the preparation of meeting materials, in particular the compliance summary tables and the proposals for actions to address issues of non-compliance. The concept of a task force had already been raised by the Future of ICCAT Working Group in Sapporo and was previously discussed at the 2009 and 2010 annual meetings and at the 2010 Compliance Committee inter-sessional meeting. The Chair also proposed to have an exchange of views on the "Guidelines for an ICCAT Schedule of Compliance Actions" (**Appendix 9 to ANNEX 4.2**), a discussion paper prepared by the Compliance Committee Chair. The paper outlined a potential structure for determining actions to address non-compliance.

When discussing the Draft Resolution on the Creation of a Compliance Review Group, some parties noted that it was important to avoid duplication of work with the Committee and that the size of the task force should be limited to the minimum number required to be effective, while ensuring geographical balance, so to maintain a certain level of flexibility. During the discussions it was agreed to refer to the task force as "Compliance Review Group". Some changes were made to the document circulated by the Chair (**Appendix 10 to ANNEX 4.2**), for which there was some support. The Committee agreed that both documents were important to facilitate the work of the COC and should be kept open for further discussions until the next Commission meeting where they could possibly be adopted.

10. Other matters

During the meeting some matters of interpretation of some ICCAT Recommendations were raised.

A discussion took place on the need to strictly enforce deadlines set in ICCAT Recommendations and circulars. The Committee acknowledged that deadlines need to be respected. However, it was observed that the Committee should allow some flexibility when circumstances so require and, therefore, that some tolerance can be applied on a case by case basis. However, this would not be interpreted in any way as a manner to accept and endorse repeated deficiencies of a given CPC in meeting deadlines. Repeated failures to meet deadlines in the past should be considered in decisions on additional requests for flexibility.

Following the objection lodged by Turkey to Rec. 10-04 and its subsequent request to discuss and endorse its fishing, inspection and capacity reduction plans, the Chair sought views of CPCs on the compatibility of these two actions. On the one hand, there was agreement that article 8 of the ICCAT Convention allows objecting to a Recommendation in its entirety but not necessarily to specific parts. On the other hand, CPCs appreciated the transparency shown by Turkey and noted that its approach would make compliance of other CPCs with Rec. 10-04 easier when applying market state reviews of Turkish exports of bluefin tuna. Taking this into consideration,

is was agreed to refer the issue of objections relative to the work of the Compliance Committee to the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT for further discussion and decision as necessary.

By making reference to the problematic acquisition of vessel El-Hader 2 from Libya (mentioned under point 4 above), Korea sought clarifications on whether it could ask the Secretariat to remove the currently Libyan flagged vessel from the ICCAT registry and then add it under the Korean flag. The reason for such request was the current political situation in Libya and the fact that Korea did not expect in a short timeframe that Libya could complete the removal of the vessel from its registry. The Committee took note of the current circumstances but agreed on the fact that the request for removal should come from the flag country that included the vessel on the ICCAT registry. Korea then asked whether it could allocate its quota to the Libyan vessel if it could not be reflagged but it was noted that chartering agreements are prohibited by paragraph 19 of Rec. 10-04. Korea sought information on whether the vessel could be still allowed to fish, if its acquisition was finalised before the beginning of the purse seine fishing season but after the deadline to notify the list of vessels to the Secretariat. The Chair drew attention to paragraph 56 of Rec. 10-04 and invited Korea to keep the Committee informed in a transparent manner of further developments. He also informed Korea that the Committee would take this approach into account in its subsequent review of the matter.

For transparency purposes, and following the methodologies adopted by the Committee to deal with irregularities in Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation programme in 2010, the European Union provided details on a case where quantities of bluefin tuna exported to Japan from an European Union trap in 2010 were higher than the quantities reported caught on the original Bluefin Tuna Catch Document. The European Union explained the special particularities of this case and confirmed that the excess quantities (approximately five tonnes) would be counted against the European Union quota. The European Union confirmed that the fish had not been fed while in the trap, but that due to delays in final harvest, some growth had occurred from consumption of forage fish present in the trap. Japan thanked the European Union for its transparency and commitment to resolve the matter and, in the absence of an objection from the Committee, agreed to import the quantities concerned. Japan noted that future discrepancies of this type might result in rejection of the import.

11. Adoption of Report

The report was adopted by correspondence.

12. Adjournment

The Chairman thanked the delegates for their efforts in reviewing compliance information and the Secretariat for the work involved in preparing documents for the meeting. The Chairman also thanked the interpreters for their excellent support and the Rapporteur for his work in preparing the meeting report.

The 2011 inter-sessional meeting of the Compliance Committee adjourned on February 25, 2011.

Appendix 1 to ANNEX 4.2

Agenda

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda and meeting arrangements
4. Review and approval of fishing, inspection and capacity reduction plans in accordance with paragraphs 9 through 13 and 41 through 49 of Rec. 10-04 (including objections to Rec. 10-04)
5. Consideration and review of other requirements of the multiannual recovery plan for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna.
6. Determination of procedures for the implementation of the ROP-BFT for the 2011 season.
7. Consideration and review of requirements established by other conservation and management measures, in particular those requirements which formed the basis of letters of concern and identification approved during the 2010 annual meeting.
8. Review of active ICCAT Conservation and Management Measures and Monitoring and Control Measures to clarify issues of interpretation, to determine priorities for consideration by the Compliance Committee, or to recommend other pertinent actions to the Commission.
9. Consideration of Guidelines for an ICCAT Schedule of Compliance Actions and possible establishment of a Compliance Task Force.

10. Other matters
11. Adoption of Report
12. Adjournment

Appendix 2 to ANNEX 4.2

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Appendix 3 to ANNEX 4.2

E-BFT Allocation Scheme For 2011

At the request of the Chair of the Compliance Committee, the Secretariat has prepared the table below reflecting the allocation scheme for bluefin tuna in 2011. This table is based on the *Recommendation Amending the Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Multi-annual Recovery Plan for Bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean* [Rec. 08-05] (paragraph 15 concerning carry over from 2009 to 2011), and the *Recommendation Amending the Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Multi-annual Recovery Plan for Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean* [Rec. 10-04] (paragraph 8).

<i>CPC</i>	<i>2011 Rec. 10-04</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Adjusted quotas 2011</i>	<i>Notes 2011</i>
Albania	32.3	0.2506266	32.3	
Algeria*	138.46	1.0733333	228.46	+90
China (People's Rep.)	36.77	0.2850125	36.77	
Croatia	376.01	2.9148371	376.01	
Egypt	64.58	0.5006266	64.58	
European Union	7,266.41	56.328772	5,756.41	-1510
Iceland	29.82	0.2311278	78.82	+49
Japan	1,097.03	8.504110	1,097.03	
Korea	77.53	0.6010025	77.53	
Libya	902.66	6.9973935	902.66	
Morocco	1,223.07	9.481153	1,238.33	+15.26
Norway*	29.82	0.231128	29.82	
Syria	32.33	0.250627	82.05	+49.72
Tunisia	1,017.56	7.888070	860.18	-157.38t
Turkey*	535.89	4.154160	535.89	
Chinese Taipei	39.75	0.308170	106.05	+66.3
TOTAL	12,899.99		11,502.89	

*Objection to Rec. 10.04.

Bold = Voluntary reduction from 2009 added to 2011 quota.

Appendix 4 to ANNEX 4.2

**Fishing, Inspection and Capacity Reduction Plans
in Compliance with Rec. 10-04 - February 2011**

ALGERIA

Fishing, Inspection and Capacity Management Plans for the Exploitation of Bluefin Tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*) in Waters Under Algerian Jurisdiction for 2011

Legislative and regulatory references

Management and control measures for bluefin tuna fishing in the waters under Algerian jurisdiction originate from the provisions included in the Recommendations adopted by ICCAT and which have been adapted into the following Algerian legislations and regulations:

- Law No. 01-11 regarding fishing and aquaculture of July 3, 2001;
- Executive Decree No. 03-481, dated December 13, 2003, establishing the conditions and types of fishing;
- Ministerial Decree, dated June 12, 2005 regarding fishing licenses and authorizations.

Recently, on the basis of the requirements of Recommendation 08-05, amended by ICCAT Recommendation 09-06, concerning a recovery plan for the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna fishery, a Ministerial

Decree of April 19, 2010, which established bluefin tuna fishing quotas for vessels flying a domestic flag fishing in waters under national jurisdiction, fixing their distribution and implementation.

Annual Fishing Plan

Fishing fleet

The catching vessels which will be authorized to catch bluefin tuna in waters under Algerian jurisdiction, during 2011, will be designated in accordance with the administrative procedure defined by the above-mentioned Decree, dated April 19, 2010, among those that are included in the ICCAT Registry.

The number of vessels will be established in accordance with the quota allocated to Algeria and according to the potential catches estimated by the SCRS by type of vessel.

Quota management

The 2011 national quota, increased by 90 t (the part of the 2009 quota transferred to 2011; see ICCAT Circular #365/11) will be distributed among the tuna fleet and the coastal artisanal fleet that fishes bluefin tuna as incidental or by-catch.

In fact, in the absence of sports/recreational bluefin tuna fishing in Algeria, this species is only actively targeted by the national tuna fleet included in the ICCAT Registry.

The National Commission comprising representatives of the Ministry of National Defense (National Coast Guard Service), the Ministry of Transport, and the Ministry of Fisheries, appointed in accordance with the above-mentioned decree of April 19, 2010 and responsible for the distribution of bluefin tuna fishing quotas in accordance with the terms established by the laws and regulations in force.

Thus, individual quotas for tuna vessels will be fixed based on the best catch rates estimated by the SCRS for the different types of vessels.

Conditions for fishing activity

a) Fishing area

National vessels shall be authorized to carry out this activity within the waters under Algerian jurisdiction, including internal and territorial waters and the waters of the Exclusive Fishing Zone (EFZ).

b) Fishing authorization

Those vessels participating in the fishing campaign must have a fishing authorization in accordance with the national regulation in force.

c) Joint fishing

Joint fishing operations are banned since 2010.

d) Chartering

In accordance with paragraph 17 of ICCAT Recommendation 08-05, no chartering operations for the bluefin tuna fishery is allowed since January 1, 2010.

Inspection plan

Controllers – observers

a) National

Monitoring of the fishing operations will be conducted during the entire fishing campaign by two controllers/observers (the Fisheries Administration and Coast Guards) who shall board each tuna vessel.

b) ICCAT Regional

The vessel owners of tuna purse seiners over 24 m must board an ICCAT observer on each tuna vessel.

In the case of live bluefin tuna transfer, the captain of the vessel must guarantee that the transfer operations are monitored by an underwater video camera, that the recordings include the date and time of the transfer and that the observers have complete access to the transfers and video recordings, in particular.

VMS

Tuna vessels authorized to participate in the 2011 fishing campaign must be equipped with a detection beacon. The transmittal of VMS data is obligatory for all vessels.

Catch monitoring measures

All captains of bluefin tuna vessels must transmit to the Administration, responsible of competent territorial fisheries and the National Coast Guard Service, electronically or by other means, a weekly catch report including information on catches and records of null catches, date and catch location, latitude and longitude.

Captains of tuna vessels over 24 m must also notify to the Administration responsible of competent territorial fisheries and the National Coast Guard Service, a daily catch report including information on catches, as well as the catch date and location.

This catch reporting scheme allows monitoring levels of individual quotas in real time guaranteeing that the national quota is not exceeded.

Moreover, all captains of vessels must have a bluefin tuna logbook onboard the vessel.

Landing ports

Ten landing ports have been designated for bluefin tuna landings caught during the 2011 fishing campaign.

The provincial Directors of fisheries and marine resources who are responsible for the designated ports (the Administration responsible for competent territorial fisheries) have to supervise the development of the entire fishing campaign and, in particular, designate fishing inspectors and send them to the designated ports to control bluefin tuna landings.

Catch documentation scheme

At the end of the fishing operations and in the case that the vessel owner complies with the regulatory, technical, administrative and related requirements, an ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Catch Document (BCD) is approved and sent to the owner.

Capacity Management Plan

Based on Algeria's bluefin tuna fishing possibilities allocated since 2003, Algeria implemented a program for the development of a national tuna fleet aimed at purchasing 24 vessels to actively target bluefin tuna.

This development program was interrupted before its termination given that a balance between the fishing capacities and possibilities was reached as a result of the subsequent reductions of the TAC and eastern bluefin tuna catch quotas carried out by ICCAT since 2006.

Thus, since January 1, 2010, the public authorities have suspended financial support which was agreed for the purchase of tuna vessels and no longer authorizes investments in this area unless this relates to the replacement of a vessel.

For this reason, the current fishing capacity has been frozen since 2010, which calculated on the basis of catches estimated by the SCRS, complies with the catch limits allocated to Algeria.

CHINA**Fishing, Inspection and Capacity Reduction Plans**

Two vessels, Jin Feng No.1 and Jin Feng No.3, are authorized to seasonally fish bluefin tuna from the end of the third quarter of this year. VMS tracking, tagging, logsheet, weekly and monthly reporting, 100% observer coverage and other measures on bluefin tuna fishing will be implemented during the whole season. Due to the small quota allocated to China, the number of fishing vessels was cut from four to two, to limit China's catch under the quota. Taking into account the serious sea conditions during that season and for the safety of the vessels, we have to maintain the two vessels fishing in a group manner and no further reduction could be made for the season.

Annual Fishing Plan

Jin Feng No.1 and Jin Feng No.3 that harvested bluefin tuna in 2010 will continue to do so in the 2011 fishing season as mentioned above. Since the two vessels, whose registration information is posted in the attachment*, belong to the same operator, and both the number of vessels and the quantity of bluefin tuna quota are low, no individual quota will be allocated to each vessel. The vessels will report their catch weekly both to the operator and the Chinese fisheries authority, and the authority will then monitor and control the whole catch by the two vessels to ensure no bluefin tuna overharvest than the bluefin tuna quota allocated to China for the 2011 fishing season. The vessels are required to proceed immediately to a designated port when the total quotas are deemed to be exhausted.

CROATIA**BFT Fishing Plan for 2011**

In 2011, a total of 20 vessels shall be authorized to participate in the bluefin tuna PS fishery. The list of vessels is provided below. Out of this number, 3 vessels are over 40 m, 10 are 24 to 40 m, and 7 are less than 24 meters. Individual quota shall be allocated to each vessel. The individual quota shall amount to 18.35 tons. Quota has been allocated provisionally in equal shares of the total amount for the bluefin tuna PS fleet. Croatia has introduced the ITQ system in the bluefin tuna PS fishery, allowing the participants to exchange the fishing possibilities and pool them together. Should there be any subsequent changes to the list of vessels, these shall be communicated to the ICCAT Secretariat immediately, in accordance with the ICCAT Recommendations.

BFT Fishing Plan

<i>BFT PS LoA</i>	<i>No. of BFT PS</i>	<i>Individual quota each</i>
<24 m	7	18,35 t
24 – 40 m	10	18,35 t
>40 m	3	18,35 t

List of vessels

<i>No.</i>	<i>Vessel Name</i>	<i>ICCAT No.</i>
1.	BOŽO	AT000HRV00048
2.	CEZAR	AT000HRV00109
3.	DINKO	AT000HRV00047
4.	EVA	AT000HRV00049
5.	FULIJA	AT000HRV00004
6.	HRVATSKI USPJEH	AT000HRV00007
7.	JADRAN I	AT000HRV00030

* Vessel list (CP01) not included.

8.	KALI	AT000HRV00037
9.	KALI DVA	AT000HRV00011
10.	LUBIN	AT000HRV00012
11.	MARINERO II	AT000HRV00027
12.	MARITUNA	AT000HRV00045
13.	MOLO	AT000HRV00044
14.	NAPREDAK	AT000HRV00018
15.	NEPTUN I	AT000HRV00134
16.	NEPTUN II	AT000HRV00140
17.	PONOS	AT000HRV00058
18.	PREKO	AT000HRV00021
19.	SARDINA I	AT000HRV00133
20.	TULJAN	AT000HRV00024

Respecting of the individual quota shall be secured by way of the MSC measures, as has been stipulated in the inspection plan, as well as by way of ROP cross-checks and verifications of data. Since each vessel needs to communicate with the FMC in order to be given the authorization for caging, it shall be ordered into port when it is deemed that its individual quota has been exhausted. Cross-checks of data from catch reports, requests for authorization of transfer into transport cages, transfer declarations, request for authorization of caging, caging declarations, underwater footage, VMS, ROP and national observer as well as inspection reports shall be made. All relevant provisions of ICCAT Recommendations governing these issues have already been fully implemented in Croatia (details communicated previously), and relevant sections have been described in more detail in the Inspection Plan submitted.

Quota has been allocated to 15 HL vessels. Given the size of this fleet and its artisanal character, the total quota of 6 tons was allocated to this segment. The quota allocated was based on previous records and intensity of the activity. The fishing for HL has been closed from January 1 until February 15.

An additional 3 tons were allocated to the sport and recreational fishery, and shall be individually allocated to events organized and confirmed. Inspection shall be present at all such events, as has been indicated in the inspection plan.

Initiation of the study in order to better estimate the number and the size of the fish entering the cages is foreseen in 2011. This shall involve activities at caging, and relevant authorities have initiated discussions on implementation of methods alternative to direct sampling. Initial discussions have resulted with basic definitions of underwater observations that need to be met in order to implement the scheme. Details of the scheme as well as the results shall be sent to the SCRS as soon as they are available.

Bluefin Tuna Inspection Plan for 2011

Basic framework

Control and monitoring of fisheries activities in the Republic of Croatia are governed by several different acts and implementing regulations. The core legal document in this segment is the Marine Fisheries Act, which defines activities and actions that are considered to be infringements of the fisheries policy and state administration bodies and public servants who are entitled to perform inspection activities.

Human and technical resources

Fishing inspection is performed by the fishing inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development (MAFRD), the officials of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), inspectors of the Ministry of Sea, Transport and Infrastructure (MSTI) as well as Coast Guard.

The Coast Guard Act (OG 109/07) provided the legal basis for the setting up of the Coast Guard of the Republic of Croatia. According to this act, the Coast Guard cooperates with all other state administration bodies in charge of specific elements of surveillance and control at sea. All joint activities linked with fisheries inspection are planned and coordinated with the consent of the MAFRD. Central coordination takes place every three months at the ministerial level and every 15 days at the local level. Priorities for the coming period are decided there, plus the training scheme for inspectors and the operational cooperation between the different services. All activities of different bodies are coordinated at the level of Central Coordination.

Implementation of actions agreed at the level of Central Coordination is further secured and agreed in details at local level (Regional Coordination). Regional Coordinations are headed by chief officers of the Port Authority, and a representative of the MAFRD DoF is an obligatory member. Joint actions directed at fisheries control are undertaken in direct agreement with the MAFRD representative. At this level, technical people discuss and agree on actions that need to be undertaken in coordination of different bodies. This system was set up to make the best use of resources available.

Specific fisheries inspection tasks are planned on an annual basis, with revisions and modifications every 3 month. Recent activities of the DoF involve the development of electronic reports after each control, which are then integrated in a database, with a possibility to consult the summary in this base. The report forms may be used by all authorized inspection (maritime police, coast guard, port authorities), enabling hence a centralized system to follow-up the infringements and keep a good record of number of controls and infringements recorded. The database is linked with the fleet and licence register, register of first buyers and database on catch and landing data, as well as with the VMS, which then assures the quality of the cross-checks.

The database is currently being created and structured, and its initial test phase envisages test for dedicated fisheries inspection services.

In order to secure uniform approach of all bodies engaged in fisheries inspection, the DoF is currently drafting the manual for fisheries inspection, including list of species and relevant provisions of the national and international regulations governing management of resources. It also contains description of behaviour and procedures that need to be followed in fisheries inspection.

Since Croatia has already implemented the VMS, and given that the maritime police, Coast Guard and fisheries inspection covers the maritime waters by patrol vessels, it is expected that this setup shall secure efficient monitoring, surveillance and control. In terms of controls at landing, Croatia has designated the ports for bluefin tuna. The provisions of the Marine Fisheries Act, covering conservation and management measures as well as issues of surveillance, monitoring and control of all elements pertaining to this segment of fishery policy, apply both territorially and nationally. Its area of application is the maritime waters of Croatia, but it also applies to all Croatian citizens and vessels flying its flag regardless of the area of activity. Croatia has implemented the VMS obligation in terms of all vessels involved in the bluefin tuna operations. The VMS is controlled at all times in the FMC, allowing the operators to check and verify points of operation, landing or transfer that will secure full coverage of activities. VMS data are accessible by relevant services authorized to perform inspection and control under strict confidentiality protocols. Memorandums of Understanding have been signed between the services involved.

Resources to be used in bluefin tuna control in 2011

A total of 20 dedicated fisheries inspectors aided with three patrol vessels shall be operational in 2011. Furthermore, a total of 4 Coast Guard vessels with their crews (a total of 97 crew members out of which 22 authorized for fisheries inspection) shall be operational in 2011, as well as Maritime police patrol vessels with their crews. A total of 7 vessels belonging to the maritime police shall be operational, involving a total crew of 42. A total of 18 port authorities inspectors shall participate in the BFT control, and 4 vessels from the MSTI.

List of Vessels – Fisheries Inspection MAFRD

<i>Name</i>	<i>Registration</i>	<i>Area of Deployment</i>
Jastog	RH-100-ST	Adriatic
Inćun	RH-99-ZD	Adriatic
Periska	RH-20-PU	Adriatic

List of Vessels – Maritime Police

<i>Vessel Name</i>	<i>Total crew</i>	<i>Area of Deployment</i>
p/b „Pazin“, P-201	7	Adriatic
p/b „Trsat“, P206, RH 26 RK	7	Adriatic
p/b „Škabrnja“, P-204, 202 ZD	7	Adriatic
p/b „Sveti Nikola Tavelić“, P-102	7	Adriatic
p/b „Sveti Mihovil“, P-101	7	Adriatic
p/b „Sveti Rok“, P-205	7	Adriatic

*p/b – patrol boat

List of Vessels – Coast Guard

<i>Vessel Name</i>	<i>MMSI</i>	<i>ICS</i>	<i>Area of Deployment</i>
ŠB-72 „Andrija Mohorovičić“	238319840	9AA3731	Adriatic
OB-01 „Novigrad“	238319940	9AA3732	Adriatic
OB-02 „Šolta“	238320040	9AA3733	Adriatic
OB-03 „Cavtat“	238320140	9AA3734	Adriatic

MMSI: Maritime Mobile Service Identities.

List of vessels – Ministry of Sea, Transport and Infrastructure (Port Authorities)

<i>Vessel Name</i>	<i>Area of Deployment</i>
Pojišan	Adriatic
Vid	Adriatic
Danče	Adriatic
Šibenik	Adriatic

Budgetary means allocated for fisheries control (in HRK), number of personnel involved in fisheries control and their distribution among different authorities

Budget for all inspection activities and services authorized to perform inspection is allocated within different elements of the State Budget adopted by the Croatian Parliament. Particular budget line for equipment and technical support to the fisheries inspection of the MAFRD was introduced, with the total amount of 4,250,000.00 HRK. In addition to this amount, the budget allocated to wages of civil servants in fisheries inspection of the MAFRD in 2011 amounts to 2,800,000 HRK. Further funds are allocated by other state administration bodies in charge of inspection. Total funds in other state administration bodies are higher, given that their responsibilities involve other activities in addition to fisheries. However, based on percentage allocated it is estimated that an overall budgetary allocation amounts to cca 30 million HRK (cca 3.5 million €).

In order to be a dedicated fisheries inspector, in accordance with the Marine Fisheries Law, it is obligatory to have a high-level (University) degree in fishery sciences or related sciences, and to have a minimum of 3 years of working experience. Additionally, a state exam for fisheries inspectors has to be taken in order to become an independent fisheries inspector. It is foreseen that in the framework of cooperation with other state administration bodies, all personnel participating in fisheries inspection shall undergo the same training programme. Training programme for dedicated fisheries inspectors is being drafted by the MAFRD DoF, but it is envisaged that the same programme is applicable to other state administration bodies authorized to perform fisheries inspection. The program includes basic provisions on legal elements governing fisheries, training in VMS application and its usages, training in electronic database for inspection and training on relevant provisions of the *acquis*. It is planned that a roster of attendance shall include representatives of all state administration bodies, and each training course shall have 2 or 3 repetitions in order to secure best coverage.

Designated ports

The list of designated ports for BFT landings has been communicated to the Commission. The ports shall be covered in full by relevant inspectors from port authorities and in addition by directed controls by fisheries inspectors.

Farms

All farm activities (caging, harvesting) shall be covered at all farms. These are:

- AT001HRV0000 „Kali tuna“ d.o.o.
- AT001HRV00006 „Sardina“ d.o.o.
- AT001HRV00001 „Drvenik tuna“ d.o.o.
- AT001HRV00008 „Jadran tuna“ d.o.o.
- AT001HRV00009 „Zadar tuna“ d.o.o.
- AT001HRV00007 „Bepina Komerc“ d.o.o.

Control of the PS catches

<i>Area of Control</i>	<i>Control Objective</i>	<i>Control Targets</i>
CRO territorial waters	documentation and catches, sewage areas, mortality rates	20
Outside CRO territorial waters	documentation and catches, sewage areas, mortality rates	20

Towing

<i>Control objective</i>	<i>Target No. of Controls</i>
Size in towing cage	20
Mortality in towing	20
Documentation	30

Farms

<i>Control objective</i>	<i>Target No. of Controls</i>
Transfer to cage	50
Origin of fish	50
Quantity and size	50
BCD and other documentation	50

Sport and recreational fishery

<i>Control objective</i>	<i>Target No. of Controls</i>
Competition events	10
ICCAT requirements	50
Licence controls	50
Controls of catches	50

Catch control – hook and line gears

<i>Control objective</i>	<i>Target No. of Controls</i>
ICCAT requirements	50
Licences & authorizations	50
Catches	50

Markets

<i>Control objective</i>	<i>Target No. of Controls</i>
Catch documentation	100
Other (size, origin)	100

Capacity Plan for Croatia

<i>Category</i>	<i>Catch rate</i>	<i>No.2008</i>	<i>No.2009</i>	<i>No.2010</i>	<i>No.2011</i>	<i>No.2012</i>	<i>No.2013</i>	<i>Cap2008</i>	<i>Cap2009</i>	<i>Cap2010</i>	<i>Cap2011</i>	<i>Cap2012</i>	<i>Cap2013</i>
PS 40	70.66	3	5	5	3	2	2	211.98	353.3	353.3	211.98	141.32	141,32
PS 24-40	49.78	30	34	21	10	4	3	1493.4	1692.52	1045.38	497.8	199.12	149,34
PS 24	33.68	31	24	13	7	3	2	1044.08	808.32	437.84	235.76	101.04	67,36
LL 24-40	5.68							0	0	0	0	0	0
LL 24	5							0	0	0	0	0	0
HL	5	16	19	16	15	14	12	80	95	80	75	70	60
BB	19.8	4						79.2	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL		84	82	55	35	23	19						
TOTAL PS		64	63	39	20	9	7	2908.66	2949.14	1916.52	1020.54	511.48	418,02
				24	19	11	2						
	REDUCTION	0.394464											
	Reduction 2011		0.750696										
	Reduction 2012		0.953092										
	Reduction 2013		0.990251										

EGYPT

Egyptian Plan for BFT for the 2011 Fishing Season

Bluefin tuna fishing vessel and operations

According to the ICCAT allocation scheme for 2011 fishing season, Egypt has an annual quota of 64.58 t of bluefin tuna catch from the Mediterranean Sea during the 2011 season.

Egypt adopted the following plan

- The quota of 64.58 t will be caught by one fishing vessel. The vessel name is *Seven Seas* that is listed on ICCAT List Number AT000EGY00003
- The fishing gear is purse seine
- The authorized period from 15 May to 15 June 2011

Quota Management

- All the quota of 64.58 t is allocated to one vessel (Seven Seas)
- No joint fisheries will be allowed
- The fishing gear along the Egyptian territorial and EEZ water, Mediterranean Sea (26°-34° E)

Authorized Ports

- Two ports will be authorized to be used for bluefin tuna, these are:
 - 1) El MeAdia fishing port for landing during tuna fishing season
 - 2) Alexandria commercial port for transshipment

Control measures

Five of national observers from the concerned Egyptian Authorities will attend the fishing activities as follows:

- Three observers of fisheries specialist will be on board during the fishing operation for monitoring the catch, recording the required data and ensuring ICCAT Recommendations.
- Two observers will be in the ports to follow-up the catch and reviewing the on board observers' reports.
- In case of non-compliance with this plan or with any of ICCAT Recommendations by the fishing vessel, the Penal Code will be applied.
- According to the difficult conditions nowadays in Egypt, no foreign observers can be accepted where the vessel will not be allowed to work in tuna fishing for the next two seasons. If non-compliance is repeated, this vessel will not be authorized to work in tuna fisheries completely.

EUROPEAN UNION

Annual Fishing Plan

Background

The European Union adopted Council Regulation (EC) No. 302/2009* on 6 April 2009 transposing into Community Law ICCAT Recommendation [08-05] to establish a Multiannual Recovery Plan for Bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean.

Following ICCAT Recommendation [10-04] amending ICCAT Recommendation [08-05] adopted at the 2010 ICCAT Annual Meeting in Paris, the European Union is currently amending Council Regulation (EC) 302/2009 in order to transpose ICCAT Recommendation [10-04] into Community law. In accordance with Recommendation [10-04], the quota for the EU in 2010 will be 7.266,41 t.

* OJ L 96,15.04.2009, p.1

The European Union allocated its quota amongst Member States and applied the pay-back decision as defined in paragraph 16b of ICCAT Recommendation [10-04].

During the 2011 bluefin tuna fishing campaign the European Union will implement a comprehensive control and inspection programme which is reflected in the EU Inspection Plan.

Specific details

In accordance with ICCAT Recommendation [08-05], [09/06] and [10-04] the European Union has:

- Drawn up an annual fishing plan identifying catching vessels over 24 metres and their associated individual quotas. Individual quotas have been allocated to all purse seiners irrespective of their length. A list of the vessels (91) and their associated individual quotas are enclosed in **Table 1**.
- All purse seine vessels over 24 metres have been allocated an individual vessel quota more than the SRCS catch rate as adopted by the Commission for estimating fleet capacity.
- Allocated a quota of 2,136 t to the following sectors:
 - Traps, 1,028 t
 - Artisanal vessels (<24m), 321 t
 - Longliners (<24m), 637 t
 - Baitboats (<24m), 98 t
 - Trawlers (<24m), 52 t
- Authorised 441 'catching vessels' which represents a fleet 163 less than that included in the capacity management plan,
- Authorised 10 traps which represents a decrease in their number,
- Allocated a quota of 63t for the purpose of recreational and sport fisheries,
- Allocated specific quota of 60t for by-catch of bluefin tuna
- Have a non-allocated quantity of 61t.
- Have submitted a complementary inspection plan covering all bluefin tuna fisheries capable of addressing the control requirements of the fishery.

The European Union undertakes a real-time monitoring of the bluefin tuna fishery and is committed to take the necessary measures to ensure full respect of ICCAT Recommendation [10-04] in particular those concerning quotas.

Table 1. List of EU catching vessels and their individual quotas.

<i>Flag</i>	<i>ICCAT Number</i>	<i>Vessel name</i>	<i>LOA</i>	<i>Vessel type</i>	<i>Quota</i>
CYP	ATEU0CYP00003	QUEEN IRENE	26,5	LONGLINER	4.700
MLT	ATEU0MLT00004	SALVATUR VI	24,2	LONGLINER	505
MLT	ATEU0MLT00001	TA MATTEW	27	PURSE SEINER	50.5
SP	ATEU0ESP01248	GRANT DEL MAR	24,5	HANDLINER	6.666
ESP	ATEU0ESP00380	SIEMPRE KALIMA	25,7	LONGLINER	12.001
ESP	ATEU0ESP00006	AGUSTIN DEUNA	36,2	BAIT BOAT	4.539
ESP	ATEU0ESP00038	ARRANTZALE	32,0	BAIT BOAT	31.600
ESP	ATEU0ESP00496	ATTONA DOMINGO	33,3	BAIT BOAT	27.058
ESP	ATEU0ESP00497	AZKOITIA	33,0	BAIT BOAT	2.891
ESP	ATEU0ESP00052	BERRIZ AVE MARIA	35,6	BAIT BOAT	1.948
ESP	ATEU0ESP00054	BERRIZ IRIGOIEN	35,6	BAIT BOAT	3.222
ESP	ATEU0ESP00358	BERRIZ MATUTINA	30,9	BAIT BOAT	24.295
ESP	ATEU0ESP00056	BETI AINGERU	33,3	BAIT BOAT	2.127
ESP	ATEU0ESP00059	BETI PIEDAD	36,0	BAIT BOAT	3.466
ESP	ATEU0ESP00061	BETI SAN LUIS	28,5	BAIT BOAT	4.134
ESP	ATEU0ESP00067	BUSTILLO DONOSTI	31,5	BAIT BOAT	9.161

ESP	ATEU0ESP00103	ERMITA PILAR	29,9	BAIT BOAT	3.309
ESP	ATEU0ESP00307	GUADALUPECO AMA	31,5	BAIT BOAT	22.837
ESP	ATEU0ESP00503	GURE AITA JOXE	32,0	BAIT BOAT	7.428
ESP	ATEU0ESP00130	GURE AMUITZ	28,0	BAIT BOAT	20.037
ESP	ATEU0ESP00504	GURE GOGOA	37,0	BAIT BOAT	2.521
ESP	ATEU0ESP00134	GURE SAN AGUSTIN	30,1	BAIT BOAT	6.918
ESP	ATEU0ESP00150	IRIGOYEN BERRIA	35,5	BAIT BOAT	3.292
ESP	ATEU0ESP00152	ITSAS EDER	31,0	BAIT BOAT	34.763
ESP	ATEU0ESP00506	ITSAS LAGUNAK	33,5	BAIT BOAT	15.301
ESP	ATEU0ESP00507	IZASKUN BERRIA	36,0	BAIT BOAT	5.842
ESP	ATEU0ESP00166	KALAMUA BI	31,6	BAIT BOAT	3.392
ESP	ATEU0ESP00167	KANTABRIKO BERRIA	36,0	BAIT BOAT	1.998
ESP	ATEU0ESP00168	KAXIMIRONA	33,5	BAIT BOAT	3.393
ESP	ATEU0ESP00170	KUKU ARI	31,5	BAIT BOAT	23.714
ESP	ATEU0ESP00125	LAU ANAYAK	28,0	BAIT BOAT	1.276
ESP	ATEU0ESP00179	LUIS BARRANKO	26,7	BAIT BOAT	34.384
ESP	ATEU0ESP00182	MADRE CONSUELO	31,5	BAIT BOAT	2.422
ESP	ATEU0ESP00185	MADRE LITA	29,9	BAIT BOAT	3.616
ESP	ATEU0ESP00191	MANUEL PADRE SEGUNDO	31,5	BAIT BOAT	4.818
ESP	ATEU0ESP00200	MARCELINA LECUE	29,9	BAIT BOAT	5.597
ESP	ATEU0ESP00204	MARIÑELAK	36,0	BAIT BOAT	6.206
ESP	ATEU0ESP00511	MATER BI	37,0	BAIT BOAT	2.705
ESP	ATEU0ESP00226	MONTSERRAT BERRIA	32,5	BAIT BOAT	4.728
ESP	ATEU0ESP00231	NOCHE DE PAZ	30,5	BAIT BOAT	4.064
ESP	ATEU0ESP00235	NUESTRA MADRE JUANITA	28,0	BAIT BOAT	2.263
ESP	ATEU0ESP00513	NUESTRO PADRE TONINO	31,0	BAIT BOAT	1.560
ESP	ATEU0ESP00238	NUEVO AIRES ASON	28,5	BAIT BOAT	3.175
ESP	ATEU0ESP00247	NUEVO COLLADO LINDO	29,1	BAIT BOAT	2.601
ESP	ATEU0ESP00251	NUEVO ERREÑEZUBI	34,4	BAIT BOAT	3.996
ESP	ATEU0ESP00256	NUEVO HORIZONTE ABIERTO	30,0	BAIT BOAT	19.005
ESP	ATEU0ESP00259	NUEVO JOSE DAVID	27,2	BAIT BOAT	3.378
ESP	ATEU0ESP00263	NUEVO LIBE	34,4	BAIT BOAT	5.414
ESP	ATEU0ESP00277	NUEVO PANELO VILLA	30,0	BAIT BOAT	1.578
ESP	ATEU0ESP00290	NUEVO TORRE QUITINA	32,5	BAIT BOAT	4.678
ESP	ATEU0ESP00300	ONDARZABAL	31,6	BAIT BOAT	3.330
ESP	ATEU0ESP01112	ONGI ETORI	33,0	BAIT BOAT	3.672
ESP	ATEU0ESP00309	PEDRO JOSE BERRIA	34,4	BAIT BOAT	3.408
ESP	ATEU0ESP00317	PITTAR	28,0	BAIT BOAT	20.837
ESP	ATEU0ESP00356	SAN ANTONIO BERRIA	34,8	BAIT BOAT	1.977
ESP	ATEU0ESP00522	SAN FERMIN BERRIA	33,3	BAIT BOAT	20.891
ESP	ATEU0ESP00360	SAN PRUDENTZIO BERRIA	36,0	BAIT BOAT	5.287
ESP	ATEU0ESP00361	SAN ROQUE DIVINO	29,0	BAIT BOAT	2.773
ESP	ATEU0ESP00362	SANTA LUZIA HIRU	31,2	BAIT BOAT	4.154
ESP	ATEU0ESP00363	SANTANA BERRIA	36,0	BAIT BOAT	16.708
ESP	ATEU0ESP00382	SIEMPRE PECO	27,0	BAIT BOAT	1.762
ESP	ATEU0ESP00388	STELLA MARIS BERRIA	32,0	BAIT BOAT	3.129
ESP	ATEU0ESP00400	TUKU TUKU	32,0	BAIT BOAT	27.052
ESP	ATEU0ESP00401	TXINGUDI	31,6	BAIT BOAT	20.467
ESP	ATEU0ESP00172	LA FRAU DOS	34,6	PURSE SEINER	185.890
ESP	ATEU0ESP00173	LEONARDO BRULL SEGON	36,7	PURSE SEINER	141.010
ESP	ATEU0ESP00250	NUEVO ELORZ	43,4	PURSE SEINER	147.590
ESP	ATEU0ESP00276	NUEVO PANCHILLETA	43,5	PURSE SEINER	149.980

ESP	ATEU0ESP00394	TIO GEL SEGON	36,0	PURSE SEINER	176.610
FRA	ATEU0FRA00019	CHRISDERIC II	29,4	PURSE SEINER	50.000
FRA	ATEU0FRA00021	CISBERLANDE 5	32,0	PURSE SEINER	70.000
FRA	ATEU0FRA00087	ERIC MARIN	38,0	PURSE SEINER	68.000
FRA	ATEU0FRA00093	GERALD JEAN IV	32,0	PURSE SEINER	52.000
FRA	ATEU0FRA00028	GERARD LUC IV	32,0	PURSE SEINER	55.000
FRA	ATEU0FRA00083	JANVIER LOUIS RAPHAEL	38,0	PURSE SEINER	121.000
FRA	ATEU0FRA00043	JEANMARIE CHRISTIAN6	42,0	PURSE SEINER	100.000
FRA	ATEU0FRA00078	JEANMARIECHRISTIAN7	42,0	PURSE SEINER	100.000
FRA	ATEU0FRA00065	ST SOPHIE FRANCOIS 3	32,0	PURSE SEINER	66.000
GRC	ATEU0GRC00460	AIGAION	35,9	PURSE SEINER	49.780
ITA	ATEU0ITA00636	ANGELO CATANIA	43,2	PURSE SEINER	126.941
ITA	ATEU0ITA00065	ATLANTE	42,1	PURSE SEINER	118.685
ITA	ATEU0ITA00235	FULVIA	41,1	PURSE SEINER	106.737
ITA	ATEU0ITA00654	GENEVIEVE PRIMA	40,5	PURSE SEINER	119.135
ITA	ATEU0ITA00289	GIUSEPPE PADRE II	29,1	PURSE SEINER	100.763
ITA	ATEU0ITA00664	LUCIA MADRE	42,0	PURSE SEINER	122.562
ITA	ATEU0ITA00348	MADONNA DI FATIMA	42,2	PURSE SEINER	73.449
ITA	ATEU0ITA00368	MARIA ANTONIETTA	43,8	PURSE SEINER	108.484
ITA	ATEU0ITA00694	MARIA GRAZIA	42,4	PURSE SEINER	108.235
ITA	ATEU0ITA00671	MICHELANGELO	36,3	PURSE SEINER	124.857
ITA	ATEU0ITA00565	SPARVIERO UNO	43,9	PURSE SEINER	115.355
ITA	ATEU0ITA00617	VERGINE DEL ROSARIO	48,1	PURSE SEINER	132.857

Inspection Plan

Introduction

The EU actively fishes bluefin tuna with a range of fishing gears with the majority of the catches being attributed to the purse seine and trap sectors.

ICCAT introduced a comprehensive set of conservation and management measures concerning the management of bluefin tuna fisheries in 2006 under the multi-annual recovery plan. In parallel with the introduction of an extensive traceability scheme in 2007 (Bluefin tuna Catch Documentation Programme) has continued to be reinforced.

The recent amendments to the recovery plan adopted by the Commission at the 2010 ICCAT Annual Meeting contribute to an exhaustive set of measures requiring significant inspection resources and a strategy capable of enforcing them.

The EU contains 7 Member States which actively fish bluefin tuna across a number of sectors. The authorities for control and inspection fall on different actors across Member State and in many cases involve a combination of competent authorities.

The European Commission coordinates with the Member States to ensure that the provisions laid down by ICCAT are reflected in EU and Member State law and fully enforced.

Overview of inspection measures adopted in 2011 by the EU

Specific Control and Inspection Programme

Working under the framework of the ICCAT Scheme of Joint International Inspection and building on experiences from recent years, the EU is once again establishing a Specific Control and Inspection Programme in 2011 to monitor and enforce the implementation of the bluefin tuna recovery plan.

The programme is a joint initiative bringing together the resources of the European Commission, the Community Fisheries Control Agency (CFCA) and the Member States involved in the fishery.

Joint Deployment Plan (JDP) for bluefin tuna

The resources of the European Commission are complemented by the CFCA who will adopt its 2011 Joint Deployment Plan for bluefin tuna (JDP-BFT) in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean on 15 March 2011 thereby bringing the Specific Control and Inspection Programme into effect. The 2011 plan brings together the European Commission, Member States and the CFCA and draws on the resources of the seven EU Member States involved in the fishery. It covers all stages of the market chain as well as controls at sea, on land and traps and farms.

Operationally the EU will coordinate joint inspection and control activities in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean involving 22 fishery patrol vessels and 9 aircraft and implement:

- 232 days of fishery patrol vessel activity,
- 150 days of land inspections, and;
- 198 hours of air surveillance.

Whilst the operational strategies and precise areas of operation remain confidential, the general areas covered by the 2011 JDP-BFT will be the eastern Atlantic (ICES Areas VII, VIII, IX X and COPACE 34.1.1, 34.1.2 and 34.2.0) and the Mediterranean (western, central and eastern).

All cases of potential non-compliance will be forwarded to the flag state of the vessel / operator concerned and to the ICCAT Secretariat where required under Recommendation [10-04].

The Steering Group, composed by representatives of the CFCA, European Commission and Member States provides advice on the overall strategy of inspection activities and supervises the JDP implementation. The Steering Group has already met twice in preparation of the 2011 fishing season.

The joint control, inspection and surveillance activities carried out under the JDP are coordinated by the Technical Joint Deployment Group (TJDG) whose headquarters are based in the CFCA in Vigo in Spain. The TJDG is composed of national coordinators designated by the Member States and supported by the CFCA's own coordinators.

The JDP has witnessed a significant improvement in its the monitoring and control of the bluefin tuna fishery has in recent years. This can be attributed to strengthened regulatory frameworks for control and inspection, risk assessment and planning, training, operational coordination and inspection quality control.

Member States Control Programmes

Under the Specific Control and Inspection Programme, EU Member States must develop and submit an Annual Control Programme. This is an extensive programme containing the resources and inspection strategy they intend to implement within their jurisdiction.

A number of 'benchmarks' (**Annex 1**) are provided that Member States need to encompass in their national control plans so as to ensure in particular:

- a) the full monitoring of caging operations taking place in Community waters;
- b) the full monitoring of transfer operations;
- c) the full monitoring of joint fishing operations;
- d) the control of all documents required by the legislation applicable to bluefin tuna, in particular verifying the reliability of the information recorded;

As taken from the National Control Programmes, EU Member States will commit the following inspection resources to the control and inspection of bluefin tuna in 2011.

<i>EU Member State</i>	<i>No. Patrol vessels</i>	<i>No. Aircraft</i>	<i>No. Controllers/ Inspectors</i>	<i>No. Designated ports</i>
Cyprus	7	0	25	1
Spain	2	2	92	34
France	28	2	201	21
Greece	163	3	7140	85
Italy	81	13	175	93
Malta	1	2	16	4
Portugal	0	0	6	16
EU	282	22	7655	254

European Commission inspections

Under the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), the primary responsibility for control and enforcement lays with the Member State Authorities and specifically their fisheries inspectors. Whilst different in their powers and mandate, the European Commission also has their own permanent team of inspectors whose role is to monitor and evaluate Member States fulfillment of their duties and obligations, including those under the bluefin tuna recovery plan.

The European Commission Inspectors one again intends to be very active in 2011 in monitoring and enforcing Member State compliance. During the course of the 2011 fishing season a total of 18 missions intend to be carried out.

Vessel monitoring system and Operations team

The team responsible within the European Commission for catch reporting and satellite Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) will monitor submissions on an hourly basis and undertake extensive cross-checks to avoid any potential quota overshoot.

All vessels will be continually monitored by VMS and any interruption in the transmission of VMS data be immediately followed up with the Member State concerned.

Altogether, the European Commission has dedicated a team in excess of 30 people to the monitoring, control and evaluation of the ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Recovery plan.

Inspections of farming operations and the live fish trade

Alongside the increased use of observers in 2011 which now cover all purse seiners and tugs as well as new video recording requirements and procedures for treating products deemed to be illegal, specific strategies are being putting in place by the EU in 2011 to monitor the catching, transferring, caging and harvesting operations of bluefin tuna.

The following inspection strategies intend to be put in place in 2011:

Catching and transferring:

- EU Member States will facilitate the full deployment of Regional Observers on all applicable purse seine vessels and national observers on all towing vessels authorised to operate in 2011.
- Pre-authorisation to transfer will be sent to the flag state authorities of the catching vessel.
- Authorisation will only be granted once a series of conformations have been carried out including:
 - The vessel is authorised, has been transmitting by VMS and has sufficient individual quota (or group in the case of a JFO),
 - Confirmation that the receiving towing vessel is authorized, been reporting VMS and has an observer onboard.
- A series of 'spot check' inspections inside the towing cages will also be undertaken by EU / Member State diving inspectors who will check that the number and estimated weight caught and transferred corresponds with that in the ICCAT transfer declaration on board of the tug boats. This will of course depend on the environmental conditions on each inspection and will, in some inspections, take place with the use of a portable stereoscopic camera.

- Any indication received by the flag state authorities of the catching vessels, by either the regional observer, national observer, that the fish in question, including those that have died in the transfer operation, is more than 10% of the amount referenced in the authorizations, or 5% in the case of fish less than 30kg*, will result in the bluefin tuna being placed 'under investigation'. Such investigation will need to be initiated and concluded in collaboration with the farm CPC/Member State authorities. Any 'open investigation' will prevent the associated bluefin tuna being caged in an EU farm and the farming section of the BCD validated.

Caging

- EU farms will facilitate the full deployment of Regional Observers for 100% of caging operations.
- Pre-authorisation to cage will need to be sent to the EU farm authorities in accordance with the requirements under Recommendation [10-04].
- Video records of transfer will be submitted as a condition prior to the actual caging. ROP on board the purse seiner has to submit a written confirmation to the Flag State indicating that the video is of good quality and that ROP is in agreement with catch data recorded in the ITD prior to the Flag State to validate catch (subject to the inclusion of this task in the conditions of the ROP for the 2011 season).
- Caging of bluefin tuna where the quantity by number and/or weight above that authorized to be caged by the flag State will not be accepted by the Farming State.
- Inspectors of the EU farming authorities will view video records in collaboration with farm operators and regional observer as many times as necessary to agree on the number and weight of bluefin tuna caged. For this purpose, Member State inspectors will receive training in video counting techniques.
- A series of 'spot check' inspections in the farm cages will be undertaken by Member State diving inspectors to confirm the quantities of caged fish. This would be conducted by divers which in one Member State would also use a stereoscopic camera.
- In accordance with Recommendation [10-04], pilot projects for the use of 100% stereoscopic camera systems at the time of caging has also been initiated by the EU in 2011 in collaboration with the CFCA.
A number of Member States had already embarked on the use of systems from 2009 however this global EU initiative with look to consolidate and harmonize the development of these systems based on experiences in other fisheries.
- Any transfer of blue fin tuna from one farm to another or within the same farm will require the presence of an inspector and a regional observer. Such transfers shall be video recorded.
- Experimental sampling programme at the time of caging will be established either using stereoscopic method to define the length composition of the BFT caged, or by harvesting a significant number of specimens to obtain the average weight.

Harvesting and export:

- EU farms will facilitate the full deployment of Regional Observers for 100% of harvesting operations.
- Inspectors of the EU farming authorities will be present for a proportion of harvesting operations.
- Farm authorities shall not authorities the export of bluefin tuna which are in excess of the number caged.
- If authorizations and / or documents are to be lacking or the number and weight of bluefin tuna in excess of that previously recorded, the EU farm State will be obliged to authorize the release of the fish in accordance with the procedures provided under Recommendation [10-04].

Cooperation with other CPCs

The EU in 2011 will once again seek to establish and further promote cooperation and coordination with other Contracting parties (CPCs) in the Mediterranean concerning the exchange of monitoring, control and surveillance information.

The EU hopes to convene a 'training and cooperation' meeting before the purse seiner fishing season with all Mediterranean ICCAT contracting parties concerning the implementation of ICCAT Recommendations [10-04].

* Or above 8kgs for those vessels fishing under the derogation as provided for under Paragraph 29 of Recommendation [10-04].

This will contribute towards finding common interpretations of the provisions as well as the construction of direct communication links between CPC Authorities and the European Commission.

The EU also strives to further promote and improve 'operational cooperation' such as the formation of a monitoring agreement with some CPCs which would facilitate an enhanced monitoring and control of fishing operations. The EC considers such cooperation to be fundamental to the monitoring and control of the fishery and the elimination of IUU activities.

Annex 1

Benchmarks for National Control Programmes

Caging activities (including harvest)

- All caging operation into a farm must have been authorized by the flag Member State of the catching vessel within 48 hours following the submission of the information required for the caging operation;
- All caging for farming or fattening BFT shall be accompanied by accurate, complete and validated documentation as required by ICCAT (as provided for by point 84 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04);
- Each caging operation and harvesting process shall be inspected, including by the relevant authorities of the port;
- All caging operations shall be monitored by video camera in the water (as provided for by point 86 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04);
- Fish shall be caged before 31st July unless valid reason as per Rec. 10-04 (as provided for by point 83 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04).

Inspection at sea

- Benchmark, to be set after a detailed analysis of the fishing activity in each area;
- Benchmarks at sea shall refer to the number of patrol days at sea in the bluefin tuna recovery specific area and shall refer as well to the number of patrol days identifying the fishing season and the type of fishing activity targeted.

Transfer operations

- All transfer operations must have been authorized previously by the flag States on the basis of a prior transfer notification;
- An authorization number shall be assigned to each transfer operation (as provided for by point 76 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04)
- A transfer shall be authorized within 48 hours following the submission of the prior transfer notification (as provided for by point 76 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04);
- An ICCAT transfer declaration shall be sent to the flag State at the end of the transfer operation (as provided for by point 77 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04);
- All transfer operations must be monitored by video camera in the water (as provided for by point 79 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04).

Transshipments

- All vessels shall be inspected on arrival before the transshipment operations start, as well as before departure after the transshipment operations. Random checks shall be made in non designated ports;
- A transshipment declaration shall be transmitted to the Flag States no later than 48 hours after the date of transshipment in port (as provided for by point 69 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04).

Joint fishing operations

- All joint fishing operations must have been authorized previously by the flag States;
- Member States shall then establish and maintain a record of all joint fishing operations authorized by them.

Aerial surveillance

- Flexible benchmark, to be set after a detailed analysis of the fishing activity conducted in each area and taking into consideration the available resources at the Member State's disposal.

Landings

- All vessels entering a designated port for the purpose of landing bluefin tuna shall be inspected;
- Random checks shall be made in non designated ports;
- The relevant authority shall send a record of the landings to the flag State authority of the fishing vessel, within 48 hours after the landing has ended (as provided for by point 68 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04).

Marketing

- Flexible benchmark, to be set after a detailed analysis of the marketing activity conducted.

Sport and recreational fisheries

- Flexible benchmark, to be set after a detailed analysis of the sport and recreational fisheries activities conducted.

Traps

- All trap operations, including transfer and harvesting, shall be inspected.

Capacity Plan

Catch Rate		No. of Vessels & Traps					Capacity (t)				
Category	Catch Rate	2008	2010	2011*	2012**	2013**	2008	2010	2011*	2012**	2013**
PS large (> 40 m)	70.7	35	23	20	17	17	2,473	1,625	1,413	1,201	1,201
PS med. (24-40 m)	49.8	61	28	18	18	18	3,037	1,394	896	896	896
PS small (?24)	33.7	81	0	0			2,728	0	0		
<i>PS total</i>		<i>177</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>8,238</i>	<i>3,019</i>	<i>2,309</i>	<i>2,097</i>	<i>2,097</i>
LL med. (24-40 m)	5.7	7	15	10	12	12	40	85	57	68	68
LL small (?24)	5.0	329	191	168	187	184	1,645	955	840	935	920
<i>LL total</i>		<i>336</i>	<i>206</i>	<i>178</i>	<i>199</i>	<i>196</i>	<i>1,685</i>	<i>1,040</i>	<i>897</i>	<i>1,003</i>	<i>988</i>
Baitboat	19.8	64	69	68	68	68	1,264	1,363	1,343	1,343	1,343
Handline	5.0	85	31	31	31	31	425	155	155	155	155
Trawler	10.0	160	78	60	60	60	1,600	780	600	600	600
Other artisanal	5.0	253	376	222	320	320	1,265	1,880	1,110	1,600	1,600
Total		1,075	811	597	713	710	14,477	8,237	6,414	6,798	6,783
Trap	130.0	15	13	13	13	13	1,950	1,690	1,690	1,690	1,690
Total		1,090	824	610	726	723	16,427	9,927	8,104	8,488	8,473

* Despite a slight increase in the total number of purse seiners announced in the provisional plan submitted prior to the 2010 ICCAT Annual meeting, the EU obtains 89% reduction of overcapacity, which exceeds the 75% laid down by ICCAT in Recommendation [10-04].

In 2011, the number of purse seiners as included in the Annual Fishing Plan will be less than the limits as stated in the Capacity Plan and therefore reducing further the fishing effort of this fleet.

** These data are indicative and will be reviewed in advance of the 2012 and 2013 fishing seasons.

ICELAND

Bluefin Tuna Capacity Management Plan 2011

There is no designated bluefin tuna fishing fleet in Iceland.

Each year the Icelandic Ministry of Fisheries ask for applications to fish the Icelandic bluefin quota. The quota is then allocated to individual vessels. When the individual quota is fished the bluefin tuna fishing licence of the vessel expires.

In 2011 the Icelandic fisheries authorities will only issue a fishing licence for bluefin tuna to one Icelandic fishing vessel.

The vessel shall use longline and the fishing area is south of Iceland. All catches shall be landed in Icelandic ports.

The fishing season will start on August 1, 2011. The vessel shall have a general fishing licence and a quota for other species in the Icelandic EEZ. When the vessel intends to utilize the bluefin tuna quota it should notify the Directorate of Fisheries in Iceland and thereby undergo the management regime of ICCAT. As soon as the individual quota is fished the bluefin tuna fishing licence expires.

The vessel can therefore not be regarded as a tuna fleet.

Bluefin Tuna Fishing Plan 2011

Each year the Icelandic Ministry of Fisheries ask for applications to fish the Icelandic bluefin quota. The quota is then allocated to individual vessels. When the individual quota is fished the bluefin tuna fishing licence of the vessel expires.

In 2011 the Icelandic fisheries authorities will only issue a fishing licence for bluefin tuna to one Icelandic fishing vessel.

The fishing season will start on August 1, 2011, fishing will only be allowed with longline, with the fishing area being south of Iceland. All catches shall be registered and weighed in Icelandic ports. The Directorate of Fisheries will list the designated landing ports. The vessel shall have a general fishing licence and a quota for other species in the Icelandic EEZ. When the vessel intends to utilize the bluefin tuna quota it should notify the Directorate of Fisheries in Iceland and thereby undergo the management regime of ICCAT.

Inspectors from the Directorate of Fisheries in Iceland shall be onboard the vessel for at least 20% of the fishing operation, the vessel shall never leave port without an inspector unless it has a special permission from the Directorate.

As soon as the individual quota is fished the bluefin tuna fishing licence expires.

JAPAN

Fishing Plan

a) Fishing Vessel Type

All Japanese fishing vessels catching bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic Mediterranean are large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels (LSTSVs).

b) Management Period

The Fisheries Agency of Japan (FAJ) will continue to manage its allocation based on the Japanese fishing season, which is, in the case of the 2011 allocated quota, from August 1, 2011 to July 31, 2012 (the closed fishing season described in 2 d) below excluded).

c) Quota and Number of Authorized Fishing Vessels

Japan's quota for the 2011 fishing season is 1097.03 t. The Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, having been entrusted competence by the Fisheries Law, has amended ministerial ordinance to introduce a legally binding individual quota system. The Minister will continue to assign an enough individual quota to each LSTSV so as to ensure that such quota will be well above its fishing capacity (25 t) that SCRS has estimated. This means that Japan will not have any over-capacity of LSTSV against its allocation.

The Minister will license 22 fishing vessels to catch BFT as described 3 below. FAJ will, upon Minister's licensing, inform the names, amount of individual quotas and other necessary information to the ICCAT Secretariat. (Paragraph 10 of Rec. 10-04)

Enforcement Plan*a) Catch report*

The Minister will continue to require fishing operators to affix tags which have been authorized and distributed beforehand to each bluefin tuna, and to report daily bluefin tuna catch (including zero catch report) by the end of next day of their catch in accordance with the ordinance. Such report has to contain the date, area of catch, number of catch, individual bluefin tuna weight and tag numbers. (Paragraph 70 of Rec. 10-04)

b) Transshipment

The Minister will continue to prohibit transshipping bluefin tuna at sea and allow transshipment only at ports registered to ICCAT by the ordinance and conditions on the licences. (Paragraph 70 of Rec. 10-04)

c) Landing

The Minister will continue to prohibit overseas landing of bluefin tuna, and allow landing only in eight domestic ports which the Minister has designated by the ordinance for enforcement purpose. FAJ will continue to have its enforcement officers inspect all bluefin tuna landings at the designated ports. (Paragraph 67 of Rec. 10-04)

d) Closed fishing season

The Minister will continue to prohibit the operators from bluefin tuna fishing in the area delimited by West of 10°W and North 42°N during the period from 1 February to 31 July, and in other areas during the period from 1 of June to 31 December by the ordinance. FAJ will continue to ensure the compliance by monitoring VMS data. (Paragraph 89 of Rec. 10-04)

e) Observers

FAJ will place eight observers onboard 8 fishing vessels out of 22 licensed vessels in 2011. (Paragraph 90 of Rec. 10-04)

f) Inspection vessel

FAJ will continue to dispatch one control ship to the Atlantic Ocean in 2011. (Paragraph 101 of Rec. 10-04)

g) Imposition of Sanctions

In the case that violation is discovered, the Minister will penalize the fishing operator, which could include both port confinement and five year suspension to allocate BFT individual quota.

Capacity Management Plan***1. Reduction of Fishing Capacity***

The number of Japanese LSTLVs and the corresponding gross registered tonnage (GRT) during the period from January 2007 to July 2008 were 49 and 21,587 tons.

Japan reduced its fishing capacity by buy-back schemes in 2009. The number of vessels and the GRT in the 2009 fishing year were 33 and 14,427 (33% reduction from 2008 fishing year).

Japan further reduced its fishing capacity to 22 vessels and 9,476 GRT in 2010 (55% and 56% reduction from year 2008) and will license 22 vessels in 2011 so that its fishing capacity will continue to be commensurate with its allocated quota.

2. Demonstration that the current capacity is commensurate with allocated quota

The Minister will continue to allocate each LSTLV a quota more than its capacity (25 t per LSTLV) estimated for a LSTLV by SCRS. Thus, Japan, having accomplished the obligation on capacity reduction provided in paragraph 47 of Rec. 10-04, will continue to ensure that its fishing capacity will be commensurate with its allocated quota in accordance with paragraph 49 of Rec. 10-04.

	2009	2010	2011
Allocated quota (ton)	1871.44	1148.05	1097.03
No. of large scale longline vessel (Total GRT)	33 (14,427)	22 (9,476)	22 (to be decided)
Amount of quota per vessel per year allocated by the government of Japan (t) vessel	56.7	52.1	49.8

KOREA

Fishing and Capacity Management Plan

Even through Korea submitted a bluefin tuna fishing and capacity management plan in 2011 to the current COC meeting, Korea submits the updated plan as follows;

Fishing Plan

One purse seine vessel, Sajomelita, will be replaced to a new purse seiner, El-hader 2, AT000LIB00037, from Libya to catch bluefin tuna directly not through a joint operation.

Inspection Plan

According to Recommendation 10-04, VMS, tagging, logsheet, weekly and monthly reporting, observer coverage, CDS and other measures on bluefin fishing will be implemented during the fishing season.

Capacity Plan

Replacing a new purse seiner vessel is not in contravention to the bluefin tuna fishing capacity provisions, given the Korean quota of 77.53 metric tonnes which was agreed at the last special meeting in Paris.

Regarding paragraph 87 of Rec. 10-04, with using stereo video monitoring system.

- Recording by video the transfer of the fish from the tow cage to the farm from which counts are conducted to determine the number of fish transferred.
- The weight of each of these bluefin tuna will be estimated from a length/weight relationship.
- Determining the average weight of fish sample to 2 decimal places.
- The number of fish transferred is multiplied by the average weight to determine the overall quantity of bluefin tuna transferred.

At this stage, sonar is not being seriously considered.

To ensure the endorsement of this plan in 2011, the Korean Government will notify the Secretariat of further information on the new purse seiner, in a timely fashion before the fishing season.

LIBYA**Eastern Bluefin Tuna Annual Fishing Plan for 2011*****BFT catching vessels***

The number of catching vessels which will participate in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna fishing for the 2011 season is provisionally set at 23 catching vessels (21, PS over 24m and 2, LL over 40m).

The final list of catching vessels that will participate in 2011 fishing season and their allocated quota will be transmitted to the ICCAT Secretariat as soon as finalized.

The total numbers of other vessels that will participate in the 2011 bluefin tuna fishing season are set at 6 vessels.

Quota management

In accordance with Rec. 10-04, quota allocation scheme, Libya has 902.2 t for 2011 fishing season where 60 t will be allocated for the 2 LL (30 each) and 852.2 will be allocated equally between PS vessels to be authorized in 2011 season. The final list of authorized vessels and their individual quota will be transmitted to ICCAT Secretariat as soon as they are finalized.

BFT traps

Libya has one trap listed in the ICCAT records. The trap will not be operated in 2011 season.

Farms

Libya has one fattening farm with planned capacity of 1000.0 t, which was not operated since 2006, and will be activated in 2011 season with three cages, capacity 200 t each. More details on this farm will be transmitted to the Secretariat before the starting of 2011 season.

Joint Fishing Operation (JFO)

According to Rec. 10-04, Libya is not authorized to have JFO.

Control Measures

The Bluefin Tuna Fishing Licenses Committee had transposed all relevant provisions and measures required by Recs. 08-05, 10-04 and 09-06 and other relevant recommendations in the Term of Reference (TOR) for issuing BFT fishing licenses in 2011 and will be monitored and controlled by national observers and ICCAT Regional observers on board of each fishing vessel.

All vessels engaged in bluefin tuna fishing season will not be authorized unless they are equipped with VMS.

Authorized ports

The ports that are authorized for landing and transshipment of bluefin tuna are Al-khoms, Musrata and Tripoli.

Fishing Capacity Management Plan - Libya 2010-2013

TUNA VESSEL FLEET		Fleet (vessels)						Fishing capacity				
Type	Best catch rates defined by the SCRS (t)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Purse seiner over 40m	71	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Purse seiner between 24 and 40m	49.78	31	30	29	21	21	21	1493	1444	1045	1045	1045
Purse seiners less than 24m	33.68	1	1	1				34	34	0	0	0
TOTAL PURSE SEINE FLEET		33	31	30	21	21	21	1527	1477	1045	1045	1045
Longliner over 40m	25	5	4	2	2	2	2	100	50	50	50	50
Longliner between 24 and 40m	5.68		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longliner less than 24m	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL LONGLINE FLEET		5	4	2	2	2	2	100	50	50	50	50
Total fleet/fishing capacity		38	35	32	23	23	23	1627	1527	1095	1095	1095
TAC								22000	13500	13500	13500	13500
Quota Libya								947	581	903	903	903
Report/quota transfer*								145	145	0	0	0
Underharvest report 2009											0	0
"Overharvest reimbursement"									0	0	0	0
Adjusted Libya quota								1092	726	903	903	903
Under/overcapacity								535	801	192	192	192

Compliance with Para. 40 of Rec. 08-05, Libya:

- 1- Authorized only 27 vessels in 2009
- 2- Authorized only 16 vessels in 2010

Overcapacity reduction from 2009 to 2011 (13500 tn)

Quota 2011 (Q11) 903
 Fishing capacity 2008 (C08) 1,806
 Fishing capacity 2011 (C11) 1,095
 Reduction, % (R) **78.7%**
 $R = (C08 - C11)/(C08 - Q11)$

KINGDOM OF MOROCCO**Bluefin Tuna Fishing Plan for 2011*****Plan for distribution of quota/sectors:***

In accordance with Morocco's management plan on fishing capacity, adopted by the Commission in Paris (November 2010), the national quota (1,238 t) will be distributed among the following sectors:

- Trap sector: 11 traps authorized
- Tuna vessel sector: 2 units authorized
- Coastal and artisanal sector: units included in the ICCAT Registry

Quotas will be fixed for each sector by the administration in accordance with the ICCAT provisions concerning individual quotas.

Fishing conditions

Fishing conditions will be established within the framework of the management plan for the bluefin tuna fishery TR03/11, in accordance with the provisions of the rebuilding plan for East bluefin tuna adopted by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT).

Measures for the monitoring, control and observations of fishing will be implemented in accordance with the national and international regulations in force carried out by the 2011 fishing mode whose objective will be to:

- Monitor and control fishing operations,
- Scheme for reporting and recording fishing information,
- Documentation procedure for the commercialisation of bluefin tuna,
- Implementation of international provisions established within the framework of the rebuilding plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean,
- Compliance with the Kingdom of Morocco's international commitments to ICCAT.

Delimitation of the bluefin tuna fishery

The geographical delimitation of the bluefin tuna fishery is located in the following zones:

- A zone including the maritime areas located in the Mediterranean, between 35°05'10"N and 35°47'50"N,
- A zone including the maritime zones located in the Atlantic, between 35°47'50"N and 20°50'15"N,
- An area located outside the Kingdom of Morocco's jurisdiction and placed under the international jurisdiction and covered by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). This area includes all the waters of the Atlantic Ocean and adjacent seas (western, central and eastern Mediterranean).

Fishing and Capacity Management Plan for 2011

In accordance with the provisions of ICCAT Recommendation 08-05, I have the honour to attach herein the bluefin tuna management and capacity plan for this fishing season, as presented and approved by the Commission in Paris, last November.

As the Commission will notice, this plan complies with the level of bluefin tuna quota allocated to Morocco for 2011.

For the meeting requirements, this plan will also be transmitted to you electronically.

As regards the 2011 fishing programme, including the national quota management plan, this Department will inform you, within the deadline, once it has been approved.

Morocco's Fishing Capacity Management Plan for the 2011 Fishing Season

	<i>Potential catches SCRS</i>	<i>ICCAT recorded Units before 2010</i>	<i>Theoretical catches</i>	<i>Units authorized for 2011</i>	<i>2011 Theoretical catches</i>
PS large LHT > 40 M	70,7	2	141,4	1	70 (max)
PS med 24 < LHT < 40	49,8	3	99,6	0	0
PS small LHT < 24*	33,7	1	33,7	1	30 (max)
LL large	25	0	0	0	0
LL med	5,7	1	5,7	0	0
LL small	5	63	315	0	0
Baitboat	19,8	0	0	0	0
Handlines	5	0	0	0	0
Trawler	10	1	10	0	0
Other artisanal**	5	PM	PM	PM*	30
Traps (Moroccan indicators)	112,3	18	2021,4	11 (max)	1140 103,63 t / trap
Total		89	2616,8		
2010 quota					1238,00
Total theoretical catches			2616,8		1270,00
Theoretical rate of overcapacity/quota			61,4%		+0,16<Ttd<+2,45%

PM: For information.

* This refers to a reserve, i.e. it is not guaranteed that this vessel will be fishing in 2011.

**This refers to artisanal and coastal units catching bluefin tuna as by-catch according to the volume of quota allocated to this sector in the 2011 annual fishing plan.

Plans for participation in the Joint Inspection Program, including lists of the Inspectors and inspection vessels

In accordance with the provisions of ICCAT Recommendation 08-05, I have the honor to inform you that this Department has not planned any participation in the above-mentioned Program.

However, the Kingdom of Morocco will continue to assume its obligations concerning the observation, inspection and monitoring of the fishing operations of the active components authorized and movements and related matters, in accordance with national, regional and international regulatory measures.

NORWAY

Norwegian Regulation Prohibiting Fisheries for Bluefin Tuna

The Norwegian Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs informed ICCAT three years ago about a regulation adopted 19 December 2007. The regulation established a prohibition for Norwegian vessels to fish and land bluefin tuna in Norway's territorial waters, in the Norwegian Economic Zone and in international waters.

The regulation further stipulates that in case of incidental by-catches of bluefin tuna in fisheries for other species, all dead or dying bluefin tuna shall be landed, whereas bluefin which is alive shall be released back to the sea.

Any willful or negligent contravention of these provisions is subject to penalty in accordance with Norwegian law.

The regulation entered into force on 1 January 2008 and is not limited in time. Consequently, the regulation also applies in 2011.

SYRIA

Bluefin Tuna Fishing Plan for 2011

Syria's quota of bluefin tuna is very small; therefore it is going to be allocated to only one vessel which has the ability of fishing tuna. Details of the vessel are as follows:

- Current name: FESAL
- ICCAT No. AT000SYR00019
- Vessel type: Purse seiner
- Gear type: Surrounding net
- Length: 20.5 t
- GRT: 55.69

As Syria is a developing country, it does not have a fishing fleet and consequently there is no over capacity for reduction.

As required by Rec. 08-05, we would also like to inform the ICCAT Secretariat that the Syrian Ministry of Agriculture is going to deploy a national observer on the vessel to observe all its fishing activities. The name of the observer is Mr. Nedal Haidar and he is a biologist from the General Commission for Fishery Resources. The fishing vessel is also going to be equipped with VMS for monitoring.

Moreover, we would like to inform you that tuna landings will be allowed only at the port of Lattakia and that this activity is not going to be allowed at any other Syrian port.

We have been restructuring our fisheries industry and we are making our utmost effort to adapt all ICCAT Recommendations in our legislation. Only one Syrian vessel is involved in tuna fishing under our authorization. Other small vessels aim to catch other species and are also not equipped for tuna fishing.

As for reporting, we kindly request assistance and guidance from the Secretariat for improvement of our reporting system as required.

Syrian authorities are ready to cooperate fully with the Secretariat. Also we would like to clarify the position of Syria to the Secretariat by the following:

- Annual list of albacore vessels (no vessel in Syria is involved in albacore catching)
- Transshipment carrier vessels (there is not such a vessel registered in Syria)
- List of Med-SWO vessels (no vessel is involved in this activity)
- List of Med-SWO vessels for previous year (no vessel was involved in this activity)
- LSTLV management standards (no vessel is involved in this activity)
- Vessel chartering (Syria did not make any vessel chartering agreement)
- Vessel involved in IUU fishing (no vessels are involved in IUU fishing)
- Reports on IUU allegations (no IUU activity was observed)
- Port inspection reports (there was no violation)
- Validation seals and signatures for SDPs (Syria is not exporting frozen bigeye, all swordfish)
- Data from ICCAT statistical document programs (Syria is not importing frozen bigeye, all swordfish)
- Validation seals and signatures for BCDs (already submitted to the Secretariat)
- BCD contact points (already submitted to the Secretariat)
- Bluefin Tuna Catch Documents (validated BCD was sent to the Secretariat)
- Transshipment declarations (no transshipment activity)
- Transshipment reports (no transshipment activity)
- Data on non-compliance (no case was detected as non-compliance with ICCAT measures)
- Trade measure submission of import and landing data (no import and landings carried out)
- Bluefin tuna farming facilities (Syria is not involved in bluefin tuna farming)
- Bluefin tuna farming reports (not involved in farming)
- Bluefin tuna caging declaration (not involved in farming)
- Growth factor and methodology use (not involved in farming)
- Size sampling from farms (not involved in farming)
- Carryover of caged fish (not involved in farming)
- Capacity Management Plan (Syria does not have a fishing fleet and all quota of Syria is assigned to only one vessel)
- Bluefin tuna active vessel 2009 (no Syrian vessel was involved in tuna fishing in 2009)
- List of baitboat and trollers (no baitboat and trollers involved in tuna fishing)
- Vessels not covered by Rec. 08-05 and presumed to have fished (no violation was detected)
- List of vessels operating in Adriatic (none of the Syrian vessels are involved in fishing in the Adriatic)
- Plans for participating in Joint Inspection Scheme (Syria did not take a place in the scheme)
- Copies of inspection reports (Syria has a very small quota and only one vessel is authorized for fishing)

- Bluefin tuna traps (no bluefin tuna traps is available in Syria)
- Bluefin tuna traps declaration (no bluefin tuna traps is available in Syria)
- Bluefin tuna weekly catch report (catch report was submitted to Secretariat, we will pay much more attention to comply with deadlines)
- Bluefin tuna monthly catch report (monthly catch report was submitted to Secretariat, after the exhaustion of assigned quote, the fishing boat stopped the fishing and returned back to the port.
- Sport and recreational data (no activity in tuna fishing)
- Joint Fishing Operation (Syria did not have a Joint fishing operation with any of the CPCs)

Paragraph 87 of ICCAT Rec. 10-04

In addition to Syria's fishing plan, previously circulated, Syria guarantees that a certain percentage of fish shall be sampled, by killing an appropriate quantity of the fish, to improve the counting and weight estimation of the captured fish as required in paragraph 87 of ICCAT Rec. 10-04. At the point of capture, randomly selected fish shall be examined. The dead fish shall be sized and weighted. The calculations obtained shall be used to determine the estimated amount of fish by considering proportions.

Syria's fishing plan shall be conducted in compliance with ICCAT Recommendation 10-04.

TUNISIA

Fishing, Inspection and Capacity Reduction Plans

Tunisia has deployed considerable efforts to reduce its fishing capacity to comply with ICCAT Recommendations. In effect, it is expected that 23 tuna vessels will carry out bluefin tuna fishing in 2011.

Reduction of fishing capacity

Since 2004, the competent Tunisian authorities started a program to reduce bluefin tuna fishing capacity. The authorities have reduced the number of fishing vessels by 10 purse seiners, *i.e.*, 20% of the Tunisian tuna fleet. Tunisia has halted investment in the construction of fishing vessels, tuna vessels among others, except for purposes of replacement and has prohibited the chartering of foreign vessels.

During the course of the 2011-2013 period, Tunisia foresees to continue to reduce the number of vessels fishing tuna in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 41 of ICCAT *Recommendation Amending ICCAT Recommendation on Establishing a Multi-annual Program for Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean* [Rec. 10-04].

The attached table indicates the fishing capacity, in number, foreseen for Tunisia for the 2011-2013 period according to the length of the fishing vessels. This table shows a considerable reduction (19 vessels) in 2011. The number of vessels for 2012 and 2013 are shown for information purposes and shall be adapted once the TAC for these years is established.

It should be noted that this reduction of fishing capacity for tuna vessels shall be made through the conversion of some vessels to other fishing activities to target other fish species, or to classify them in the Registry of Other vessels, such as support vessels or vessels assisting in fattening farms. Furthermore, and if necessary, an annual rotation for some units will be implemented.

Each tuna vessel shall be equipped with a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS). Within the framework of the preparations for the fishing campaign for 2011, the VMS equipment was disconnected from the tuna vessels for update and to carry out some modifications in order to transmit data electronically to the centre of administration and management of fishery information installed onshore from some vessels in the fishing areas.

The vessels expected to carry out fishing activities during the 2011 fishing season will work in groups and the composition of each group will be notified to the Secretariat within the required deadlines.

Each vessel will have an individual bluefin tuna quota for the 2011 fishing campaign. Quotas were distributed among fishing vessels in accordance with their technical characteristics, the regulations adopted by ICCAT for

the allocation of individual quotas and the willingness of ship owners to participate in the reduction plan of fishing capacity (table attached).

The catches taken shall be recorded by the observers on board, both on tuna vessels or towing vessels going towards towing cages and by the fishery guards when the fish is landed at the fishing ports.

Inspection Plan

Inspections in 2011 will be carried out at different levels within the sector by various controllers and observers to assure the traceability of the fish (participation in the Joint Scheme of International Inspection, control by the active services at sea, observers onboard, control in fattening farms and during harvesting, and control by fishery guards at the landing of the fish at the ports).

As regards the participation in the Joint Scheme of International Inspection and in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 99-101 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04, Tunisia considers providing the vessel *Amilcar MA 878* for the program to carry out inspection tasks.

The two inspectors, Mr. Hashem Ben Naceur and Mr. Dheker Troudi, will be placed onboard this vessel.

The designated controllers are graduates in fishery sciences who participated in 2010 in the Regional Observers Program and who followed, at the beginning of February 2011, a training session on the ICCAT Recommendations concerning various issues related to the foreseen mission.

Fishing inspection will continue to be carried out by the active coast guards. This control, in particular, covers the activities carried out by fishing vessels in the waters under national jurisdiction.

Port inspections shall be carried out by the guards of regional fishery services who will carry out direct statements for all port landings to register the quantities caught and verify the sizes.

Inspections in fattening farms shall be guaranteed by coast guards who will control the reports made by the fishing operators in order to update the statistical documents prepared in accordance with pre-established models, and this as well as the missions carried out by the regional observers at caging operations and harvesting.

Further noting that, as well as the use of underwater cameras to assess the number of fish transferred into the cages, Tunisia foresees the implementation of a sampling program this year during the transfer into cages, and also before the towing of fish towards fattening farms to improve the weight estimation of the fish which will be transferred into the farms.

Description of measures for the implementation of ROP-BFT for 2011 season

Tunisia has appointed 26 officials to participate in the regional and national observation and inspection programmes of ICCAT. These observers and inspectors include officers from fishery administrations, researchers in institutes of higher education and fishery officers.

National observers shall be placed onboard towing and fishing vessels between 15 and 24 m.

Inspectors will carry out the missions onboard the inspection vessel designated to this effect.

Of note, a Ministerial Decree (No. 213 of February 17, 2011) was established to this effect to designate the people required after the organization of two training sessions for them regarding matters related to ICCAT Recommendations.

Adjustment of farming capacity

In accordance with paragraphs 49 to 53 of the *Recommendation by ICCAT Amending the Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Multi-Annual Recovery Plan for Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean* [Rec. 10-04], the attached table shows the maximum input quantities of wild caught bluefin tuna and authorized for 2011-2013.

These quantities amount to 2,134 tons, and include the catches taken by Tunisian vessels and the imports of bluefin tuna allocated by ICCAT in 2008 and which were placed in Tunisian farms.

The farms included in the table will continue to carry out their activities implementing all the pertinent means for the fattening of the maximum quantity of bluefin tuna in 2011-2013. The management of the SMT farm has been granted to another person whose name will be notified shortly to ICCAT.

Individual Vessel Quotas for 2011*

	<i>Nom du navire</i>	<i>Numéro ICCAT</i>	<i>Quota 2011 en T</i>
1	Futuro	AT 000 TUN 00065	68.67
2	Ghedir El Golla	AT 000 TUN 00030	68.67
3	Mohamed Sadok	AT 000 TUN 00051	53.50
4	Hassen	AT 000 TUN 00008	53.50
5	Jaouhar	AT 000 TUN 00046	32.33
6	Tapsus	AT 000 TUN 00024	32.33
7	Tijani	AT 000 TUN 00026	32.33
8	Horchani	AT 000 TUN 00009	39.67
9	El Khalij	AT 000 TUN 00014	39.67
10	El Houssaine	AT 000 TUN 00049	26.00
11	Hadj Mokhtar	AT 000 TUN 00025	26.00
12	Haj Hedi	AT 000 TUN 00007	26.00
13	Hadj Ahmed	AT 000 TUN 00070	42.00
14	Mohamed Yassine	AT 000 TUN 00045	23.68
15	Sallem	AT 000 TUN 00023	45.16
16	Ibn Rachiq	AT 000 TUN 00037	45.16
17	Imen	AT 000 TUN 00010	54.32
18	Abderrahmene	AT 000 TUN 00047	47.87
19	Abou Chamma	AT 000 TUN 00002	31.67
20	Denphir	AT 000 TUN 00052	23.66
21	Abderrahim	AT 000 TUN 00034	16.01
22	Ghali	AT 000 TUN 00036	16.01
23	Mohamed Ali	AT 000 TUN 00071	16.01

*Preliminary.

Quotas for Vessels over 24 m for 2011*

	<i>Nom du navire</i>	<i>Numéro ICCAT</i>	<i>Quota 2011 en T</i>
1	Futuro	AT 000 TUN 00065	68.67
2	Ghedir El Golla	AT 000 TUN 00030	68.67
3	Mohamed Sadok	AT 000 TUN 00051	53.50
4	Hassen	AT 000 TUN 00008	53.50
5	Jaouhar	AT 000 TUN 00046	32.33
6	Tapsus	AT 000 TUN 00024	32.33
7	Tijani	AT 000 TUN 00026	32.33
8	Horchani	AT 000 TUN 00009	39.67
9	El Khalij	AT 000 TUN 00014	39.67
10	El Houssaine	AT 000 TUN 00049	26.00
11	Hadj Mokhtar	AT 000 TUN 00025	26.00
12	Haj Hedi	AT 000 TUN 00007	26.00
13	Hadj Ahmed	AT 000 TUN 00070	42.00
14	Sallem	AT 000 TUN 00023	45.16
15	Ibn Rachiq	AT 000 TUN 00037	45.16
16	Imen	AT 000 TUN 00010	54.32
17	Abderrahmene	AT 000 TUN 00047	47.87
18	Abou Chamma	AT 000 TUN 00002	31.67
19	Denphir	AT 000 TUN 00052	23.66

*Preliminary.

Fishing Capacity

<i>Category</i>	<i>Catch level</i>	<i>2008</i>		<i>2010</i>		<i>2011</i>		<i>2012*</i>		<i>2013*</i>	
		<i>No.</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Large PS \geq 40m	70,66	1	70.66	1	70.66	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medium PS between 24 & 40 m	49,78	24	1194.72	24	1194.72	19	945.82	20	995.6	19	945.82
Small PS \leq 24 m	33,68	16	538.88	16	538.88	4	134.72	1	33.68	1	33.68
Small LL \leq 24m	5	1	5	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		42	1809.26	42	1809.26	23	1080.54	22	1029.28	21	1013.18
% reduction							76.78%		98.51%		100%

*Provisional data.

TURKEY

Eastern Bluefin Tuna Fishing Plan for 2011

Introduction

Fishing, transferring and farming activities for eastern bluefin tuna will be conducted in compliance with applicable ICCAT recommendations. An individual quota allocation system for each of BFT Catching Vessels shall be applied. Fishing for eastern bluefin tuna shall only be conducted in respect of the catching vessels' individual quotas.

Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) shall announce the above-mentioned decision to all sector stakeholders in accordance with the "Ministerial Communiqué on Bluefin Tuna Fishing for 2011", which will remain in force until the end of the 2011 eastern bluefin tuna fishing season.

Commitment

Turkey has lodged a formal objection to the quota allocation scheme from the year 2011 given in Paragraph 8 of "Recommendation by ICCAT Amending Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Multi-Annual Recovery Plan for Bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean [Rec. 10-04]", in accordance with Article VIII 3(a) of the Convention.

This formal objection has been entered due to negligence by of historical bluefin tuna catch figures of Turkey, a criterion set by "ICCAT Resolution on Allocation Criteria for Fishing Possibilities", by Panel 2 during the process of allocation of quotas among the CPCs.

Nevertheless, the fact that delayed entry into force of the ICCAT Recommendation 10-04 shall not retain Turkey to fully adopt/execute the implementing provisions of the said recommendation, except for Paragraph 8, as from the beginning of the year 2011. To this end, though Turkey objects to the decision on quota allocation, no fishing to exceed the amount of the quota level allocated to her shall be allowed."

Potential fishing grounds

The potential fishing ground for eastern bluefin tuna fishery will be off the western and southern coasts of Turkey, Antalya Bay and the region between Antalya Gazi Pasha and Cyprus Island. In the Eastern Mediterranean, fishing activity is estimated to be conducted mostly in the triangular marine area surrounded by Turkey, Cyprus Island and Syria. Sparse fishing activities may occur in the southern regions of the Aegean Sea.

List of authorized bluefin tuna catching vessels

MARA shall issue special fishing permit to maximum 17 bluefin tuna catching vessels for 2011 in accordance with domestic legislation as well as relevant ICCAT regulations. All vessels shall be equipped and monitored with a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS). In addition to the catching vessels, 36 vessels shall be licensed as tug boats and other vessels.

MARA has reduced the total number of bluefin tuna catching vessels by achieving a 547% from the beginning of the capacity reduction measures applied since 2009, through the Ministerial Communiqué on Bluefin Tuna Fishing and relevant ministerial directives. Turkey shall continue to apply the required capacity reduction with the aim of achieving "0%" overcapacity from the year 2012.

The list of authorized bluefin tuna catching vessels and individual quotas associated to them is given in **Table 1**. The final list of authorized bluefin tuna fishing vessels shall be submitted to ICCAT Secretariat before the specified deadline.

Table 1. List of bluefin tuna catching vessels authorized for 2011.

	<i>ICCAT List Number</i>	<i>Vessel Name</i>	<i>Assigned Quota (kg.)</i>	<i>Overall Length (meter)</i>
1	AT000TUR00296	AKGUN BALIKCILIK-3	26.172	42,41
2	AT000TUR00182	AGAOGULLARI-5	26.172	39,80
3	AT000TUR00002	AKTAŞLAR-C	36.072	46,10
4	AT000TUR00014	CINAR IBRAHİM	36.072	50,00
5	AT000TUR00450	CİHAN CENGİZ KARADENİZ	26.172	40,22
6	AT000TUR00501	DENİZER	36.072	48,05
7	AT000TUR00496	GEÇICILER BALIKCILIK	26.172	42,05
8	AT000TUR00024	HACIMUSTAFA KULOGLU	36.072	62,00
9	AT000TUR00502	İSMAİL SERTER	26.172	35,00
10	AT000TUR00248	KERİM REİS-4	26.172	43,97
11	AT000TUR00032	MAMULİ REİS-I	36.072	52,86
12	AT000TUR00033	MAMULİ REİS-III	26.172	48,70
13	AT000TUR00407	SÜRSAN-1	36.072	62,00
14	AT000TUR00220	TOPLU-3	26.172	46,00
15	AT000TUR00115	TRABZON SU ÜRÜNLERİ-1	36.072	39,85
16	AT000TUR00455	TUNCAY SAGUN-2	26.172	35,60
17	AT000TUR00040	TUNCAY SAGUN-6	36.072	44,98

Licensing

A special fishing permit, which will be issued by the provincial directorates of MARA for the eligible purse seiners (who have formally possessed such permit during previous years) to conduct a bluefin tuna fishery, is mandatory for bluefin tuna catching vessels to operate for 2011 season. Total number of “special fishing permits” to be issued shall be determined by MARA in accordance with relevant ICCAT rules and recommendations.

A special tug and towing permit, which will be issued by the provincial directorates of MARA for the eligible fishing vessels to conduct any bluefin tuna transfer operation, is mandatory for bluefin tuna other vessels to operate for 2011 season.

A fishing vessel shall only possess one of the above-mentioned permits. No fishing gear, except for the cage net, shall be present onboard of any tug and towing vessel.

Allocation of bluefin tuna catch quota

Even though Turkey has lodged a formal objection to the quota allocation scheme from the year 2011, the objected quota level mentioned above shall be respected for sake of the multi-annual recovery plan for eastern bluefin tuna and Turkey shall not exceed the total amount of 535,120 metric tons, which has been considered as the basis for domestic allocation of individual quotas to the catching vessels authorized to fish in 2011 by taking the recent status of eastern bluefin tuna stocks into consideration.

Methodology used for individual quota allocation

MARA has allocated 98% of the total domestic quota through its distribution in an equal ratio to each of the fishing vessels, based on overall lengths.

If a catching vessel cannot completely exhaust its assigned individual quota (IQ) by the end of the season, no IQ transfer (or carry over) to the next year shall be allowed.

Coastal, recreational, sport fisheries

A specific quota level has been allocated for the purposes of artisanal, recreational and sport fisheries, as well as incidental and by-catches, which is of 2% of the total. The marketing of bluefin tuna caught in recreational and sport fishing is prohibited except for charitable purposes.

Regulations for the 2011 bluefin tuna fishing season

Fishing period and closed season

- The authorized fishing period for BFT by purse seiners will be from 16/05/2011 until 14/06/2011.
- If the catch quota allocated by MARA is exhausted before the closure time, MARA shall immediately extend the time closure. It is obligatory for a catching vessel to proceed immediately to the closest designated port, at the latest within three (3) days, when its individual quota (IQ) is exhausted and to report to the nearest provincial directorate of MARA.
- Bluefin tuna recreational and sport fishing, fishing with trawl, handline and longline is prohibited from 15 October to 15 June.
- Bluefin tuna fishing shall be prohibited by large-scale pelagic longline catching vessels over 24 m during the period from 1 June to 31 December.

Chartering and private trade arrangements

- No chartering operation for the bluefin tuna fishery is permitted from 2011.
- Any private trade arrangement shall not be permitted unless there is authorization by the CPCs concerned and the ICCAT Commission.

Joint Fishing Operations

- No joint fishing operation (JFOs) with any other CPC is allowed unless the concerned CPC has less than 5 authorized (maximum 4) purse seiners.
- A JFO for bluefin tuna shall only be authorized with the consent of MARA and of the other CPC authority concerned, if the vessels to be involved are equipped to fish bluefin tuna and has sufficient individual quotas.
- Fishing vessels to conduct any JFO with the vessels of any other CPC shall present the required certificates and letter of consent to MARA at least 15 days before the start of the operation (departure from port) to be transmitted to the ICCAT Secretariat within the specified deadline.
- At the moment of the application for the authorization, the following information shall be provided by the catching vessel(s) participating in the joint fishing operation:
 - Duration of operation,
 - Identity of the operators involved,
 - Individual vessels' quotas,
 - Allocation key between the vessels for the catches involved,
 - Information on the fattening or farming farms of destination.
- The masters of the catching vessels involved in a joint fishing operation shall record in their logbook:
 - Name, ICCAT # and international radio call sign of the catching vessel,
 - Name, ICCAT # and international radio call sign of the tug/towing vessel,
 - Date and the time of the catch and of the transfer,
 - Location of the catch and of the transfer (longitude/latitude),
 - Amount of catches taken on board,
 - Amount of catches transferred into cages,
 - Amount of catches counted against its individual quota,
 - Name of the tug boat and its ICCAT number

Bluefin tuna landing/transshipment ports

- Bluefin tuna fishing vessels shall only transship/land bluefin tuna catches in the ports designated for that purposes.
- The following ports have been designated by MARA for the purpose of bluefin tuna landing / transshipment:

<i>Province</i>	<i>Designated landing/transshipment port</i>
ADANA	Karataş Fishing Port
ANTALYA	Antalya Port; Gazipaşa Fishing Port
MERSİN	Karaduvar Fishing Port
HATAY	İskenderun Fishing Port
ÇANAKKALE	Kabatepe Fishing Port; Gülpınar Fishing Port
İSTANBUL	Kumkapı Fishing Port; Tuzla Fishing Port
İZMİR	Karaburun Fishing Port

Vessel Monitoring System requirements

- Fishing vessels requesting a bluefin tuna fishing and transport permit for 2011 shall be equipped with a full-time operational satellite tracking device (or vessel monitoring system, VMS) onboard, as required by MARA.
- During bluefin tuna fishing and transport operations, catching and towing vessels shall keep their satellite tracking devices onboard operational. In the event of malfunction of the VMS transponder device onboard, the skipper shall inform MARA immediately and shall send location data to MARA manually by using any means available in every 2 hours, until required troubleshooting is completed.
- Catches/transportations of the fishing vessels those are acting in contradiction with or offend against the above mentioned VMS requirements shall be nullified by MARA.
- Following the completion of each bluefin tuna catching or towing operation, location data indicated on Bluefin Tuna Catch Document (BCD) and ICCAT Transfer Declaration (ITD) shall be cross-checked by MARA's Fisheries Monitoring Center (operating the VMS). In case the above-mentioned records do not match, the relevant catch/transfer documents shall be refused by MARA.
- The transmission of VMS data by the catching vessels included in the ICCAT bluefin tuna record of catching vessels to ICCAT shall start before the opening of the fishing seasons and shall continue after the closure of the fishing season per annum. They shall also certify their signalization guarantee as required.
- Tug and towing vessels included in the ICCAT bluefin tuna record of other vessels shall certify their signalization guarantee and transmit VMS data to ICCAT throughout the whole period of authorization.

Recording and reporting

- Following each bluefin tuna catch, location of catch, quantity and number of the fish caught shall be notified to MARA by the skipper of the vessel via e-mail or fax, for the purposes of monitoring and surveillance of the individual quota.
- Following the catching operation, skipper/operator of the catching vessel shall transmit electronic copies of the issued BCD, ICCAT Transfer Declaration and the relevant logbook page to be prepared with an appropriate file format to the e-mail address orkinos@kkgm.gov.tr within 24 hours.
- Following the transfer of the live bluefin tuna caught to the towing cage of the tug vessel, skipper of the catching vessel shall complete the required BCD and ITD and shall deliver them to the master of the tug vessel. Tug/towing vessels shall not leave the area of transfer without receiving the completed documents mentioned above.
- In cases where the estimation by the regional observers onboard the catching vessel and at the farming facility is at least 10% higher by number and/or average weight than declared by the master of the catching vessel, an investigation shall be initiated by MARA and concluded prior to the time of caging at the farm. Pending the results of this investigation, caging shall not be authorized and the catching section of the BCD shall not be validated and no harvests shall be made.
- If the outcome of the investigation indicates that the number and or average weight of bluefin tuna is in excess of 10% of that declared by the master of the catching vessel, then MARA shall issue a release order for the number and or weight in excess, which would be completed within 48 hours, under the presence of an ICCAT Regional Observer.

- The vessel owner/skipper of the bluefin tuna fishing vessels shall communicate by e-mail to MARA (orkinos@kkgm.gov.tr), a weekly catch report, including nil catch returns. This report shall be transmitted to MARA by latest 10:00 am Monday with the catches taken during the preceding week ending Sunday midnight GMT.
- Each fishing vessel possessing a special fishing/towing permit is obliged to duly record and report the required information regarding the quantity of caught, transferred and sold bluefin tuna.
- The masters of catching vessels shall keep a bound logbook of their operations, indicating particularly the quantities of bluefin tuna caught and kept on board, whether the catches are weighed or estimated, the date and location of such catches and the type of gear used in accordance with the requirements set out by MARA.
- The logbook shall be filled in every day (midnight) or before port arrival. The logbook must be completed in case of at sea inspections, including all activities that took place that day until the said inspection.
- In the event of a catch, logbook shall be completed accordingly, and shall be transmitted to MARA via e-mail and fax, together with the relevant BCD.
- No BCD or health certificate, except for sportive, recreational and coastal type of fishery, shall be issued for the BFT which is unreported (not reported although caught during the fishing season), overfished (caught although the individual quota of the catching vessels is exhausted) and/or caught during the closed season. Such fish shall immediately be released if caught alive or it shall be seized if dead. Fishing vessels committing any of the above-mentioned offences shall not get a special fishing or towing permit for their future operations.

Towing operations

- Before any live bluefin tuna towing operation, the master of the catching or tug / towing vessel or its representatives shall notify MARA the following information:
 - Commencing time of the live BFT towing operation,
 - Location of transfer, information on the position (latitude/longitude) where the transfer shall take place,
 - Port, farm or cage of destination (route) of the bluefin tuna,
 - Estimated time of arrival,
 - Name of the provider catching vessel or farm or trap and ICCAT number record,
 - Name of the tug/towing vessel, number of cages towed and ICCAT number record where appropriate,
 - Identifiable cage numbers and estimate of quantity of bluefin tuna to be transferred inside the cages.
- The master of the towing vessel shall ensure that the transfer activities shall be monitored and recorded by video camera in the water and he shall be responsible from keeping such video footage onboard. At the beginning and/or end of each video, the ICCAT transfer declaration number must be displayed. The time and the date of the video shall be continuously displayed throughout each video record.
- One video record shall be produced and transmitted each to the regional observer and to the CPC observer aboard the towing vessel, the latter of which shall accompany the transfer declaration and the associated catches to which it relates. One copy of the video footage shall also be presented to MARA and shown to fisheries inspectors when requested.

Caging operations

- The farming operator shall monitor and record the transfer activities from cages to the farm by video camera in the water and he shall be responsible from keeping such video footage at the farming facility.
- One video record shall be produced for each caging operation. At the beginning or end of each video, the ICCAT transfer declaration number must be displayed. The time and the date of the video shall be continuously displayed throughout each video record. At the beginning and/or end of each video, the ICCAT transfer declaration number must be displayed. The time and the date of the video shall be continuously displayed throughout each video record. One copy of the video footage shall also be presented to MARA when requested.
- Putting into farm cages of the bluefin tuna, which has not been accompanied by properly validated, compliant and completed certificates and information as required by ICCAT rules, shall be prohibited.

- In case of the bluefin tuna inside the farm cages are found to be misreported and/or caught by unauthorized fishing vessels having no/insufficient IQ assigned, such fish shall be seized and released.
- In case of a bluefin tuna farming facility is found to be noncompliant, putting into cage of live bluefin tuna as well as harvesting and exporting of the BFT inside the cages of such facility shall not be allowed.

Transfer operations

Before any transfer operation of the live bluefin tuna to the towing/farm cages, whether caught under Turkey's domestic quota or imported (received) from other CPCs, it is mandatory to receive a prior transfer authorization from MARA (in the case of domestic quota) and from the flag CPC (in the case of another CPCs quota).

- The master of the catching vessel shall apply to MARA, before any transfer operation of live bluefin tuna to towing cages of a tug/towing vessel, in order to get a prior transfer authorization with the following information;
 - Name of the catching vessel and ICCAT number record,
 - Estimated time of transfer,
 - Estimate of quantity of bluefin tuna to be transferred,
 - Information on the position (latitude/longitude) where the transfer will take place and identifiable cage numbers,
 - Name of the towing vessel, number of cages towed and ICCAT number record where appropriate,
 - Farm or cage of destination of the bluefin tuna.
- The transfer of the live bluefin tuna caught within the framework of domestic quota shall be authorized or not authorized by MARA within 48 hours following the submission of the prior transfer notification and the captain of the catching vessel or the owner of the farm shall be informed by phone or e-mail regarding the status of authorization.
- In case that the transfer is not authorized the captain of the catching vessel, the owner of the farm or trap as appropriate has to release the fish into the sea.
- The owner of the farm shall request a prior transfer authorization from MARA before each of the live bluefin tuna transfers including from a fishing vessel to a farm, vice versa or from one farm to another farm.
- Following the receipt of the required transfer authorization from MARA or flag CPC, ICCAT Transfer Declaration, without which all transfers are deemed illegal and invalid, shall be completed as required.
- The captain of the catching vessel or the owner of the farm shall initiate the intended transfer operation by recording the transfer authorization code into the ICCAT Transfer Declaration.
- The prior transfer authorization for the transfer of live bluefin tuna from the catching vessel to the towing vessel shall not be construed as an authorization for caging at farm as well.
- All live bluefin tuna which are subject to any unauthorized transfer operations shall be released under the supervision of an ICCAT Regional Observer.
- Following the delivery of live bluefin tuna to farm, the catching vessel which has carried out the transfer operation shall present the original ITD, relevant sections of which have been completed by towing vessel and farm operator, to the provincial directorate of MARA and shall keep a copy.
- BCD and ITD shall accompany during the transfer of live bluefin tuna to a destined farm or port.
- After the bluefin tuna harvest at farm, ITD shall be issued for transport/transshipment of the fish to processing vessels.
- Caging or completion of the transfer to farm site of the live bluefin tuna caught during the fishing season shall be made before the 31st of July unless valid reasons including force majeure are provided.
- Information gained from the measurements of length and weigh of the fish died during any transfer operations shall be provided to the provincial directorate of MARA following the end of caging at farm.

Transshipment

- Transshipment at sea operations of bluefin tuna, including incidental and by-catches, in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea shall be prohibited.

- Fishing vessels shall only tranship bluefin tuna catches in the ports designated by MARA for such purpose.
- The master of the transshipping fishing vessel shall complete and submit the ICCAT transshipment declaration to MARA within 24 hours.
- Prior to entry into any port, masters of the receiving/transshipping fishing vessels shall provide MARA the following information at least 48 h and the relevant provincial directorates at least 4 h before the estimated time of arrival;
 - Estimated time of arrival to the port of the transshipment,
 - The names of the transshipping fishing vessel and receiving fishing vessel,
 - The tonnage (weight) and the number of the bluefin tuna to be transshipped,
 - Information on the geographic area where the catch was taken,
 - The numbers in the ICCAT record of catching vessels and other vessels.
- The masters of the receiving/transshipping fishing vessels shall be responsible from the information related to the transshipment. This information shall be notified to MARA within 48 h following the transshipment operation.
- Weight of the transhipped bluefin tuna shall be determined by weighing.

Cross check

The relevant information recorded in the logbooks of the fishing vessels, in the transfer/transshipment documents and in the catch documents shall be verified by MARA by using available inspection reports, observer reports, VMS data.

- MARA shall carry out cross checks on all landings, all transshipment or caging between the quantities by species recorded in the fishing vessel logbook or quantities by species recorded in the transshipment declaration and the quantities recorded in the landing declaration or caging declaration, and any other relevant document, such as invoice and/or sales notes.

Enforcement

- Any noncompliance to the regulations regarding bluefin tuna fishing and transfer shall lead to nullification of the special fishing permit or the special tug and towing permit issued by MARA.
- Noncompliant fishing vessels shall not get any of the above mentioned special permits for future operations.

Market measures

Foreign and domestic trade, transport, landing, imports, exports, placing in cages for farming, re-exports and transshipments of eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna and its products (with the exception of fish parts other than the meat *i.e.*, heads, eyes, roes, guts and tails) as well as their keeping onboard, at storage or inside the towing cages attached to a catching/towing vessel which are not accompanied by accurate, complete, and validated documentation shall be prohibited.

Observer requirements

- Presence of “ICCAT Regional Observers” shall be required during the whole bluefin tuna catching, transferring and caging operations at sea and at farm sites in 2011. Activities of towing and tug vessels shall be observed through “National Observers” to be deployed onboard.
- During the fishing season, all authorized and quota assigned purse seine vessels over 24 m LOA are obliged to employ ICCAT Regional Observers with 100% coverage. The master/operator shall provide all required assistance and ease to facilitate the tasks of the observer onboard. Purse seine vessels without an ICCAT regional observer shall not be authorized to fish or to operate in the bluefin tuna fishery.
- ICCAT Regional Observers shall also be present during all transfer of bluefin tuna to the cages and all harvest of fish from the cage to monitor and report about the said activities as required.
- During the authorized period of a JFO, all purse seine vessels irrespective of their length shall employ ICCAT Regional Observers with 100% coverage.
- The following national observer coverage shall be ensured on vessels to be active in 2011 bluefin tuna fishery;

- 100% of its active purse seine vessels equal or less than 24 m in 2011,
- 100% of towing vessels.
- The master/operator shall provide all required assistance and ease to facilitate the tasks of the national observer onboard.
- All transfers from/to the farm cages, as well as all harvests from the farm cages shall be made under the presence of ICCAT Regional Observers. The farm operator shall provide all required assistance to facilitate the tasks of the observers.
- The ICCAT Regional Observer shall sign with clearly written name and ICCAT number the ICCAT transfer declaration. He shall verify that the ICCAT transfer declaration is properly filled and transmitted to the master of the tug vessel. The ICCAT Transfer Declaration shall be countersigned by the ICCAT Regional Observer to verify the information within.
- Consequently, 100% observer coverage shall be applied for monitoring BFT fishing, transfer, caging and harvesting operations.
- Live bluefin tuna transport/transfer operations shall be recorded by underwater video cameras.
- Master/operator of the catching/towing vessel shall facilitate the access of the ICCAT Regional Observer to the all information/documents which may be required. He shall also make available copies of the video recordings, that such copy be a digital copy version in hard storage material (DVD, memory USB, hard drive, etc) and include the date and time of recording, and shall indicate the specifications of the recording equipment (type, brand and model), recording settings (type of video version, compression, software) and video watching facilities provided to the observer (TV, computer, camcorder screen, etc).

Mesh size and fishing gear

- Mesh square size for the cod end of the bluefin tuna purse seine net shall not be smaller than 44 millimeters.

Use of aircraft

- Utilization of airplanes or helicopters for searching for bluefin tuna is prohibited.

Minimum size

- Catching, retaining on board, transshipping, transferring, landing, transporting, storing, selling, displaying or offering for sale bluefin tuna weighing less than 30 kg is prohibited.
- For the catching vessels fishing actively for bluefin tuna, an incidental catch of maximum 5% of bluefin tuna weighing between 10 and 30 kg shall be authorized and such incidental catches shall be deducted from the 2011 bluefin tuna catch quota of Turkey. The above-mentioned percentage will be calculated on the total incidental catches of the fish retained on board the vessel, as their equivalent in percentage in weight.
- Vessels not targeting bluefin tuna are not authorized to retain on board bluefin tuna exceeding more than 5% of the total catch on board by weight or/and number of pieces. Such by-catches shall also be deducted from the 2011 bluefin tuna catch quota of Turkey.

Sampling requirement

In addition to the obligation for video footages, a certain percentage of fish shall be sampled, by killing an appropriate quantity of the fish, to improve the counting and weight estimation of the caged fish, to meet the requirement of Paragraph 87 of ICCAT Rec.10-04.

At the time of transferring of fish from towing cage to the farm cage, the fish to be chosen by random sampling shall be disposed of. The dead fish shall be sized and weighted; the obtained calculations shall be used to determine the estimated amount of fish in cage by considering proportions.

During the process, scientific support shall be obtained to minimize any errors in weight estimation. In the meantime, farming operators shall be encouraged for developing projects towards scientific and technologic methods to improve accuracy of weight estimation and quantity without killing any fish.

Furthermore, it will be convenient to task SCRS for developing of a standardized method and technique which may also be commonly adopted by ICCAT.

Conclusion

- Whether specified in the above-given plan or not, all provisions stipulated by the effective ICCAT Recommendations shall entirely be transposed and applied.
- Owners/operators of the fishing vessels, managers/operators of farming facilities and exporters shall be responsible from the proper implementation of all provisions mentioned above, as well as of other applicable rules and recommendations imposed by ICCAT.

Fisheries Inspection Plan

Part I

The strengthened MCS framework

1. Institutional framework for MCS

Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) is the main authority for the management of fisheries; however, MARA and Turkish Coast Guard Command (CGC) share the responsibility for the overall coordination of fisheries control activities at sea, including planning, implementation and coordination of MCS. MARA plans to create a “central unit in charge of all fisheries matters” under a draft bill on the organization and duties of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, which will substitute MARA. The draft bill referred above is expected to further strengthen administrative and human resources required for a more effective MCS.

2. Legal framework for MCS

Fisheries Law, Fishery Regulations, Ministerial Notifications and Ministerial Communiqués constitute the current legal frame in chorus.

The above-mentioned regulations set the following key MCS provisions:

- Authorization and licensing procedure for fishing vessels,
- Technical and seasonal measures, as well as fishing gear regulations,
- Authorizing fishing activities abroad, monitoring and reporting,
- Establishing and operating a VMS system,
- Making provision for the designation of ports and landing points,
- Making provision for the designation of places of first sale,
- Making provision for the registration of first buyers,
- Establishing inspection procedures,
- Making provisions on enforcement measures,
- Implement provisions of international agreements to which Turkey is a party.

3. Specific fisheries control measures in effect

Fishing licence and fishing authorization

Turkey has got a licensing system in place, and specific authorizations are required for particular activities, such as fishing in waters beyond the jurisdiction of the State. TAC and quota regime is applicable for eastern Atlantic bluefin tuna, baby clam, eel and partly for the anchovy in the Black Sea basin. Specific authorizations (namely Special Fishing Permit and Special Tug/Towing Permit) which relate to bluefin tuna fisheries do exist.

Fisheries Information System (FIS)

Turkey has implemented a Fisheries Information System (namely SUBIS) since 2008 which is currently applicable to all types of fishery, including the bluefin tuna fishery, in Turkey. FIS has following multi-purpose generalised functions;

- Record of fishing vessels,
- Record of commercial fishermen,

- Special fishing permits for fishing vessels,
- Monitoring of the bluefin tuna catch quota,
- Monitoring of baby clam quota,
- Monitoring of anchovy fishing,
- Cross-checking of “Catch Document” is done via FIS, in comply with European Union’s IUU Regulation (No.1005/2008),
- User name and password for fishermen and exporters to have access to FIS,
- Technical works on development of software for additional sub-systems to FIS continues,
- All fishermen are planned to be allowed to see and monitor logbook data they submitted,
- Records of fishing vessels are linked with those kept by Turkish Under secretariat for Maritime Affairs.

VMS, AIS and FMCs

Turkey has implemented a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) since 2006 which is currently applicable to the vessels targeting BFT under the auspices of ICCAT. BFT fishing vessels are legally under an obligation to have a satellite based VMS device. In 2010, 61 catching and towing vessels were monitored by VMS. Regular data submissions to the ICCAT Secretariat were made through a central Fisheries Monitoring Centre (FMC) located at MARA premises in Ankara/Turkey. MARA plans to expand the application of VMS to the vessels over 12 m, until 2015. An integrated system composed of satellite-based VMS, Automatic Identification System (AIS) and electronic logbook is also envisaged by MARA.

All fishing vessels over 15 m in size are required to have an AIS device as from 1st of January 2010. 1263 vessels are monitored by AIS. Monitoring of vessels over 15 m via AIS contributes to a more efficient controlling of fishing activities. Results of such controls is planned to be recorded in FIS database. Control database will be used commonly with other governmental institutions charged for control. The database shall involve forming of a “Black List” for vessels involved with IUU fishing.

Logbook application is obligatory for the fishing vessels \geq 12 meters overall length (LOA) and this requirement will gradually be expanded into those vessels over 10 m. in size. Shifting to electronic logbook from paper logbook is still under consideration.

Fisheries Port Offices (FPOs)

In 2010, constructing and furnishing of 4 new FPO’s were completed at the most important/ concentrated fishing ports in terms of landing activities, in order to carry out the following duties;

- Fishing and landing controls,
- Control of fishing gears,
- Logbook data entry to FIS,
- Issuing of Transport Certificate,
- Receiving, assessment and forwarding the demands of fisherman.

Currently, 40 FPOs serving as landing check/control points have become operational and three more FPOs are planned to be constructed by the end of 2011.

It is worth to note that almost no landing of BFT has been recorded until now, since all BFT are generally directed to fattening farms alive due to the possibility to fatten and sell/export the product with a higher economic value than the local consumption. However, in October 2010, only one individual weighing 121 KG., which was caught as by-catch, was landed and reported to ICCAT.

Logbook regime

Turkey has developed a new logbook system since 2008 and still is in the process of implementing it. Turkey’s system has been put in place for vessels \geq 12 meters LOA. Electronic logbook system is envisaged to be implemented in near future. As a regulatory framework, an implementing regulation shall be developed for the recording and submission of logbook data, including the electronic part of the system, and defining the responsibilities and liabilities of the operators when submitting data.

Recording of catch and effort data

The real time monitoring of catches and regular transmission of such data to MARA is applicable specifically for fisheries subject to TAC and quota controls, i.e. the bluefin tuna fishery. MARA is currently developing the capacity to record and publish such information on real-time basis for all type of fisheries. The development of an electronic logbook submission and recording regime is planned. FIS shall be updated to record the required effort data to be collected through paper/electronic logbooks.

Fishing gear regulation

The fishery law and regulations currently in force in Turkey sets detailed regulations on fishing gear, i.e., no fishing gear, except for the cage net, shall be present onboard of any bluefin tuna tug and towing vessel.

Transshipment at sea

No transshipment at sea shall be allowed for the bluefin tuna fishery in order to prevent any potential illegal catches to be laundered into a legal fishery, and for imports and exports to occur illegally. The List of FPOs designated for the purpose of bluefin tuna landing, where transshipments may also be carried out under the supervision of fisheries inspectors, is as follows:

<i>Province</i>	<i>Designated Landing/Transshipment Port</i>
ADANA	Karataş Fishing Port
ANTALYA	Antalya Port; Gazipaşa Fishing Port
MERSİN	Karaduvar Fishing Port
HATAY	İskenderun Fishing Port
ÇANAKKALE	Kabatepe Fishing Port; Gülpınar Fishing Port
İSTANBUL	Kumkapı Fishing Port; Tuzla Fishing Port
İZMİR	Karaburun Fishing Port

Marking of fishing gear

In Turkey, rules for the marking of transfer cages under ICCAT rules are currently in place for the bluefin tuna fisheries. Introduction of new rules for the marking of fishing gear is under consideration to be set forth as a condition to fishing licences and/or authorizations.

Marking and documentation of fishing vessels

The international radio call sign (IRCS) is applicable for most of the fishing vessels. Fishing licence number should be displayed on the vessel in a visible manner. Fishing vessels also display their registration numbers on the hull according to maritime and shipping laws.

The fishing licence and/or authorization, logbooks and relevant catch/transfer certificates are essential parts of the documents to be kept onboard the vessel for the bluefin tuna fishery managed by MARA in conformity with ICCAT rules. As for the regulatory frame, Turkish base Fisheries Law states that “*licences have to be shown to the proper authorities upon request*”, and article 36 provides for a fine levied against “*those who don’t show their licences to the relevant authorities upon request*”.

Fishing fleet register

Turkey has put in place an electronic fishing fleet register under FIS, which is in line with most of the fleet register provisions provided under the EU regulation.

FIS is also connected into other governmental databases, such as the one of the Ministry of the Interior on identity and social security number data. Technically, the integration of FIS with other government databases is already happening, and is technically feasible.

Turkey’s institutional link between being licensing and registering fishing vessels is strong, the explicit granting of a licence being a precondition to gain registration as a fishing vessel.

Authorization to operate abroad

Turkey currently establishes a specific authorization for vessels targeting bluefin tuna, Mediterranean swordfish and other tunas under ICCAT. Hence, the practice of authorizing overseas fishing operations is already in place. As for regulatory frame, Article 18 of the Fishery Regulations establishes that MARA shall authorize such activities, and impose the conditions it deems appropriate.

The following requirements shall be met during any fishing operations abroad;

- Copies of third country fishing licences (if applicable), must be provided to MARA,
- VMS must be carried on board and be operational at all times,
- Catch and effort data must be supplied to MARA via a logbook,
- Masters of fishing vessels must supply to MARA all information on vessel, landings and inspections by third country authorities (if applicable), and outcomes thereof.

Monitoring of fishing capacity and engine power

Turkey has limited the total number of fishing vessels in the entire fleet. If a fishing vessels possessing fishing licence has become inactive, by conducting no fishing activity for a specific period of time, due to any technical/legal reasons, then its fishing licence shall be nullified. New arrangements to limit the fishing capacity in terms of engine power shall be introduced in the near future.

Designated ports

MARA designated FPOs designated for the purpose of bluefin tuna landing, where transshipments may also be carried out under the supervision of fisheries inspectors. MARA also envisaged that all national industrial fishing vessel transactions (vessels above 15m) shall be limited to designated ports only. As for foreign flagged vessels, no fishing activities for such vessels are permitted within Turkish territorial waters and EEZ.

A foreign flagged fishing vessel, who will harvest/receive any fish/fishery product at high seas, shall only land its catch/ consignment to the Turkish harbours designated to effect customs clearance and formalities required. Further rules on designated ports and regimes shall be developed on the basis of international instruments such as Agreement on Port State Measures (APSM).

Prior notice (or notification) and authorization to enter ports

In Turkey, except for the bluefin tuna fishery, no such rules exist at the time being. Nevertheless, regulatory foundations to launch a notice and authorization procedure for fishing vessels to enter ports exist. Turkish flagged vessels intending to land catch in foreign ports should be equipped with an operational VMS and should receive an authorization from MARA for that purpose. Such activity by Turkish fishermen has not occurred until now.

Inspection in port

Turkey has become a signatory to APSM which aims to strengthen port state control arrangements. The treaty foresees a prior notice, permission of port entry, port inspection and denial of entry/landing catch scheme for foreign-flagged fishing vessels seeking port entry. The treaty will enter into force following its ratification by 25 States.

Fisheries inspectors manning FPOs shall carry out their inspection duties according to planned and monitored annual/periodic fisheries inspection or control programs.

Monitoring and forensic MCS

Over the last five years, General Directorate of Protection and Control (GDPC) under MARA has started to implement a range of monitoring tools that encompass logbooks for vessels over 12m in length, notes of first sale, transport documents, and certificates of origin. Operations and landings of vessels < 12m are supposed to be monitored on the basis of sampling.

Under the framework of ICCAT membership obligations and the EU's IUU regulation, Turkey has started to issue Catch Certificates (and related documents) as of the beginning of 2010. All of these documents, when merged in FIS, shall allow authorities to trace fish from vessel to final outlet, whether this be the local or the export market.

The process of data logging from the different documents into the system is ongoing. The traceability and monitoring capacity of GDPC towards the end of 2010 has increased.

Cross-checks have been carried out on certain data populations within FIS. Automated routines within the system for detecting major inconsistencies between related data sets do exist.

Forensic elements are not currently part of Turkey's regular MCS work; however, the potential to use such tools in the future does exist. Trabzon Central Fisheries Research Institute has involved in advanced research on fish genetics and capable of extracting mitochondrial DNA from tissue samples.

Landing declarations

Provisions for a system of landing declarations are already foreseen under the revised draft of the base Fisheries Law. The system does not apply to vessels never spending more than 24 hours at sea. While virtually all vessels <10 meters, and many ≥ 10 meter vessels limit their trips to well below 24 hours, some of the larger vessels do spend more than 24 hours at sea. The enactment of the relevant rules within the revised base Fisheries Law and/or revised Fishery Regulation shall be ensured. It is worth to note that landings from the bluefin tuna fishery to FPOs are very limited since all bluefin tuna are generally directed to fattening farms alive due to the possibility to fatten and sell/export the product with a higher economic value than the local consumption.

Market measures

As for market measures, rules on documentation (sales notes, transportation notes, documents of origin, etc.), traceability requirements, registration of buyers and information to be provided to consumers have already been developed, and are being actively implemented in Turkey.

The Catch Certificate (EU-IUU Regulation & ICCAT)

As an exporting nation of fisheries products to the Japanese and EU market, Turkey has already put in place its certification scheme, establishing the legality of catches landed by its vessels.

As an exporter, Turkey does comply with the rules and catch certificates are now established on the day product is ready to be shipped from bluefin tuna farming facilities or processing plants. Turkey has established the relevant links between logbook sheets, sales notes and catch certificates within FIS, which will ultimately guarantee the traceability of products throughout the system, and create the relevant and traceable links to certificates. Currently the traceability is given through a more or less complete paper-trail.

Area of origin and minimum species sizes

As part of the traceability rules, the geographical area of origin of fisheries products must be known from the onset of products being landed and offered for first sale, and that this piece of information must remain known throughout the chain of custody until it reaches the retailer selling fish products to the final consumer. In addition to this, in fisheries where minimum size rules for species exist, the operators purchasing, selling or transporting fish must be in a position to prove the geographic area of origin of the fish. This system has been put in place in Turkey several years ago, and is already functional.

Landings of undersized specimens, except for any legal derogation, shall be prohibited through inspections to be imposed by legislation. Undersized specimens of fish shall not be allowed to be offered for sale in the market place and at retailers.

Sales notes and transport documents

Current domestic legislation provides for the establishment of sales notes when registered buyers, auctions or producer organizations buy fish from vessels. These sales notes are to be submitted to the competent authorities within 48 hours of their establishment. The submission may be done in electronic format.

Transport documents must be established when products are to be transported from the place of landing to a place other than the place of landing, and where the sale of product will occur at a later stage. The transport document contains detailed information about the place of landing, the name of the vessel, and the catch transported. It shall be submitted to the competent authorities within 48 hours, and may also be submitted electronically.

The system of sales notes and transport documents has been put in place in Turkey in recent years. As for the logbook regime, the electronic input of all of these documents into FIS, the central database, has been completed. FIS is planned to be upgraded in such a way as to allow registered buyers auctions and transporters to directly and electronically input sales note and transport document information into the system.

Traceability

All data to be obtained from the documents including logbooks, landing declarations, certificates of geographic origin, sales and transport notes, and recording all of these data electronically and in related fashion within the FIS database, shall form the basis of an effective traceability system for the national fisheries sector.

Information to consumers

While the traceability system in Turkey generally allows for the tracing of all of this information, and will continue to improve over time, it is currently not a general requirement in Turkey to display all of this information at retailer level.

It has been planned, under the framework of a draft implementing regulation, that consumers shall be provided information on: (a) whether fish was wild caught or farmed; (b) if caught, whether it originates from marine or inland fisheries; (c) in which FAO statistical area it was caught; and (d) and what species it is.

MCS measures of ICCAT

Turkey has lodged a formal objection to the quota allocation scheme from the year 2011 given in Paragraph 8 of “Recommendation by ICCAT Amending Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Multi-Annual Recovery Plan for Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean” [Rec. 10-04], in accordance with Article VIII 3(a) of the Convention.

This formal objection has been entered due to negligence by of historical bluefin tuna catch figures of Turkey, a criterion set by “ICCAT Resolution on Allocation Criteria for Fishing Possibilities”, by Panel 2 during the process of allocation of quotas among the CPCs.

Nevertheless, the fact that the delayed entry into force of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04 shall not retain Turkey from fully adopting/executing the implementation provisions of the said recommendation, except for Paragraph 8, as from the beginning of 2011.

The flowing MCS measures, including the ones that are not indicated in the list but imposed by ICCAT, shall be implemented by Turkey;

- Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation (BCD) Scheme (ICCAT Rec. 09-11): Turkey has implemented all provisions of ICCAT’s BCD Scheme until now. The newly adopted requirements of the BCD Scheme shall be implemented accordingly.
- Record of vessels (various recommendations): List of required fishing vessels shall be notified to ICCAT within the specified deadline, as it has been made until now.
- Record of ports (ICCAT Rec. 10-04): The lists of ports designated by Turkey for the transshipment and landing of bluefin tuna shall be notified to ICCAT within the specified deadline, as it has been made until now.
- IUU vessel list (ICCAT Rec. 10-04 and 09-10): Any susceptible information requested by ICCAT which would lead to the identification of IUU vessels shall be submitted to the Secretariat at any time available.
- Joint Scheme of International Inspection (ICCAT Rec. 10-04): Turkey has actively participated to the inspection scheme in 2010 fishing season by various inspection means of CGC. The names of the inspectors to be appointed for 2011 season shall be notified to the ICCAT Secretariat within the specified deadline.
- Regional Observer Programme for Bluefin Tuna (ICCAT Rec. 10-04): Turkey has fully implemented 2009’s and 2010’s Regional Observer Programmes (ROP-BFT) to ensure 100% coverage to the following: a) of purse seine vessels over 24 m during all the annual fishing season; b) of all purse seiners involved in joint fishing operations, irrespective of the length of the vessels; and c) during all transfer of bluefin tuna to the cages and all harvest of fish from the cage. All requirements of ROP-BFT for the year 2011 shall be met and implemented by Turkey.

- VMS (ICCAT Rec. 07-08 and 03-14): Until now, Turkey has installed VMS on all bluefin tuna fishing vessels (including catch/towing vessels), and has communicated position data from its FMC to the ICCAT Secretariat electronically. Turkey shall continue to implement the required VMS provisions and procedures for the year 2011.

MARA has already established a service responsible for the liaison on RFMO matters (management and implementation measures – including MCS). The same service shall also be responsible to ensure that follow-up actions derived from RFMO recommendations be included in annual work plans and implementing regulations of MARA.

A monitoring system for the implementation of RFMO recommendations has been put in place to assess national performance internally at regular intervals. Required corrective measures shall be taken whenever they avail themselves as necessary.

Enforcement measures

The following mechanisms are provided for under Fisheries Law, Fishery Regulations, Ministerial Notifications and Ministerial Communiqués and authorized officers are endowed with the necessary powers to implement these.

- a) The immediate cessation of fishing activities;
- b) The rerouting to port of the fishing vessel;
- c) The rerouting of the transport vehicle to another location for inspection;
- d) The ordering of a bond;
- e) The seizure of fishing gear, catches or fisheries products;
- f) The temporary immobilisation of the fishing vessel or transport vehicle concerned;
- g) The suspension of the authorisation to fish;
- h) The release of live fish from nets or cages;
- i) The confiscation of prohibited fishing gear, catches or fishery products;
- j) The suspension or withdrawal of authorisation to fish;
- k) The administrative fines and penalties.

Noncompliance to the provisions of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04 related to, *inter alia*, closed seasons, minimum size and recording requirements of a given fishing vessel shall lead to taking of the following enforcement measures by MARA, depending on the gravity of the offence and in accordance with the pertinent provisions of national law;

- Fines,
- Seizure of illegal fishing gear and catches,
- Sequestration of the vessel,
- Suspension or withdrawal of authorization to fish,
- Reduction or withdrawal of the fishing quota, if applicable.

Noncompliance to the provisions of ICCAT Recommendation 06-07 and 10-04 related to, *inter alia*, caging operations and observers of a given a farm shall lead to taking of the following enforcement measures by MARA, depending on the gravity of the offence and in accordance with the pertinent provisions of national law;

- Fines,
- Suspension or withdrawal of the record of FFBS,
- Prohibition to put into cages or market quantities of bluefin tuna.

4. MCS improvement measures by MARA

The measures taken/envisaged by MARA to further improve the MCS framework are as follows;

- A separate unit under MARA and General Directorate of Protection and Control (GDPC), has been established (namely Collection of Data & Statistics Section) which is entrusted with the overall (and unique) responsibility to lead, plan, coordinate and monitor fisheries control activities at the national level.

- Further improvement of the current Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between KKGM and the CGC, which defines how communications and data regarding MCS will flow between both agencies. The MoU shall also establish operational cooperation agreements, such as overall planning, exchange of data, and the placing of fisheries inspectors aboard CGC patrol units.
- Further improvement of the central FMC located at GDPC. Smaller FMCs shall be established in FPOs over time.
- Making arrangements for additional manning of FMCs and FPOs with dedicated and properly trained fisheries personnel and guarantee their operation on a basis that enables the effective monitoring of fishing operations in port.
- Establishing an inspector training course on the basis of the curriculum developed by ICCAT, and training all fisheries inspectors accordingly.
- Automated and permanent control routines which cross-check data logged within the FIS database shall be developed with the objective to detect fraud in terms of misreporting, under-reporting or non-reporting of catches and landings, or wrong sources of fish for processing and export.
- A data collection system has been developed for inspection and sanction data. Every single inspection, irrespective of outcome, shall give rise to a log entry, defining date, place, entity inspected, and the outcome. All such data mentioned above shall be pooled within FIS.
- Development of annual working routines for the full and detailed analysis of inspection and compliance data.
- Publishing of the results of surveillance and inspections activities on MARA’s website.
- An overall annual control action planning mechanism that draws from the results and lessons from the previous year(s) to establish risks and relevant benchmarks for the following year’s control action programme shall be developed.

5. Enforcement and penalties imposed by MARA and CGC

Turkish Coast Guard (CGC) is the main entity effectively conducting air and sea surveillance missions targeting fishing operations. MARA also plans to deploy a new high-speed inspection boat capable of navigating at high-seas to further contribute to the at-sea inspection activities as from 2012. The air and sea patrol missions executed by the CGC are typically multi-purpose in nature. CGC’s air patrols are scarcer, sea patrols are more frequent.

<i>CGC & GDPC data</i>	<i>No. of active vessels</i>	<i>Serious infringements</i>	<i>Detection Rate in % (infringements / fleet)</i>
CGC (2006)	18,396	1,327	7.2
GDPC (2006)		786	4.3
Turkey (2006)		2,113	11.5
CGC (2009)	17,424	2,271	13.0
GDPC (2009)		2,790	16.0
Turkey (2009)		5,061	29.0

Sources: The Draft National Plan of Action to align the Turkish MCS framework with the Acquis of the EU’s Common Fisheries Policy, and related international instruments, prepared under Project Ref. No. EuropeAid/TR0702.02-02/001

In 2010, 72,078 inspections were conducted by MARA and CGC. 156 metric tons of fishery products and 6,116 fishing gears were seized. The total number of infringement, irrespective of type, has been 5,989. Total volume of fines applied as sanctions amounted to €2,954,000.

Figure 1 shows summarized data for the period 2005 to 2010 for sanctions administered by the CGC in the four sea basins that Turkey is bordering. Virtually all sanctions administered by the CGC are for infringements detected at sea.

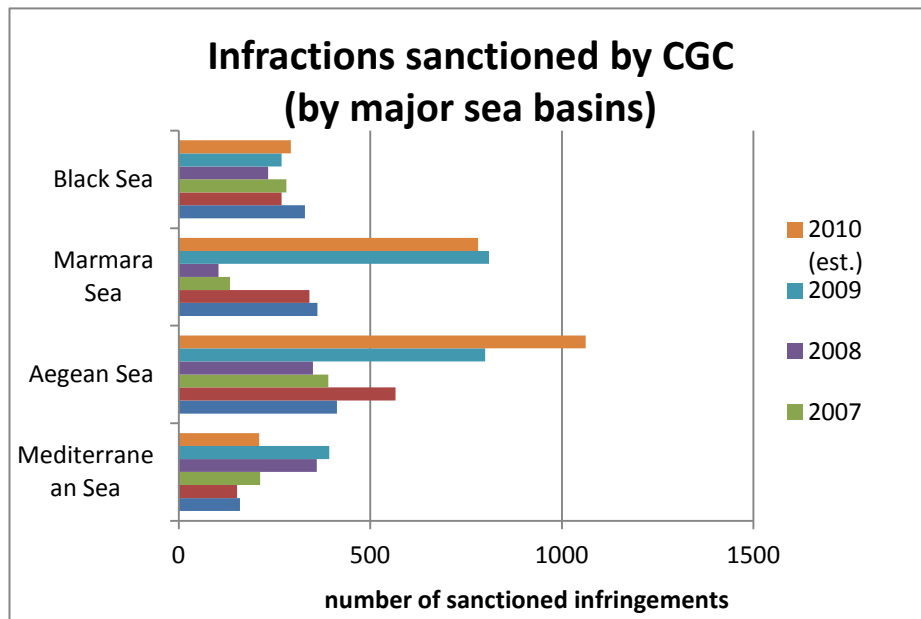


Figure 1. Summary of infractions detected and sanctioned during at-sea operations by CGC between 2005 and 2010 (*Source: Draft National Plan of Action to align the Turkish MCS framework with the *Acquis* of the EU’s Common Fisheries Policy*).

Part II

The planned Inspection Scheme

1. Inspections under ICCAT Joint Scheme of International Inspection

ICCAT inspections in 2009

In 2009, twelve (12) Turkish flagged bluefin tuna fishing vessels were inspected by EC’s inspection boats from CFCA, and several findings of infringements were reported to MARA and ICCAT. To this end, MARA conducted a comprehensive investigation and responded officially to ICCAT and EU Authorities about the results of investigation.

ICCAT inspections in 2010

In 2010, Turkish CGC did participate to the ICCAT Joint Scheme of International Inspection with 44 vessels and 138 inspector staff and carried out more than 30 inspections and sightings over the Turkish fleet in the Eastern Mediterranean basin. EU’s inspection boats from CFCA did also conduct a number of inspections over Turkish flagged BFT catching vessels and reported five (5) infringements that were submitted to MARA and ICCAT. Accordingly, MARA conducted a comprehensive investigation and responded officially to ICCAT and EU Authorities about the results of investigation. When compared to results of the previous year, number of reported infringements has significantly decreased due to strengthened MCS measures through active participation of CGC boats to the scheme.

ICCAT inspections in 2011

Turkish CGC plans to contribute to the ICCAT Joint Scheme of International Inspection of 2011 with 45 Coast Guard Boats and 141 inspector staff. Details of the at-sea inspection plan are given in the following sections. Since the potential patrolling coverage of the CGC inspection boats is relatively limited, participation of high seas inspection vessels from Turkish Naval Forces Command (NFC) to the inspection scheme is deemed necessary in order to reach the possibility of conducting high-sea inspections at all regions of the Mediterranean. To this end, Naval Forces Command has assigned a total of 97 inspector staff and 23 vessels to the ICCAT Joint Scheme of International Inspection.

2. At-sea Inspection Plan for 2011

Planning of inspection activities

Turkish Coast Guard Command has conducted a risk analysis study on the basis of the locations where the fishing vessels have been detected during the inspection and controls which had been performed in 2010 within the scope of ICCAT Joint Scheme of International Inspection

Within the context of the aforementioned risk analysis; it is planned to carry out inspections in year 2011 within the locations where fishing and towing vessels had been detected by the Turkish Coast Guard Command in year 2010 and still has a potential of BFT fishing and transportation activity.

For the first time in the year 2011, the inspections shall be carried out by NFC in cooperation with CGC as well. A risk analysis shall be conducted by NFC for the subsequent years in accordance with the experiments of 2011 inspections.

The records of the VMS are regularly monitored at the Coast Guard Main Operation Center in Ankara Headquarters and at regional operation centers. CGC takes into account the probable position data of the fishing vessels which is obtained from the VMS during the ICCAT inspections. The monitoring systems of Under-Secretariat of Maritime Affairs, NFC, CGC as well as the MARA shall be utilized.

Inspection time and area by regions

The inspections shall be conducted in territorial waters of Turkey and high seas of Mediterranean and high seas of Aegean Sea.

The ICCAT Flagged Turkish Coast Guard Assets are also performing coast guard duties including fishery control, search and rescue, patrolling etc. on 24 hour basis. For this reason, the ICCAT inspections shall be carried out during the whole period of Bluefin Tuna Fishing Season between the dates May 16th and June 14th 2011 (30 days) by CGC assets while performing coast guard missions. The means of inspection shall be deployed mainly in the BFT fishing grounds which are determined according to 2010 risk assessment data.

As for NFC, the inspections is being planned to be conducted during the whole period of fishing season (May 16th and June 14th 2011) with the NFC Flagged Frigates and Corvettes. However, in accordance with the planned missions, the inspections may be conducted in the other areas within the international waters by NFC, as far as possible.

Furthermore; the aerial inspections within the area are being planned to be performed by Maritime Patrol aircraft by NFC on 12 hours basis during the whole bluefin tuna fishing period.

Human resources

It is being planned to perform inspections with 141 personnel in 45 Coast Guard Boats within the year 2011 by Coast Guard. By NFC, it has been planned to perform inspections with currently 67 personnel authorized by ICCAT and 30 additional personnel required to be authorized. In this respect the inspections shall be conducted by NFC with totally 97 personnel and 23 vessels. Where needed or required, additional vessels and/or inspector staff shall be authorized.

Five staff work permanently in shifts on 24 hour basis at Coast Guard Main Operational Center in Ankara.

In addition to Main Operation Center in Ankara Headquarters, 3-4 personnel will be working in shifts at each operation centers of Turkish Coast Guard Regional Commands which are located in İzmir and Mersin and operation centers of Turkish Coast Guard Group Commands which are located in İskenderun, Antalya, Marmaris and Çanakkale.

NFC Operations Center shall maintain its communication with the inspector vessels during 24 hours. With a view of activities' coordination in Operations Center, 3 officers and 4 Petty Officers are employed for the fulltime.

The coordination of inspections for the fulltime shall be carried out by the different Operation Centers located in different regions, i.e. with 1 officer and 3 Petty Officers at Gölcük Naval Base, 1 officer and 2 Petty Officers at Foça Naval Base and 1 officer and 2 Petty Officers at Aksaz Naval Base.

Means of inspection

<i>Means to be deployed</i>	<i>No.</i>
Coastal Patrol Vessels	45
High Seas Patrol Vessels/Inspection Vessels	23*

* Inspection vessels shall include 17 frigates and 6 corvettes.

The real-time VMS on ICCAT registered vessel positions shall be used when it is fully operated by MARA. In addition to VMS, the AIS data can be monitored at the operational centers of CGC.

As for NFC; the monitoring of the vessels on the real-time shall be conducted by using;

- National Monitoring Systems including Radars and AIS systems,
- MARA's VMS Systems,
- Internet base systems such as AIS-Live, Equasis, Marine Traffic,
- Virtual Regional Maritime Traffic Center (V-RMTC),
- Marine Command and Control Information System (MCCIS) and Marine Safety and Security Information System (MSSIS) (operated by North Atlantic Treaty Organization -NATO),
- HORIZON (OTS) System of Undersecretary of Maritime Affairs,
- Long Range Identification and Tracking (LRIT) System

All activities mentioned above shall be coordinated by the ships at sea to proceed with establishment and maintenance of real-time images.

Operation and Data Monitoring Centre

All data related with inspections are collected at CGC and NFC Headquarters and sent to MARA to be forwarded to the ICCAT Secretariat.

Operational coordination

During inspections, flow of information shall be provided by radio and phone systems. The official reports shall be sent via fax, e-mail or mail after the inspection missions.

The records of VMS are regularly monitored at the Coast Guard Main Operation Center in Ankara Headquarters and at 6 operation centers which are located in Coast Guard Regional Commands and Coast Guard Group Commands. In this regard the required information is given to the coast guard boat which is going to inspection mission by the Regional or Group Commands and inspection plans are made.

As for coordination with MARA, Turkish Coast Guard Command shall obtain the following certificates and information from MARA;

- The inspection id-card and flags before the inspection session,
- The up-to-date ICAAT Regulations in order to perform inspections,
- The theoretical training support for the education of the inspector staff that shall have ICCAT inspector ID-card.

Turkish Coast Guard Command and NFC shall be responsible from sending the inspection reports after the inspections carried out at the bluefin tuna catching and towing vessels. FMC of MARA shall be communicated through electronic means or special phones.

NFC shall transmit the information via military and civil communication systems. Furthermore, inspection units shall also transmit data to Mediterranean Surveillance Coordination Center in order to ensure real-time real time tracking of fishing vessels. Furthermore; by NFC the monitoring of merely bluefin tuna fishing vessels can be conducted via VMS system coordinated by the MARA.

Monitoring and control of foreign flagged vessels

Foreign fishing vessels accessing Turkish waters to engage fishing activity without any authorization/special permit shall be seized by Turkish MCS authorities. There have been some cases of confiscated fishing vessels pertaining to neighbouring countries in the past. Monitoring and control of such vessels shall be ensured through

patrolling of the inspection means of CGC and NFC, both of which are already authorized within the framework of ICCAT Joint Scheme of International Inspection.

When the required protocol for the transmission of position reports and VMS data in NAF format is established with the ICCAT Secretariat (in accordance with point 87 of ICCAT Recommendation 08-05), monitoring of activities and position data of other flagged fishing vessels shall be monitored through available VMS of MARA as well as through monitoring, command and control systems operated by NFC, and inspection the means shall be coordinated accordingly.

Reporting

The following reports shall be issued/ reported to NFC Operation Centre;

- Progress reports shall be issued and reported in due course of inspections,
- Weekly evaluation reports shall be submitted for recording of statistical MCS data

Training of Inspectors

In 2010 the education plan has been made for inspection personnel at six different centers (located in Antalya, Mersin, İskenderun, Marmaris, Bodrum, İzmir). Some of previously educated personnel have been assigned to different places. Thus, it is planned to train the newly assigned 42 personnel by the qualified personnel from MARA and CGC before the legal commencement of 2011 fishing season.

By NFC, the training of 30 additional personnel required to be authorized is being planned to be accomplished by two trainings performed by NFC personnel on 21 March 2011 in Gölcük Navy Base and on 22 March 2011 in Aksaz Navy Base.

Mutuali

Since sufficient number of inspector staff and inspection vessels has been assigned, no mutual inspections are needed and planned with other CPC's inspection means for the 2011 fishing season.

3. CCP based inspections

Measures to verify estimated bluefin tuna amount based on Critical Control Points (CCP) Approach

The following CCPs shall be applied, as a minimum requirement, for the 2011 BFT catch, transfer, caging and harvest operations;

Catch

Accurate quantity and number of bluefin tuna

- Video footage shall be mandatory for each transfer from bluefin tuna catching vessel to the towing/transport cages,
- Fishermen, buyer and ICCAT Observer namely three different parties shall count the BFT transferred independently, if there is more than 10% difference between fisherman's/buyer's and observer's estimates, MARA shall initiate an investigation.
- After checking/ensuring compliance to all required ICCAT rules, MARA shall/shan't verify the catch amount.

The quantity should be within the quota

- Individual quotas shall be recorded and followed on a daily basis through the IT system of MARA (FIS), any fishing vessel exhausted her assigned individual quota shall be called back to the port.
- In the case of exceed of IQ (over quota catch), it is mandatory to release the excessive fish immediately,
- 10-30 kg size limit with 5% tolerance shall be applied in terms of # of fish.
- In any catch, should there be some undersized fish (below legal size) exceeding 5% of the total catch, such small individuals shall be released to the wild. If such release is not possible, all of the catch shall be released.
- Check and verification by MARA (or by Flag CPC) shall be sought.

Transfer

Prior authorizations for transfers into towing cage and farming cage

- Prior Transfer Authorization by MARA is mandatory for live bluefin tuna transfers from catching vessel to towing vessels and from towing vessels to farm cages.
- ICCAT Regional Observers shall observe and verify all live bluefin tuna transfer operations and shall countersign the ICCAT Transfer Declaration (ITD).

Accurate quantity and number of fish transferred into towing cage

- Video footage is mandatory for each transfer from the catching vessel to the towing vessel's cages,
- Fishermen, buyer and ICCAT Observer namely three different parties shall count the bluefin tuna transferred independently, if there is more than 10% difference between fisherman's/buyer's and observer's estimates, MARA shall initiate an investigation.
- After checking/ensuring compliance to all required ICCAT rules, MARA shall/shan't verify the transferred/caught amount.

Mortality during towing operation

- For 2011 season, all tug and towing vessels shall be covered by National Bluefin Tuna Observers, who shall be responsible from checking, recording and reporting the dead fish, if any.
- Total amount of the dead fish shall be deducted from the respective quota allocated to Turkey.
- Check and verification by MARA (or by Flag CPC) shall be sought.

Farm

Confirmation of legitimacy of catch as well as pre-authorization by flag CPC

- Operational farms to be re-listed shall be determined and notified to the ICCAT Secretariat well before the season starts, as well as the lists of authorized catching vessels, towing vessels, and farming vessels.
- All bluefin tuna related facilities and vessels shall duly be notified to ICCAT to be recorded on ICCAT's relevant lists of authorized FFBS and vessels in a timely manner.

Accurate quantity and number of fish transferred into farming caging

- Video footage is mandatory for each transfer from the towing vessel to the farm cages,
- Fishermen, farm manager/operator, official representative of MARA and ICCAT Regional Observer namely four different parties shall count the bluefin tuna transferred independently, if there is more than 10% difference between the farmer's and observer's estimates, MARA shall initiate an investigation.
- If there is more than 10% difference between the caught and caged amounts, MARA shall also initiate an investigation, and correct the amounts if necessary.
- After checking/ensuring compliance to all required ICCAT rules, MARA shall/shan't verify the caged amount.

Sampling/tagging program to estimate weight gain

- There has been no proper procedure to achieve this requirement. Companies shall be urged/supported to investigate deployment of such systems which may be able to estimate the gained weight properly.
- The relevant recommendation by SCRS shall be followed to calculate the weight gain.
- Check and verification by MARA (or by Farming CPC) shall be sought.

Harvest and export

Accurate quantity and number of fish harvested

- Farming representative, buyer's representative, MARA's representative, Custom's Officials and ICCAT Regional Observer shall be present during the process. The most accurate estimation/calculation towards quantity of fish could be recorded at this stage.
- Coverage by ICCAT Regional Observer is mandatory.
- No harvest operation shall be allowed without presence of ICCAT Regional Observer.

Accurate quantity by product type

- At this step MARA representative / inspectors shall strictly control all kind of product weights, amounts, conversions, where required etc.
- All of the steps between harvest and export shall closely be checked and verified by the MARA.
- FIS data base records shall be appealed for cross-checks and verification of certificates. All records shall be documented and verified properly.
- Check and verification by MARA (or by Farming CPC) shall be sought.

Import

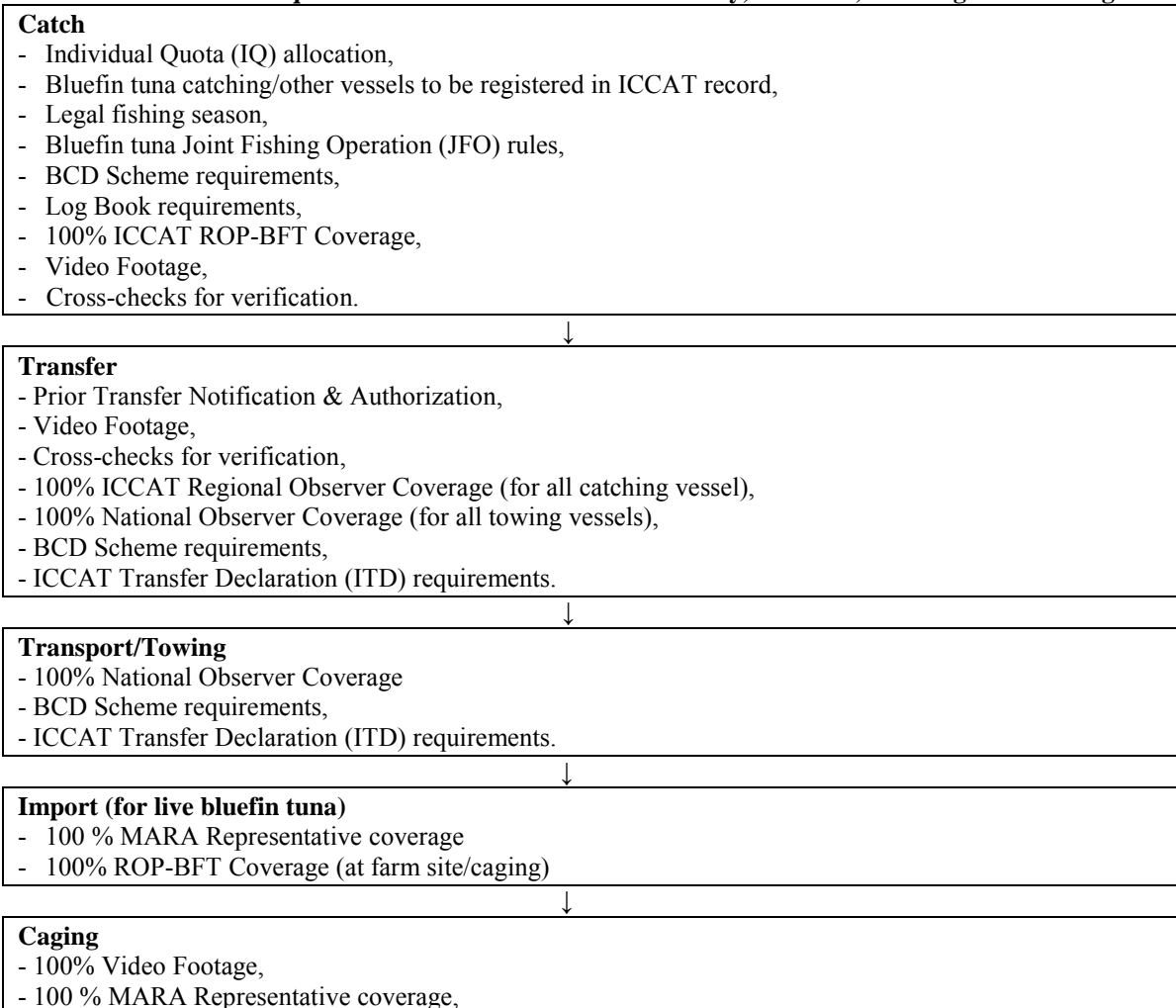
Examine the consignment

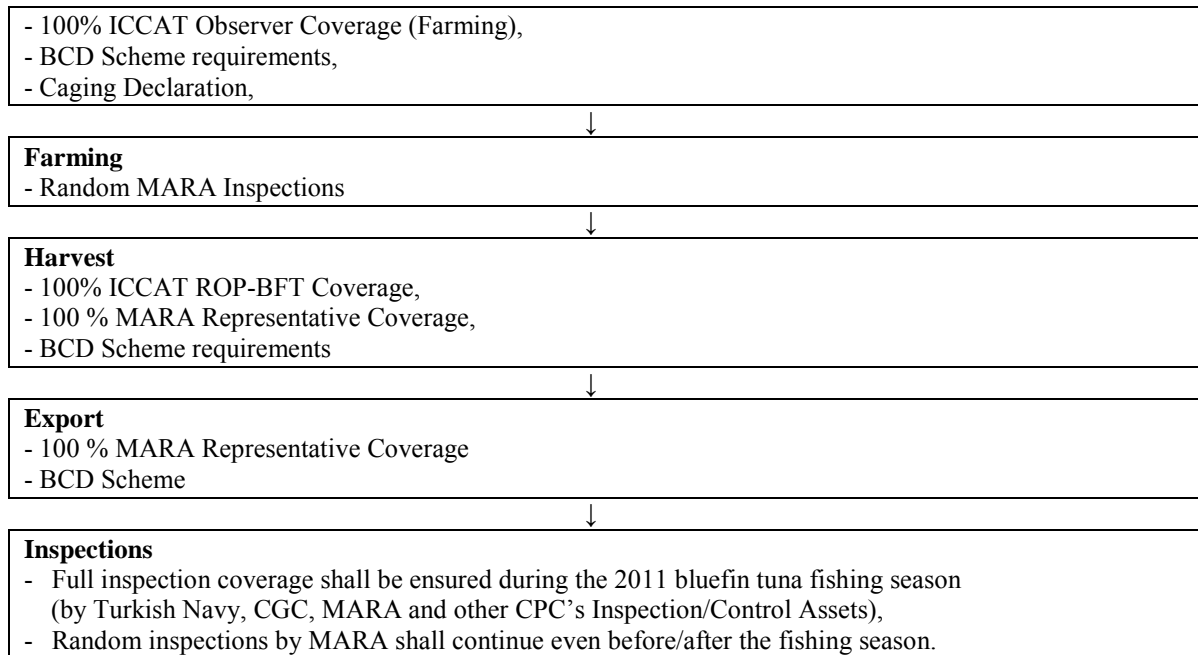
- In case of live BFT importation, farming/buyer’s representative, MARA’s representative/inspector, Custom’s official/inspector and ICCAT Regional Observer shall be present during the process.
- All relevant transfer/caging requirements imposed by ICCAT shall be met.

Verify the information contained in the BCDs

- Flag CPC and the re-exporting CPC shall be contacted to verify the information contained in the Bluefin tuna catch documents (BCDs).
- If the information is not verified by the flag/exporting CPC, the relevant market measures imposed by ICCAT shall be applied.
- Check and verification by MARA (or by Importing CPC) shall be sought.

Framework of MCS Requirements for the Bluefin Tuna Fishery, Transfer, Farming and Trading





Eastern Bluefin Tuna Fishing Capacity Management Plan

Adjustment of fishing capacity

The following measures have been adopted in order to commensurate Turkey's bluefin tuna fishing capacity with its allocated quota;

- Total number of Bluefin Tuna Fishing Permits to be issued and thus the total number of bluefin tuna fishing vessels will be adjusted to a level which is below 2008 and/or earlier.
- No new Bluefin Tuna Fishing Permit shall be issued for the vessels not having such permit in the past (new entrance to the fleet shall not be allowed).
- 535,120 metric tons of catch quotas shall be allocated to 17 fishing vessels individually for the 2011 bluefin tuna fishing season.

Freezing of fishing capacity

In accordance with paragraph 42 of the "Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Multiannual Recovery Plan for Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean" [Rec. 08-05], Turkey has limited the number and corresponding gross registered tonnage of its fishing vessels to the number and tonnage of its vessels that fished for bluefin tuna during the period 1 January 2007 to 1 July 2008.

Reduction of fishing capacity

Background information

- During the inter-sessional meeting of ICCAT's Compliance Committee which was held on 24-27 March 2009 in Barcelona; Turkey committed to freeze its current bluefin tuna fishing capacity in 2009 and to continue with reductions to 50% of current levels in 2010 and to 30% of current levels in 2011.
- Turkey also declared with its letter dated 04.05.2009 that the bluefin tuna fishing capacity reduction would be applied as from the 2009 fishing season with a 36% reduction from the 2008 fleet.
- During the ICCAT Regular Meeting held in Recife/Brazil, October 6-15, 2009. Turkey, making sacrifice, reduced its fishing capacity more than 200% compared to the previous year.
- During the inter-sessional meeting of ICCAT's Compliance Committee which was held February 24-26 2010 in Madrid; Turkey's fishing capacity plan in accordance with the methodology approved at the 2009 annual meeting has been adopted as well.

- During ICCAT 17th Special Meeting of ICCAT held in Paris, Turkey presented her Capacity Management Plan to the Panel 2 of ICCAT, which was adopted without any objection.

Within the above-mentioned plan;

- A total of 21 bluefin tuna catching vessels have been planned to be authorized for the 2011 bluefin tuna fishing season.
- However, an over capacity of 104.2% still remained with the application of the above-mentioned reduction scheme, as to the current SCRS criteria.

Planned capacity scheme for 2011

To this end, in accordance with the recent capacity management measures and quota allocation tables adopted during the 17th Special Meeting of ICCAT, Turkey has re-arranged its Fishing Capacity Management plan as follows;

- Total number of the bluefin tuna catching vessels (purse seine vessels) to be authorized to fish bluefin tuna has been reduced from 21 to 17 the fishing year 2011.
- Based on new quota allocation and reduced number of fishing vessels; Over Capacity has been dropped to 8.6%, which is far more than the requirement imposed by ICCAT Recommendation 10-04, Paragraph 47, stipulating a 75% overcapacity decrease for the year 2011.

In conclusion, Turkey's total capacity reduction has corresponded to 547% in total, from the beginning of the capacity reduction measures set by ICCAT since 2009. Turkey shall continue to apply the adopted capacity reduction plan to achieve a "0%" overcapacity for the year 2012.

Turkey's eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna fishing capacity management plan for the year 2011 is given in the Table given below.

Capacity Reduction Scheme For 2011

Category	Catch Rate	Number of vessels			Capacity			
		2009	2010	2011	2008 (*)	2009	2010	2011
PS 40	70,66	32	12	13		2261,12	847,92	918,58
PS 24-40	49,78	24	11	4		1194,72	547,58	199,12
PS 24	33,68	0	0	0		0	0	0
Total		56	23	17	5697,32	3455,84	1395,5	1117,7
	Quota	2009	2010	2011				
		683	419,183	535,89				

(*) Adopted base line figure

Year	Target Reduction %	No. of Vessels	Achieved Reduction %
2009	NA	56	44,70%
2010	25%	23	81,50%
2011	75%	17	88,73%

CHINESE TAIPEI

Regulation prohibiting fisheries of Atlantic bluefin tuna in 2011

In accordance with the ICCAT Rec. 10-04, I have the honour to inform you that a regulation has been established domestically to prohibit our fishing vessels from fishing bluefin tuna in the Atlantic Ocean in 2011. Besides, in accordance with the pertinent provisions of our domestic regulations, by-catch of bluefin tuna shall be released into the sea immediately and the relevant information of releases shall be recorded and reported to this Agency.

Furthermore, in accordance with the paragraph 60 of ICCAT Rec. 10-04, I hereby inform you that Chinese Taipei also prohibited our fishing vessels from fishing Atlantic bluefin tuna in 2010, which was notified to you by e-mail on 25 January 2010.

Appendix 5 to ANNEX 4.2

**Compliance Committee and ICCAT Chairmen's Letters
Requesting Further Information on Fishing Plans**

Albania

The *Recommendation by ICCAT Amending the Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Multi-annual Recovery Plan for Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean* [Rec. 10-04] required each CPC subject to the Recommendation to submit fishing, inspection and capacity reduction plans to the 2011 inter-sessional meeting of the Compliance Committee, with a view to ensuring compliance with the provisions of that Recommendation. In accordance with Paragraph 9 of the Recommendation, the Compliance Committee was charged with endorsing the plans or referring them to the Commission for a mail vote on suspending that CPC's bluefin tuna fishing for the 2011 fishing season. These plans were required to be submitted in advance of the -m you that, at its inter-sessional meeting held in Barcelona, Spain, 21-25 February 2011, the Compliance Committee determined that it could not endorse the fishing, inspection and capacity reduction plans of Albania because no information was received.

The Compliance Committee determined that it will endorse Albania's bluefin tuna fishing, inspection and capacity management plans if complete and sufficient information as required by Rec. 10-04 is submitted. Upon confirmation by the Compliance Committee that the information has been provided and meets all requirements, the endorsement will take effect. If the required information is not provided the non-endorsement of Albania's plan will be referred to the Commission for a mail vote on the suspension of bluefin tuna fishing for 2011 as required under Paragraph 9 of Rec. 10-04.

In order for the Compliance Committee to review this information it must be received by 11 March 2011. Please refer to the attached guidance document which was developed during the inter-sessional meeting when formulating your response to this request, as well as to the endorsed plans of other Contracting Parties available on the ICCAT web site. In the event that you need any further clarification on the information required, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat (info@iccat.int).

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please accept assurances of our highest consideration.

China

The *Recommendation by ICCAT Amending the Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Multi-annual Recovery Plan for Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean* [Rec. 10-04] required each CPC subject to the Recommendation to submit fishing, inspection and capacity reduction plans to the 2011 inter-sessional meeting of the Compliance Committee, with a view to ensuring compliance with the provisions of that Recommendation. In accordance with Paragraph 9 of the recommendation, the Compliance Committee was charged with endorsing the plans or referring them to the Commission for a mail vote on suspending that CPC's bluefin tuna fishing for the 2011 fishing season.

On behalf of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), we are writing to inform you that, at its inter-sessional meeting held in Barcelona, Spain, 21-25 February 2011, the Compliance Committee determined that it could endorse the fishing and inspection plans of the People's Republic of China only if certain deficiencies in the content of the plans are rectified.

In particular, the Committee determined that the fishing plan did not contain sufficient detail to address the requirement of Paragraph 11 of Recommendation [Rec. 10-04]. While the vessels were identified, the individual quotas and the method used to allocate the quota were not specified. COC noted the approach taken by China to allocate quota to its two vessels but this was not consistent with the requirements of Rec. 10-04.

The Compliance Committee determined that it will endorse China's bluefin tuna fishing, inspection and capacity management plans if complete and sufficient information as required by Rec. 10-04 is submitted. Upon confirmation by the Compliance Committee that the information has been provided and meets all requirements, the endorsement will take effect. If the required information is not provided the non-endorsement of China's plan will be referred to the Commission for a mail vote on the suspension of bluefin tuna fishing for 2011 as required under Paragraph 9 of Rec. 10-04.

In order for the Compliance Committee to review this information it must be received by 11 March 2011. Please refer to the endorsed plans of other Contracting Parties available on the ICCAT web site. In the event that you need any further clarification on the information required, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat (info@iccat.int).

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please accept assurances of our highest consideration.

Egypt

The *Recommendation by ICCAT Amending the Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Multi-annual Recovery Plan for Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean* [Rec. 10-04] required each CPC subject to the Recommendation to submit fishing, inspection and capacity reduction plans to the 2011 inter-sessional meeting of the Compliance Committee, with a view to ensuring compliance with the provisions of that Recommendation. In accordance with Paragraph 9 of the Recommendation, the Compliance Committee was charged with endorsing the plans or referring them to the Commission for a mail vote on suspending that CPC's bluefin tuna fishing for the 2011 fishing season.

On behalf of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), we are writing to inform you that, at its inter-sessional meeting held in Barcelona, Spain, 21-25 February 2011, the Compliance Committee determined that it could endorse the fishing and inspection plans of Egypt only if certain deficiencies in the content of the plans are rectified.

In particular, the Committee determined that the fishing and inspection plans did not contain sufficient detail to address the requirements of Recommendation 10-04:

- Paragraph 22 to establish a purse seine season from May 16 to June 14, 2011;
- Paragraph 62 to prohibit transshipment at sea;
- Paragraph 89 to implement a vessel monitoring system and communicate VMS messages to the Secretariat;
- Paragraph 87 to initiate pilot studies, possibly including stereoscopic camera, and a sampling programme and/or an alternative programme.

If all fish caught by the Egyptian purse seine vessel will be landed directly for processing in the designated ports of Alexandria and El MeAdia, the provisions of paragraph 87 would not apply.

The Compliance Committee determined that it will endorse Egypt's bluefin tuna fishing and inspection plans if complete and sufficient information as required by Rec. 10-04 is submitted. Upon confirmation by the Compliance Committee that the information has been provided and meets all the requirements, the endorsement will take effect. If the required information is not provided, the non-endorsement of Egypt's plan will be referred to the Commission for a mail vote on the suspension of bluefin tuna fishing for 2011 as required under Paragraph 9 of Rec. 10-04.

In order for the Compliance Committee to review this information it must be received by 11 March 2011. Please refer to the attached guidance document which was developed during the inter-sessional meeting when formulating your response to this request, as well as the endorsed plans of other Contracting Parties available on the ICCAT web site. In the event that you need any further clarification on the information required, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat (info@iccat.int).

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please accept assurances of our highest consideration.

Iceland

The *Recommendation by ICCAT Amending the Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Multi-annual Recovery Plan for Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean* [Rec. 10-04] required each CPC subject to the Recommendation to submit fishing, inspection and capacity reduction plans to the 2011 inter-sessional meeting of the Compliance Committee, with a view to ensuring compliance with the provisions of that Recommendation. In accordance with Paragraph 9 of the Recommendation, the Compliance Committee was charged with endorsing the plans or referring them to the Commission for a mail vote on suspending that CPC's bluefin tuna fishing for the 2011 fishing season.

On behalf of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), we are writing to inform you that, at its inter-sessional meeting held in Barcelona, Spain, 21-25 February 2011, the Compliance Committee determined that it could endorse the fishing and inspection plans of Iceland only if certain deficiencies in the content of the plans are rectified.

In particular, the Committee determined that the fishing and inspection plans did not contain sufficient detail to address the requirements of Recommendation 10-04:

- Paragraph 62 to prohibit transshipment at sea;
- Paragraphs 63 and 67 to designate the transshipment and landing ports; and
- Paragraph 89 to implement a vessel monitoring system and communicate VMS messages to the Secretariat.

The Compliance Committee determined that it will endorse Iceland's bluefin tuna fishing, inspection and capacity management plans if complete and sufficient information as required by Rec. 10-04 is submitted. Upon confirmation by the Compliance Committee that the information has been provided and meets all requirements, the endorsement will take effect. If the required information is not provided the non-endorsement of Iceland's plan will be referred to the Commission for a mail vote on the suspension of bluefin tuna fishing for 2011 as required under Paragraph 9 of Rec. 10-04.

In order for the Compliance Committee to review this information it must be received by 11 March 2011. Please refer to the endorsed plans of other Contracting Parties available on the ICCAT web site. In the event that you need any further clarification on the information required, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat (info@iccat.int).

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please accept assurances of our highest consideration.

Libya

The *Recommendation by ICCAT Amending the Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Multi-annual Recovery Plan for Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean* [Rec. 10-04] required each CPC subject to the Recommendation to submit fishing, inspection and capacity reduction plans to the 2011 inter-sessional meeting of the Compliance Committee, with a view to ensuring compliance with the provisions of that Recommendation. In accordance with Paragraph 9 of the Recommendation, the Compliance Committee was charged with endorsing the plans or referring them to the Commission for a mail vote on suspending that CPC's bluefin tuna fishing for the 2011 fishing season.

On behalf of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), we are writing to inform you that, at its inter-sessional meeting held in Barcelona, Spain, 21-25 February 2011, the Compliance Committee determined that it could endorse the fishing and inspection plans of Libya only if certain deficiencies in the content of the plans are rectified.

In particular, the Committee determined that the fishing and the inspection plans did not contain sufficient detail to address the requirements of Recommendation 10-04:

- Paragraph 11 of Recommendation 10-04 to identify the catching vessels over 24 meters and the individual quota allocated to each, the method used to allocate the quota and the measures in place to ensure the respect of the individual quota.
- Paragraphs 50-54 regarding adjustments to farming capacity and management of farms.

- Paragraph 87 to initiate pilot studies, possibly including stereoscopic camera, and a sampling programme and/or an alternative programme.
- Paragraph 91 ensuring observer coverage of 100% of purse seine vessels over 24 meters through the ICCAT Regional Observer Program.

The Compliance Committee determined that it will endorse Libya's bluefin tuna fishing, inspection and capacity management plans if complete and sufficient information as required by Rec. 10-04 is submitted. Upon confirmation by the Compliance Committee that the information has been provided and meets all requirements, the endorsement will take effect. If the required information is not provided the non-endorsement of Libya's plan will be referred to the Commission for a mail vote on the suspension of bluefin tuna fishing for 2011 as required under Paragraph 9 of Rec. 10-04.

In order for the Compliance Committee to review this information it must be received by 11 March 2011. Please refer to the attached guidance document which was developed during the inter-sessional meeting when formulating your response to this request, as well as to the endorsed plans of other Contracting Parties available on the ICCAT web site. In the event that you need any further clarification on the information required, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat (info@iccat.int).

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please accept assurances of our highest consideration.

Syria

The *Recommendation by ICCAT Amending the Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Multi-annual Recovery Plan for Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean* [Rec. 10-04] required each CPC subject to the Recommendation to submit fishing, inspection and capacity reduction plans to the 2011 inter-sessional meeting of the Compliance Committee, with a view to ensuring compliance with the provisions of that Recommendation. In accordance with Paragraph 9 of the Recommendation, the Compliance Committee was charged with endorsing the plans or referring them to the Commission for a mail vote on suspending that CPC's bluefin tuna fishing for the 2011 fishing season.

On behalf of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), we are writing to inform you that, at its inter-sessional meeting held in Barcelona, Spain, 21-25 February 2011, the Compliance Committee determined that it could endorse the fishing and inspection plans of Syria only if certain deficiencies in the content of the plans are rectified.

In particular, the Committee determined that the fishing and inspection plans did not contain sufficient detail to address the requirements of Recommendation 10-04:

- Paragraph 62 to prohibit transshipment at sea;
- Paragraph 87 to initiate pilot studies, possibly including stereoscopic camera, and a sampling programme and/or an alternative programme.

If all fish caught by the Syrian purse seine vessel will be landed directly for processing in the Syrian designated port of Lattakia, the provisions of paragraph 87 would not apply.

The Compliance Committee determined that it will endorse Syria's bluefin tuna fishing, inspection and capacity management plans if complete and sufficient information as required by Rec. 10-04 is submitted. Upon confirmation by the Compliance Committee that the information has been provided and meets all requirements, the endorsement will take effect. If the required information is not provided the non-endorsement of Syria's plan will be referred to the Commission for a mail vote on the suspension of bluefin tuna fishing for 2011 as required under Paragraph 9 of Rec. 10-04.

In order for the Compliance Committee to review this information it must be received by 11 March 2011. Please refer to the attached guidance document which was developed during the inter-sessional meeting when formulating your response to this request, as well as to the endorsed plans of other Contracting Parties available on the ICCAT web site. In the event that you need any further clarification on the information required, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat (info@iccat.int).

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please accept assurances of our highest consideration.

Guidance for Evaluating Plans Submitted Under Recommendation 10-04

(Compliance Committee Chairman's Text)

Recommendation 10-04, adopted by ICCAT in 2010, requires CPCs fishing for Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna to submit fishing, inspection, and capacity reduction plans to the Compliance Committee. If the Committee determines that there is a "serious fault" in a CPC plan and cannot endorse the plan, the Commission shall decide by mail vote on a suspension of bluefin tuna fishing by that CPC in 2011.

The following are major elements of Recommendation 10-04 which, if absent from a plan or inadequate in detail, may constitute a "serious fault" that could lead the Compliance Committee to determine that it cannot endorse a CPC's fishing, inspection and/or capacity reduction plans:

Preliminary Issue: Did the CPC submit fishing, inspection, and capacity plans to the COC for review at the inter-sessional meeting? (Para. 9).*

FISHING PLANS

TAC and quotas

- Manage fishery within allocated quotas, with appropriate payback and prohibition on carry forward. Paragraphs 8, 10, 15 and 16)
- Identify: catching vessels over 24 meters, individual quotas per vessels (Para. 10), method for quota calculation, and measures for quota compliance. (Para. 11)
- Prohibit unauthorized private trade and/or quota transfer between CPCs. (Para. 18)
- Prohibit JFOs between CPCs with 5 or more authorized purse seiners. (Para. 20)
- Require vessels to return to port when quota exhausted (Para. 15).
- Allocate a specific quota for recreational and sport fisheries. Provide for adequate monitoring and reporting measures for recreational and sport fishing, including enforcement of measures. (Paragraphs 12, 33, 35, 36, 37 and 38)

Seasons. Implement closed fishing seasons per vessel type (Paragraphs 21-25)

Aircraft. Prohibit use of airplanes/helicopters for locating bluefin tuna (Para. 27)

Transshipment. Prohibit at-sea transshipment of eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna and implementing in port transshipment requirements (Paragraphs 62, 63, 64)

Minimum size. Establish and enforce minimum size requirements (Paragraphs 28, 29, Annex 1)

Incidental catch/by-catch. Adhere to incidental catch and by-catch limits (Para. 30) and requirements (Paragraphs 62, 63, 64, 65, 67, 68 and 69 and properly account for by-catch and incidental catch relative to quota (Para. 31)

Prohibit chartering operations. (Para. 19)

CAPACITY REDUCTION PLANS

Fishing and Farming Capacity

- Limit fishing vessels and traps by number and tonnage per reference dates (Paragraphs 43, 44, 45 and Annex 1, Paragraphs 1 and 2).
- Reduce overcapacity discrepancy in accordance with agreed methodology by at least 75% in 2011 (Paragraphs 43, 44, 45, 47, 48 and 49).
- Limit farming capacity and inputs to farms (Paragraphs 51 and 52)

* All paragraph citations are to Rec. 10-04 unless otherwise specifically indicated.

INSPECTION PLANS

Notification. Authorize fishing only by vessels on the ICCAT vessel list and tuna traps entered into ICCAT record. (Paragraphs 55 and 58).

Recordkeeping and Communication. Ensure appropriate recording and transmittal of required information by recommended date, including port vessel inspection, catch reports, declarations, logbooks, transfer and transshipment documents, notifications, declarations, logbooks for catching vessels, and inspections of vessels at port. (Paragraphs 65, 70, Annex 5, Paragraphs 71, 74, 82 and 88)

Transfer operations. Ensure transfer activities are monitored by video camera. (Para. 79)

Caging operations. Ensure caging and appropriate releases meet all requirements. Prohibit placing in cages bluefin tuna that are not accompanied by accurate, complete and validated documentation required by ICCAT. (Paragraphs 83, 84, 85, and 76)

Estimation of Catches. Estimate number and weight of bluefin tuna at the point of capture and caging and sample fish to estimate conversion/growth factors of fish from caging to harvest. (Paragraphs 86, 87 and 98)

VMS. Implement a vessel monitoring system as required and properly transfer VMS data. (Para. 89).

National Observer Program. Ensure observer coverage on vessels active in the bluefin tuna fishery is consistent with required levels and other requirements by fleets. Ensure collection and reporting of observer data. (Para. 90)

Regional Observer Program. Complies with ROP requirements, including transfer from purse seines to towing vessels, from towing vessels to farming cages and harvest. (Paragraphs 91, 92, Annex 7)

Enforcement measures. CPCs shall take enforcement measures when a fishing vessel flying its flag does not comply with closed seasons, minimum size and recording requirements. (Paragraphs 21 to 25, 28 to 30, 65 to 69, 93 and 94).

Joint International Inspection. Vessels are notified to the Secretariat, and inspectors duly authorized and trained in ICCAT requirements. Ensure that, when more than 15 fishing vessels are engaged in BFT fishing activities, CPC has an inspection vessel in the Convention area or cooperates with another CPC to jointly operate an inspection vessel. (Paragraphs 99, 100 and 101).

Summary of Capacity

CPC	No. of catching units 2011		Total catching capacity 2008	Total catching capacity 2011	Adjusted quotas 2011	Reduction over- capacity %
	Total no. of catching vessels	Total no. of traps				
Albania	No info	0	0		32.3	0.00
Algerie*	15	0	353.46	599	228.46	-196.43
China	2	0	100	50	36.77	79.08
<i>Chinese Taipei</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>				106.05	
Croatia	20	0	2908.66	1020.54	376.01	74.55
Egypt	1	0	0	49.78	64.58	No over-capacity
EU	597	13	16427	8104	5756.41	78.00
Iceland	1	0	10	25	78.82	No over-capacity
Japan	22	0	1125	550	1097.3	No over-capacity
Korea	1	0	33.68	70.66	77.53	No over-capacity
Libya	23	0	1806.2	1095.38	902.66	78.67
Maroc	2	11	2660.9	1270	1238.33	97.77
<i>Norway*</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>				29.82	
Syria	1	0	15.68	33.68	82.05	No over-capacity
Tunisie	23	0	1809.26	1080.54	860.18	76.78
Turkey*	17	0	5697.32	1117.7	535.89	88.73

*Lodged an objection to Rec. 10-04.

Methodology approved by the Commission in 2009:

$$\frac{(C_8 - C_{11})}{(C_8 - Q_{11})} \geq 75\%$$

Appendix 8 to ANNEX 4.2

Chair's Reporting Requirements Review

4	List of vessels greater than 20 meters	Rec. 09-08	At time of change	No reporting form but data elements specified in recommendation and electronic submission encouraged (CP01-VessLsts.xls)	ICCAT web site	To ensure only authorized vessels fish in the Atlantic. To support at-sea and port inspection and trade monitoring by verifying vessel's flag state authorization.	Vessels often included after fishing activities have begun. Information often incomplete. Many vessels with expired authorizations on list.	With other vessel lists	Develop protocol that places vessels with expired authorizations on an archive list. Facilitate search of active list and archive by period of validity. Always include notification date. Consider consolidation with other lists	Commission
5	Vessels 20 m internal actions report	Rec. 09-08, para. 6	Annual; not specified	Yes (CP10-IntAc20)	Currently not processed	Ensure that flag states exercise legal control over vessels	Few CPCs submit information.	Overlap with previous years' reports, Annual reports and Rec. 06-14 Reports	Combine Rec. 09-08 and Rec. 06-14 reports with Annual Report, Section 4.	Commission
6	LSTLV Management Standard	Res. 01-20	Annual; not specified	Yes (CP17-LSTLV.doc)	Currently not processed	Ensure that flag states exercise legal control over vessels	Few CPCs submit information, most with no changes from prior year.	With previous years' reports	Include in Annual Report	Commission
7	Vessel Chartering - arrangements and termination	Rec. 02-21	At time of arrangement and termination	No (CP05-ChartrCP.xls / CP06-ChartrFS)	Partially published on ICCAT web site within consolidated vessel list.	To ensure chartered vessels are operated by ICCAT regulations and that the flag state and chartering state agree on catch reporting and accounting for catch limits.	Summary reports rarely sent, so no data base has been developed. Secretariat not always informed of termination.	With other vessel lists	Revise to include complete chartering information on the list maintained under Rec. 09-08, including expiration dates and real time updates. Chartering states should include summaries of effort and catches under charter in the Annual Report.	Commission

ICCAT REPORT 2010-2011 (II)

8	Vessel Chartering - summary report	Rec. 02-21	Annual, by July 31	No (CP036-ChartSum)	Not published	To ensure chartered vessels are operated by ICCAT regulations and that the flag state and chartering state agree on catch reporting and accounting for catch limits.	Summary reports rarely sent, so no data base has been developed. Secretariat not always informed of termination.	With other vessel lists	Revise to include complete chartering information on the list maintained under Rec. 09-08, including expiration dates and real time updates. Chartering states should include summaries of effort and catches under charter in the Annual Report.	Commission
9	Transshipment (Carrier) vessels	Rec. 06-11	At time of change	No reporting form but data elements specified in recommendation and electronic submission encouraged (CP-02-VessCATS)	ICCAT web site	To ensure that at-sea transshipments are made only to authorized vessels.	Unclear whether notice obligation is for flag state of fishing vessels or flag state of carrier vessel, as these are often different states.	Duplicate entries due to current text of Recommendation; Unclear when authorization expires for some vessels.	Revise to indicate both catching and carrier vessel flag state responsibility for notification; Include information on operator and date of expiration; Maintain archive list after expiration.	Commission and appropriate panels
10	Transshipment declarations - various	Rec. 06-11	Various	Yes (CP19-TransDec)	Processed by consortium	To document amounts transhipped; To compare amounts at different points (transfer and landing) and with SDPs	Declarations from receiving carrier vessels due within 24 hours of transshipment and 48 hours before landing	N/A	None	

11	Transshipment reports	Rec. 06-11	At sea: Annual (15 Sept); In Port: Annual (with Annual Report)	No (CP037-TransRep)	Attached to the Secretariat report to the COC	To cross check with transshipment declarations; To list LSTLVs that are transshipping; To review transshipment activity through observer reports	CPCs are responsible for reviewing transshipment declarations from LSTLVs and comparing them with reported catches. Report to Secretariat includes total quantities, vessels involved in transshipment activities and observer reports.	N/A	None	
12	Alternative scientific monitoring approach	Rec. 10-10	Annual; in 2011 due before fishing season; from 2012 on due before SCRS meeting)	No specific format	SCRS report	To ensure adequate monitoring and reporting from fisheries		With annual report requirements	Combine with Annual report	PWG
STATISTICAL DATA										
13	Fleet Characteristics	Art-IX in ICCAT Convention and Rec. 05-09 and Res. 66-01	31-July-2011 except where otherwise specified in the Request for Statistics	ST01-T1FC	SCRS report	Support stock assessment	Basic reporting requirement	N/A	None	N/A
14	Estimation of nominal catch Task I			ST02-T1NC	SCRS report	Support stock assessment	Basic reporting requirement	N/A	None	N/A
15	Catch and Effort (Task II)			ST03-T2CE	SCRS report	Support stock assessment	Basic reporting requirement	N/A	None	N/A
16	Size samples (Task II)			ST04-T2SZ/ST06-T2FM	SCRS report	Support stock assessment	Basic reporting requirement	N/A	None	N/A
17	Catch estimation by size			ST05-CAS	SCRS report	Support stock assessment	Basic reporting requirement	N/A	None	N/A
18	Tagging declaration			TG01-TG03	SCRS report	Support stock assessment	Basic reporting requirement	N/A	None	N/A

AD HOC INFORMATION										
19	Vessels involved in IUU Fishing	Rec. 09-10; paragraph 2	At time of occurrence (at least 120 days before annual meeting)	No (CP11-IUULst)	ICCAT web site	Identify and address IUU activity within the Convention Area	Para 12 of Rec states that Commission shall at its annual meeting in 2011, review and, as appropriate, revise to extend to other IUU activities	Vessel sitings measure (94-09)	Review measure per para 12 of Recommendation; Consider harmonizing with measures from other RMFOs.	PWG
20	Reports on IUU allegations	Rec. 06-14	At time of occurrence	No	Sent to Secretariat and CPCs concerned	To ensure CPCs take appropriate actions against detected violations	Refers to previous IUU vessel list	With vessel sighting sheets	Update reference to IUU vessel Rec (09-10)	PWG
21	Vessel Sightings	Res.94-09	At time of occurrence	Yes (outdated-CP18 VessSight)	Sent to Secretariat and CPCs concerned	Similar to above. Form outdated as only refers to BFT, also covered by Rec. 08-05.		With Rec 09-10 IUU Vessel List	Update and combine with form in Rec. 09-10	PWG
22	Port inspection reports	Rec. 97-10	At time of occurrence	No specific format	Currently not processed	To ensure CPCs take appropriate actions against detected violations	Some elements may be implemented through other measures (Rec.10-04)	With IUU Vessel List Rec (09-10) and 10-04	Consider consolidation of reporting requirements when considering adoption of PSM Rec	PWG
23	Trade Measures Submission of import and landing data	Rec. 06-13	Annual; in a timely manner	CP12-TM0613	Reviewed by Compliance Committee	To provide a basis for identification	Some CPCs have requested clarification on the nature and scope of information that should be reported	Some overlap with basic reporting requirements and reporting under BCD and SDPs??	Clarify nature and scope of information that should be reported	PWG
24	Data on non-Compliance	Rec. 08-09	At least 120 days before annual meeting	No	Reviewed by Compliance Committee	To bring to the attention of the Commission possible non-compliant actions	Recommendation establishes a process for information submitted to be shared and responded to.	With IUU vessel list measure (Rec. 09-10)	None	

24bis	Vessels not reported as active under Rec . 08-05 and presumed to have fished	Rec. 08-05 and Rec. 10-04	Whenever available	No specific format	To date no submissions have been received	To help ensure that there is no illegal E-BFT fishery		Overlap with existing IUU list and non-compliance information	Include in IUU list or other non-compliance reporting requirements and revoke.	Panel 2
SPECIES SPECIFIC										
BCD/SDP (BFT/BET/SWO)										
25	Validation seals and signatures for SDPs	Rec. 01-21 & Rec. 01-22	At time of change	Yes (CP15-SDP_Valid)	ICCAT web site	To allow CPCs to verify authenticity of seals/signatures	Some CPCs & NCPs do not provide timely info on validating authorities and questions have been raised as to implications for importers.	With BCD signatures, but does not currently present difficulty	Clarify issues raised regarding lack of appropriate validating authority info and importation.	PWG
26	Data from ICCAT statistical document programs	Rec. 01-21 & Rec. 01-22	01-Apr-2011 and 01-Oct-2011	Yes (CP16-SDP-REP)	Data base maintained	To assist in the tracking of products and compare with catch data	Conversion factors for some products still unknown. Data often submitted with Ocean or country of origin missing.	Some overlap with trade data submitted under Rec. 06-13	Consider clarifying reporting requirements to provide details on possible IUU activity	PWG
27	Validation seals and signatures for BCDs	Rec. 09-11	At time of change	Yes (CP15-SDP_Valid)	ICCAT web site	To allow CPCs to verify authenticity of seals / signatures		With SDP signatures, but does not currently present difficulty	Consider implementation issues during development of eBCD program.	PWG
28	BCD Contact points	Rec. 09-11	At time of change	No	ICCAT web site	To allow CPCs to maintain bilateral contacts on issues relating to BCDs		N/A	None	
29	BCD legislation	Rec. 09-11	At time of change	No	ICCAT web site	To indicate that the Rec. has been transposed into domestic law.		N/A	None	

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30	BCD tagging summary, sample tag	Rec. 09-11	At time of change	No	ICCAT web site	To allow importers to familiarize themselves with tagging requirements of exporters.	Not all BCDs are sent by the catching state to the Secretariat. As tagged products are exempt, database totals will never match actual catch.	N/A	None	
31	Bluefin catch documents	Rec. 09-11	Within 5 days of issue	Yes (See Annex Rec. 09-11)	ICCAT web site	To track BFT products from catch to the market; to allow importing state to verify that catch was authorized, within catch limit and reported to ICCAT.	Not all BCDs are sent by the catching state to the Secretariat. As tagged products are exempt, database totals will never match actual catch.		Consider implementation issues during development of eBCD program.	PWG
32	BCD Annual Report	Rec. 09-11	Annual, Oct 1	Yes (CP30-BCD_Rep)	ICCAT web site	To allow CPCs to compare and reconcile import and export statistics	It may be difficult to analyze information in the BCD annual reports as currently submitted	N/A	Consider revising the annual report format to facilitate analysis	PWG
SWORDFISH										
33	List of Med-SWO vessels	Rec. 09-04 /09-08	Annual, Aug 31	No reporting form but reference to requirements of Rec. 09-08 (CP01-VessLsts.xls)	ICCAT web site	To ensure that only authorized vessels are fishing for Med-SWO	Text indicates all vessels retaining swordfish are included (directed fishing and bycatch). No limit on vessel size and resubmission by 31 Aug each year are inconsistent with Rec. 09-08.	With other vessel lists	Revise to include Med-SWO authorization in the list maintained under Rec. 09-08, including expiration dates and maintenance of list in real time.	Panel 4

34	List of vessels authorized for large pelagics in Mediterranean in previous year	Rec. 09-04 /09-08	Annual, No later than June 30	Rec. 09-04 lists data elements, refers to ICCAT data submission guidelines and also refers to requirements of Rec. 09-08. (CP35-SWOM_PvYr)	In progress	To evaluate fishing capacity/effort for SWO and other large pelagics in the Mediterranean	Reference to large pelagics could include more vessels than Med-SWO list. Form needs to be revised in line with Rec.	With other vessel lists	Revise to include large pelagics authorization in the list maintained under Rec. 09-08, including expiration dates, maintenance of list in real time, and post reporting of fishing effort.	Panel 4
35	Compliance with seasonal closure/Med-SWO	Rec. 09-04	Annual, Oct 15	No	No	To ensure compliance with closed seasons.	15 October deadline inconsistent with other reports	Prior year reports; annual report.	Include in Annual Report	Panel 4
36	History of SWO fishery and development/management plan	Rec. 10-02	Once; 15 Sept 2011	No	To be determined	To develop a multi-year conservation and management measure for SWO	To be used at 2011 meeting for development of swordfish measure.	N/A	No action.	
ALBACORE										
37	Annual list of Northern Albacore Vessels	Rec. 98-08	Annual; 1 June	No (CP03-VessALBN)	Currently not processed	Originally needed to support effort limitations in Northern Albacore fisheries. Fishery now managed by catch limits.	This list is of no scientific use as currently structured.	With other vessel lists	Consider eliminating requirement	Panel 2
TROPICAL SPECIES										
38	Internal procedures for compliance with closed area/season in the Gulf of Guinea	Rec. 04-01	With annual report.	No	May be included in Annual reports, otherwise not published	To ensure compliance with closed seasons.	Unclear whether this measure is applicable beyond 2005.		Revisit requirement when discussing new management measure for bigeye tuna in 2011.	Panel 1

BLUEFIN TUNA										
39	Bluefin tuna farming facilities	Rec. 06-07	At time of change	No (CP07_FarmLst)	ICCAT web site	To ensure operating farming facilities are authorized by a CPC.		No	None	
40	Bluefin tuna farming reports	Rec. 06-07	Annual, 31 Aug	No	No	To verify with farming reports/BCDs/transfer declarations	No format has yet been adopted. Format first developed by Secretariat is inadequate. Unless all activities are reported, no verification can be carried out.	No	Need to revise form and change deadline to coincide with report of carry over of caged fish. Total harvest previous year + mortality should = carry over	Panel 2
41	Bluefin tuna caging declaration	Rec. 06-07	Within one week after the completion of the transfer operation	Yes	Yes	To verify with farming reports/BCDs/transfer declarations	Total of all caging declarations should equal total in annual farming report.	Some confusion with transfer declaration.	Consider the need for separate declarations in development of eBCD. Current format should be used to report all farming events, including caging, mortality, inter-farm transfer etc.	PWG / Panel 2
42	Size sampling from farms	Rec. 06-07	Annual; July 31 (for sampling from previous year)	See statistical data	Yes	To assist in the determination of growth rates and conversion factors		With 10-04	Clarify whether this is a continuing requirement	Panel 2

43	Carry over of caged fish	Rec. 09-11	Annual; within 15 days after start of PS season (6/1/2011)	No	Yes	To track the full chain of catch/transfer/caging/harvest/market	Some CPCs have requested an allowance for the consolidation of fish from different cages.	N/A	Consider request for consolidation. Need to revise form and change deadline to coincide with report of carry over of caged fish. Total harvest previous year + mortality should = carry over	Panel 2
44	Annual fishing plan (including commercial and sport/recreational quota management)	Rec. 10-04	07-Feb-2011 (before COC intersessional)	No	No, except individual quotas published on ICCAT web site	To ensure CPCs stay within quotas and overall TAC	To be reviewed and endorsed by COC	N/A	None	
45	Report on implementation of annual fishing plan	Rec. 10-04	15-oct-11	No	No	To ensure full implementation of recovery plan.		Some overlap with report on implementation (see item 46)	Consider combining with report on implementation of Rec 10-04 (see item 46)	Panel 2
46	Report on implementation of Rec. 10-04	Rec. 10-04	15-oct-11	No	No	To ensure full implementation of recovery plan.		Some overlap with item 45	Consider combining with report of implementation of fishing plan	Panel 2
47	Fishing, inspection and capacity reduction plans for 2012	Rec. 10-04	09-oct-11	No	Only the capacity reduction plans are published in the Commission report	To ensure full implementation of recovery plan.	Unclear whether the plans for 2012 should be reviewed by COC or Panel 2	N/A	Consider combining with report on implementation of Rec 10-04 (see item 46) and Clarify if COC or Panel 2 shall review and endorse for 2012	Panel 2

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48	Bluefin tuna catching vessels	Rec. 10-04	One month before fishing season	Yes (CP01-VessLsts.xls)	ICCAT web site	To ensure vessels are authorized by a CPC	Some CPCs have raised questions on the period of validity of vessels on list	N/A	Clarify whether list must be updated and revised annually. Specify clearly deadlines for lists as current Rec is confusing.	Panel 2
49	Bluefin tuna other vessels	Rec. 10-04	One month before fishing season	Yes (CP01-VessLsts.xls)	ICCAT web site	To ensure vessels are authorized by a CPC		N/A	None	
50	Bluefin tuna active vessels previous year	Rec. 10-04	15-oct-11	Yes (CP01-VessLsts.xls)	Included on vessel list on ICCAT Web site	To ensure vessels are authorized by a CPC	This information can be compiled from the weekly catch reports; but some authorized vessels may be active but not catch bluefin	Overlap with BFT authorized catching vessel list	This requirement could be removed if weekly catch reports can be used to determine active vessels	Panel 2
51	List of baitboats and trollers	Rec. 10-04	30-ene-11	Yes (CP01-VessLsts.xls)	Included on vessel list on ICCAT Web site	To ensure vessels are authorized by a CPC		N/A	Stipulate clear deadlines for lists (establish a date certain)	Panel 2
52	List of vessels operating in the Adriatic	Rec. 10-04	30-ene-11	Yes (CP01-VessLsts.xls)	Included on vessel list on ICCAT Web site	To ensure vessels are authorized by a CPC		N/A	Stipulate clear deadlines for lists (establish a date certain)	Panel 2
53	List of Artisanal vessels in the Mediterranean	Rec. 10-04	30-ene-11	Yes (CP01-VessLsts.xls)	Included on vessel list on ICCAT Web site	To ensure vessels are authorized by a CPC		N/A	Stipulate clear deadlines for lists (establish a date certain)	Panel 2
54	Plans for participation in Joint Inspection Scheme, including lists of inspectors and inspection vessels	Rec. 10-04	01-mar-11	No	Lists of inspectors and vessels published on ICCAT web site	To ensure CPCs participate in joint inspection scheme, and facilitate verification of inspectors by fishing vessel masters		N/A	None	

55	List of inspectors	Rec. 10-04	01-mar-11	CP33_Inspector	Lists of inspectors and vessels published on ICCAT web site					
56	Copies of inspection reports	Rec. 10-04	At time of occurrence	Yes (CP28-InspectRP on request from Secretariat)	Copies of reports published on ICCAT web site	To allow parties to follow up alleged infractions and take action as appropriate.	Some CPCs were concerned about the timeliness of the sharing of reports	N/A	Stipulate timeframe for transmitting reports	Panel 2
57	Bluefin tuna traps	Rec. 10-04	01-mar-11	No (CP21-TrapLst)	ICCAT web site	To ensure traps are authorized by a CPC		N/A	None	
58	Bluefin tuna trap declarations	Rec. 10-04	without delay	No (CP22-TrapDec)	Data base maintained (included in catches)	To complement catch reports		N/A	None	
59	Bluefin tuna weekly catch reports	Rec. 10-04	every week	Yes (CP26-BFT_WCRp)	Data base maintained, but data not distributed	To ensure CPCs stay within quotas and overall TAC	According to Rec 10-04, this applies to all gear types, but most reports are received only during PS season. CPCs should report if no catch for other gears	N/A	None	
60	Bluefin tuna monthly catch reports	Rec. 10-04	End of the month for data from the prior month	Yes (CP25-BFT_McRp)	Published monthly on ICCAT web site	To ensure CPCs stay within quota and overall TAC	Some discrepancies between weekly and monthly reports	N/A	None	
61	Sport and Recreational fishing data	Rec. 10-04	31-jul-11	See statistical data	Yes	To ensure all removals from stock are included in catch data		N/A	None	
62	Bluefin tuna transshipment ports	Rec. 10-04	01-mar-11	No (CP24-PortEBFT)	ICCAT web site	To ensure that all transshipments are monitored/inspected		N/A	None	

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63	Bluefin tuna landing ports	Rec. 10-04	01-mar-11	No (CP24-PortEBFT)	ICCAT web site	To ensure that all transshipments are monitored/inspected		N/A	None	
64	VMS messages	Rec. 07-08 and 10-04	every six hours	Yes (NAF form)	Data base maintained. Information given to CPCs participating in Joint Inspection scheme on request	To monitor areas of activity of vessels involved in BFT fishery and to coordinate joint inspection program		N/A	None	
65	Joint Fishing Operations	Rec. 10-04	10 days before operation	Yes (CP29-BFT_JFO)	ICCAT web site	To alert Commission of such activities and to monitor catches		N/A	Clearer report of JFO catches in weekly reports and BCDs	
66	List of BFT observers	Rec. . 10-04	01-feb-11	No (CP34-ObsvBFT.doc)	ICCAT web site	To include national observers in pool for ROP	This requirement was in fact removed from 10-04 (was in 08-05) so is no longer in force. CPCs may send lists voluntarily	N/A	None	
67	Data from National Observer programmes	Rec. 10-04	04-oct-11	No	As yet, nothing to process	To supplement data from ROP and furnish additional information on compliance/scientific data	No format has yet been adopted.	N/A	SCRS should approve a standard format (or formats as necessary) for adoption by the Commission.	SCRS / Panel 2
68	Growth factors and methodology used	Rec. 10-04	For SCRS meeting	No	Yes, summarized in SCRS report	To determine the growth rates of BFT in cages for comparison with catch / trade data	This is no longer a requirement under the current Recommendation		None	

Appendix 9 to ANNEX 4.2**Guidelines for an ICCAT Schedule of Compliance Actions***(Compliance Committee Chair Working Document)*

One of the most significant issues facing ICCAT has been CPC lack of compliance with measures adopted by the Commission. The authors of the 2009 Independent Performance Review noted that although ICCAT has adopted many appropriate management, monitoring, and reporting measures, deficiencies in implementing these measures have hampered success. The Review Panel strongly recommended that ICCAT “should investigate and develop a strict penalty regime that either has the capacity to suspend member countries that systematically break ICCAT regulations or can apply significant financial penalties for breaches.”

In considering this recommendation, the Future of ICCAT Working Group noted the difficulties of applying certain penalties given the wide ranging circumstances which may contribute to non-compliance. It was suggested that a sanction schedule be developed to provide a consistent method for applying sanctions for non-compliance.

According to its Terms of Reference, the COC is tasked with developing and making recommendations to the Commission to resolve identified problems with implementation of, or compliance with, ICCAT conservation and management measures, in order to enhance compliance with ICCAT recommendations. Therefore, consistent with the Review Panel recommendations and Working Group discussions, the COC Chair proposes the development of a sanction schedule.

The sanction schedule process would entail several items. First, the COC would determine if a violation occurred. Second, the COC would evaluate any circumstances related to the violation, including information presented by the relevant CPC and the CPC’s compliance record. Finally, the COC would recommend and ICCAT would apply a sanction for the non-compliance from the range of options listed in the schedule. In determining the appropriate sanction, ICCAT would consider, among other things, how frequently the deficiency occurs and the CPC’s record in taking effective action against its flag vessels and nationals in response. ICCAT would also consider the extent to which the CPC has used assistance programs to improve its capacity for data collection and MCS.

The following is a non-exhaustive list of elements for the COC’s consideration as it addresses this issue. Each section provides examples to facilitate discussion:

1. Determination of violation*Data Reporting:*

Failure to report task I and/or II data
 Data not supplied in time for use in assessment
 Failure to provide implementation reports

MCS measures:

Failure to implement MCS measures, including catch documentation schemes/statistical document programs
 Failure to exercise port CPC controls
 Failure to exercise flag CPC controls

Conservation and Management Measures:

Failure to limit catches within allocations
 Failure to restrict fleet size to agreed limits
 Failure to respect time/area closures
 Failure to respect minimum size restrictions

2. Considerations*Mitigating considerations:*

Capacity building and assistance programs
 Flag State/Port State/other actions taken by CPCs

Aggravating considerations:

Frequency or history of violations

Degree of adverse effects/Severity of consequences/scope of violation

3. Potential actions

Additional reporting requirements

Fishery restrictions, including:

- Catch limits (by-catch and/or size class)
- Gear restrictions
- Time and/or area restrictions
- Fleet capacity limits/reductions
- Quota reductions

Monitoring and Control measures, including:

- More frequent catch reporting
- Increased Observer coverage requirements for data collection and/or compliance needs
- Enhanced VMS requirements
- Increased port sampling and/or inspection
- Increased port controls, such as more frequent port calls, expanded inspection requirements, and/or designation of authorized ports
- Limitations on at-sea transshipment
- Prohibition or limit on posting vessels on the authorized vessel list
- Individual vessel quotas
- Other enhanced monitoring requirements

Market restrictions, including export limits and/or prohibitions

Draft Schedule of Sanctions for Non-Compliance with ICCAT Measures

<i>Type of Violation</i>	<i>Minor</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Significant</i>
Data Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and submission of a data improvement plan and report on implementation of the plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and submission of a data improvement plan and report on implementation of the plan - More frequent catch reporting to ICCAT - Required increases in scientific observer coverage levels for relevant fisheries - Required increases in port sampling and/or inspection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and submission of a data improvement plan and report on implementation of the plan - More frequent catch reporting to ICCAT - Required increases in scientific observer coverage levels for relevant fisheries - Required increases in port sampling and/or inspection - Limitations on at sea transshipment - Reduction in catch limits in relevant fisheries - Required fleet capacity limits/reductions - Limit on posting vessels posted on the ICCAT authorized vessel list, and/or - Further action under ICCAT's Trade measures Recommendation
MCS measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and submission of a performance improvement plan and report on implementation of the plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and submission of a performance improvement plan and report on implementation of the plan - More frequent catch reporting to ICCAT - Required increases in compliance observer coverage levels for relevant fisheries - Enhanced VMS requirements - Required increases in port controls, including expanded inspection requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and submission of a performance improvement plan and report on implementation of the plan - More frequent catch reporting to ICCAT - Required increases in compliance observer coverage levels for relevant fisheries - Enhanced VMS requirements - Required increases in port controls, including expanded inspection requirements - Prohibition or limit on vessels posted to the ICCAT authorized vessel list - Limitations on at sea transshipment - Reduction in catch limits in relevant fisheries/required fleet capacity limits/reductions and/or - Further action under ICCAT's Trade measures Recommendation

<p>Conservation and Management measure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and submission of a performance improvement plan and report on implementation of the plan - 100% quota payback of overharvest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and submission of a performance improvement plan and report on implementation of the plan - 100% quota payback of overharvest plus additional quota reductions - More frequent catch reporting - Required increases in scientific and/ or compliance observer coverage levels for relevant fisheries and increased port inspections - Enhanced VMS requirements - Prohibition or limit on vessels posted to the ICCAT authorized vessel list - Required fleet capacity limits/reductions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and submission of a performance improvement plan and report on implementation of the plan - 100% quota payback of overharvest plus additional quota reductions - More frequent catch reporting - Required increases in scientific and/ or compliance observer coverage levels for relevant fisheries and increased port inspections - Enhanced VMS requirements - Prohibition or limit on vessels posted to the ICCAT authorized vessel list - Required fleet capacity limits/reductions - Establishment of individual vessel quotas - Time and/or area restrictions - Additional gear restrictions - Limitations on at-sea transshipment and/or - Further action under ICCAT's Trade measures Recommendation
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Appendix 10 to ANNEX 4.2

Draft Resolution on the Creation of a Compliance Review Group

(Proposed by the Compliance Committee Chairman)

Recognizing the amount of work required to analyze information and prepare reports for meetings of the Compliance Committee;

Noting that at the Future of ICCAT Working Group meeting in 2009, it was suggested that CPCs consider assisting the Chair in the review and evaluation of compliance information through a Compliance Task Force;

Recalling the proposals of the Compliance Committee Chairman that were circulated at the Compliance Committee Inter-sessional Meeting in February 2010 [COC-009/i2010 and COC-010/i2010];

Desiring to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of ICCAT's compliance review process in a fair, equitable, and transparent manner;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RESOLVES THAT:

1. Each year, the Secretariat shall assist the Compliance Committee Chair in producing an inventory of compliance information by CPC;

2. The inventory of compliance information would be compiled from numerous sources, including:– Annual reports of the CPCs;
 - ICCAT databases constructed from information submitted by CPCs;
 - Relevant CPC data (e.g., at-sea and port inspection reports; logbook, observer, and trade data), including reports submitted under Recommendations 06-13 and 06-14, as well as publicly available information not otherwise required to be submitted to ICCAT;
 - Other appropriate sources (e.g., third party sources), including reports submitted under Recommendation 08-09;
3. This inventory shall include information on whether CPCs met each of their reporting obligations, including deadlines for submission, and complied with applicable recommendations of the Commission;
4. The inventory of compliance information shall be circulated to all CPCs for their review no later than two weeks in advance of the annual Commission meeting;
5. The first session of the Compliance Committee shall precede the annual Commission meeting each year;
6. During the first session of the Compliance Committee, each CPC will have an opportunity to note any factual errors in the inventory, provide any explanation of mitigating circumstances, and/or present recent evidence of actions taken to ensure future compliance;
7. After the first session of the Compliance Committee, the Chair of that Committee will convene an *ad hoc* Review Group composed of a representative from interested CPCs. The composition of the Review Group should be as small as possible to ensure efficiency while taking into account the geographic representation of the Commission to the extent possible. Interested CPCs are encouraged to provide a representative to the Review Group who has expertise in the recommendations adopted by the Commission. Review Group participants will take no active part in discussions of compliance issues pertaining to their CPC during Review Group meetings. A CPC's ability to engage in Compliance Committee discussions will not be affected by participation on the Review Group;
8. With support from the ICCAT Secretariat and the Review Group, the Compliance Committee Chair will consider the explanations or additional information provided by the CPCs and make any necessary factual adjustments to the inventory;
9. Following such consideration under paragraph 8 above, the Compliance Committee Chair, taking into account any guidelines adopted by the Commission, will propose appropriate actions, if any, for addressing non-compliance;
10. Subsequently, the Compliance Committee will meet to review such considerations and deliberations resulting from the above process, consider the Chair's proposed actions on a case-by-case basis, and make recommendations to the Commission as appropriate.

4.3 REPORT OF THE 2ND MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE FUTURE OF ICCAT
(Madrid, Spain - May 16 To 20, 2011)

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by the Chair of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT, Ms. Deirdre Warner-Kramer (United States), who welcomed the delegates and noted with pleasure the large number of delegations in attendance. Many CPCs thanked ICCAT, COMHAFAT, and the CPCs that contributed funds to support their participation at this meeting. The List of Participants is attached as **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 4.3**.

The Secretariat thanked Canada and the EU for their financial contributions to organize this meeting.

2. Nomination of Rapporteur

Ms. Nicole Ricci (United States) was appointed Rapporteur.

3. Adoption of the Agenda and meeting arrangements

The Agenda was adopted as amended and is attached as **Appendix 1 to ANNEX 4.3**.

4. Review of issues referred from the 2010 Commission Meeting

The Chair provided a brief history of the Working Group, including a review of its mandate and past work. The Chair also expressed appreciation to Côte d'Ivoire for its document intended to assist participants attending the meeting for the first time to understand the issues under consideration.

a) Panel structure

At its 2010 meeting the Commission examined three possibilities for restructuring the Panels to more evenly distribute the workload among each, noting in particular the heavy workload of Panel 4. These included an option to add a new Panel responsible for sharks and associated species and two options for redistributing the species among the existing four Panels. The Commission did not achieve consensus on any of these options and requested the Working Group to investigate this further.

The Working Group agreed that the Commission should focus on realigning the workload among the four Panels and did not find it necessary to create a fifth Panel. Most CPCs supported including all temperate tunas in a single panel and moving sharks and other species to their own panel, but there was no consensus on this point. The Working Group also recognized that Panel 4 has been very productive.

Some CPCs asked for more time to weigh the options, and noted the need for a better understanding of the financial implications of any restructuring. Some CPCs noted that it would be necessary for the Commission to clearly establish what would be included under “associated” or “other” species. Some CPCs noted that the Commission should also explore whether certain issues related to by-catch could be better dealt with outside the Panels.

Many CPCs noted the complexity of the formula for calculating CPC financial contributions, which made it difficult to fully assess the cost implications of any possible Panel changes. The Working Group requested the Chair of the Working Group to consult with the Chair of STACFAD and the Secretariat to prepare a paper in advance of the annual meeting explaining the relationship between Panel membership and how annual contributions are calculated.

b) Official languages

The Working Group reviewed the proposal discussed at the 2010 Commission meeting to make Arabic an official language. Noting the significant financial, logistical, and legal considerations, the Working Group did not recommend any changes in the current practice of providing simultaneous interpretation into Arabic at the Commission's annual meetings but maintaining documents in only the three official languages stipulated in the Convention.

5. Process of the review of the ICCAT Convention

The Chair of the Working Group introduced a paper that reviewed the ICCAT Convention in light of the six priority areas that the Working Group had identified at its first meeting in 2009 (**Appendix 3 to ANNEX 4.3**). The Working Group also took note of the paper entitled “Points of Decision for a Workplan of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT”, which had been presented by the Chair of the Working Group to the 2010 Commission meeting, attached as **Appendix 4 to ANNEX 4.3**. The Working Group agreed to review both of these papers and to discuss each of the six priority areas in more detail.

– *Precautionary Approach and Ecosystem considerations, including by-catch*

The Working Group agreed that both of these approaches were fundamental to ICCAT’s objectives and noted that ICCAT had already taken a number of steps to implement both the precautionary approach and ecosystem approach even though these terms are not contained within the Convention. Some CPCs raised a particular concern that the Convention objective itself was inconsistent with the precautionary approach because F_{MSY} is considered a target rather than a limit not to be exceeded.

Some CPCs held the view that the precautionary approach and an ecosystem approach to fisheries management should be explicitly included in the Convention. Some other CPCs noted that these issues alone were not enough to necessitate amendment, in light of ICCAT’s ability to act in accordance with the precautionary approach and the ecosystem approach under the current terms of the Convention. The Working Group agreed that if the Convention were to be amended, text on the implementation of the precautionary approach and incorporation of broader ecosystem considerations should be considered. Some CPCs noted that an issue relevant to ecosystem considerations is the scope of the Convention with respect to target species and by-catch. Some CPCs also expressed the importance of continuing to take appropriate action, in particular to implement the precautionary approach, through ICCAT’s management measures.

– *Contribution scheme*

Some CPCs expressed a concern that ICCAT’s contribution scheme was inequitable. The Working Group recognized that contributions need to be based on a fair system, but noted that the Madrid Protocol moved the details of how the contributions are calculated from the body of the Convention to ICCAT’s Financial Regulations. The Working Group requested the Chair of the Working Group to provide, with the assistance of the Secretariat, an analysis of how these issues might be addressed through an amendment to the Financial Regulations instead of an amendment to the Convention.

– *Provisions to strengthen participation of non-Parties*

The Working Group agreed that effective management requires the involvement of all of the participants in ICCAT fisheries. Some CPCs stated that non-Contracting Parties, Entities, and Fishing Entities to the Convention should be given an opportunity to participate as outlined in other comparable international instruments, and that there was a need for formal mechanisms for cooperation with non-Contracting Parties, Entities, or Fishing Entities. The Working Group also noted that the Commission should consider the many possible options to achieve this objective.

– *Decision-making processes*

Many CPCs recognized that these issues represented the most pressing reasons to amend the ICCAT Convention, and that these elements are interdependent and interrelated.

- *Timing of Entry into Force:* In general, the Working Group agreed on the importance of potential amendments to the Convention to provide the flexibility to adjust the timing of the entry into force of different measures. Many noted that ICCAT’s current delay of six months was excessive. The Working Group agreed that it would be important to study the time needed by all CPCs to fully implement recommendations, including taking necessary internal legal steps and establishing the means to ensure compliance.
- *Voting Rules:* Some CPCs acknowledged that reform to voting rules could be the fastest way to engender efficiency and clarity in the work of the Commission. Many CPCs noted the high rate of abstention, often due to non participation in the voting process, in recent decisions and that CPCs need to exercise greater

responsibility in the voting process. The Working Group suggested that the Commission examine why this occurs. Several CPCs considered this an urgent issue needing Convention reform, as the current voting rules have the effect of giving non-participation in a decision undue influence on its outcome. Some CPCs also noted that this issue could be addressed by amendment to ICCAT's Rules of Procedure.

- *Objection Procedures:* The Working Group agreed on the importance of maintaining a right to object, but there was no consensus on whether that right should be conditioned. Many CPCs noted that the current objection procedures should be amended to require that objections be subject to certain conditions and supported by an explanation. Some CPCs further noted that an objecting CPC should be required to implement an alternative and comparable conservation action. The Working Group noted the need to clarify the current rules that apply to objections.

Some CPCs considered that the objection procedures as defined in the Convention are consistent with international law. They considered that it would not be appropriate to restrict the exercise of this universal right by additional conditions and expressed that it should be ensured that this right can be exercised by the Parties in all deliberations of the Commission.

- *Dispute Resolution:* Although the Working Group stated that there has not been any practical difficulty stemming from the current lack of an ICCAT dispute resolution process, it is an important element to consider. The Working Group discussed several ways to address this issue, including through the adoption of recommendations and resolutions. However, some CPCs stated that this must be contained within the Convention itself.

Although transparency had not been specifically identified as one of the elements of decision-making, several CPCs raised it as an integral aspect of the process. The Working Group agreed that steps should be taken to improve transparency and participation in decision-making. Some CPCs believed that this could be accomplished without amending the Convention, although some other CPCs noted the value of enshrining these and similar guiding principles in the Convention itself.

– *Capacity-Building and Assistance to Developing States*

The Working Group recognized the critical importance of supporting broad participation in order to achieve ICCAT's objectives. The Working Group further noted that ICCAT had already established a number of mechanisms for capacity-building and assistance to developing CPCs even without specific provisions in the Convention. Many CPCs nonetheless highlighted the importance of incorporating provisions into the Convention that addressed the special requirements of developing States, similar to those in comparable international instruments. The Working Group noted the need for ICCAT to enhance its cooperation with regional fisheries organizations.

The Working Group emphasized that the Commission has, over the years, taken measures to address the six priorities under the framework of the current Convention, but that additional provisions, in line with more modern fisheries instruments, and greater clarity in the Convention could help to address those issues more fully.

Although the Working Group agreed on the six priorities identified at its first meeting, some CPCs noted that there was also a need to address other issues, such as monitoring, control, and surveillance.

There was no consensus that the Working Group should recommend the Commission undertake an immediate exercise to draft amendments to the Convention. The Working Group requested its Chair to prepare an analysis paper, building on the Chair's paper attached as **Appendix 3 to ANNEX 4.3**, detailing with the various elements of the priority issues and assessing the legal, management, and policy implications of the various approaches available to the Commission in addressing these elements, including the potential benefits, disadvantages, and procedural issues involved. The Chair will solicit input into this analysis paper from all CPCs, and the completed paper will be circulated to all CPCs in time for them to provide additional comments, which will also be circulated, in advance of the 2011 Commission meeting. The Working Group requests that the Commission consider the paper and comments by CPCs and decide on the next steps needed to achieve progress modernizing and strengthening the Basic Texts and recommendations of ICCAT. The Working Group also requested that the Commission consider whether to continue this Working Group and, if so, whether any changes to its terms of reference were needed.

6. Actions needed for the strengthening of the SCRS and recommendations of the Working Group on SCRS organization

The Chairman of the SCRS, Dr. Josu Santiago, presented a report on the outcomes on the first meeting of the Working Group on the Organization of the SCRS.

The Working Group took note of the recommendations contained in this report and agreed with the concerns highlighted in the report regarding the decline of CPC scientists' participation in the work of the SCRS. The Working Group agreed on the critical need for more capacity building and assistance to developing CPCs, both to support attendance at SCRS meetings and to further develop the necessary technical expertise to fully contribute to these meetings.

Many CPCs strongly endorsed the SCRS Working Group's recommendations to fill the by-catch Coordinator position in the Secretariat, while some CPCs stated that this issue should be considered at STACFAD with other financial requirements. The Working Group took note that, given previous discussions in STACFAD and the Commission, the funding proposal would be included in the draft 2012-2013 budget to be considered by the Commission.

7. Actions needed for the strengthening of ICCAT as identified at the 2009 meeting of the Working Group

a) Implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management

The Secretariat provided a presentation from the FAO on the ecosystem approach to fisheries management. The Working Group recognized that ICCAT has already taken steps towards the implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management, including based on recommendations made by the first meeting of the Working Group. The Working Group generally agreed this principle should be taken into account when ICCAT takes decisions, although some CPCs considered that there is a need to further clarify key ecosystem elements to address the Commission's wishes in this regard.

b) Provisions to enhance the participation of Cooperating and non-Contracting Parties, Entities, and Fishing Entities

The Working Group took note of the information paper submitted by Chinese Taipei (**Appendix 5 to ANNEX 4.3**) on enhancing the participation of Cooperating non-Parties, Entities, and Fishing Entities. The Working Group expressed that this issue should be considered at the annual meeting of the Commission to enable all CPCs to engage on this topic.

c) Principles of decision making for conservation and management measures and their application

The Working Group considered a paper submitted by the United States, Canada, Brazil and Norway providing a draft recommendation on the principles of decision-making for ICCAT conservation and management measures (**Appendix 6 to ANNEX 4.3**). The Working Group expressed broad support for the concepts contained in the draft, and recommended that the Commission continue consultation on it at the next annual meeting. The Working Group also noted this issue would be discussed during the upcoming Third Joint Tuna RFMO Meeting (Kobe III).

The Working Group discussed the importance of a fair and transparent allocation process and, although there were different views about whether the ICCAT allocation criteria adopted in 2001 should be revised, the Working Group agreed on the importance of applying the principles within them broadly. The Working Group also noted the critical importance of transparency and broad participation in ICCAT decision making.

d) Capacity-building and assistance to developing States

The Executive Secretary provided detailed information on the capacity building and assistance mechanisms that are already in place through ICCAT and noted that the Working Capital Fund had been used to support the participation of six CPCs at the Working Group meeting. The Working Group encouraged the effort being undertaken by the Chair of STACFAD to draft a proposal on how to adopt a formal mechanism for such financial assistance. The Working Group also highlighted the need to elaborate standardized procedures for accessing the existing assistance funds administered by the Secretariat.

e) Improvement of Commission functioning

The Chair of Compliance Committee made a presentation reviewing the terms of reference and mandates of the Compliance Committee and the PWG and proposing a realignment of the two that he had developed with the Chair of the PWG. The Working Group supported, in principle, an effort to redistribute tasks between the two bodies but noted the need to study the implications of these possible changes. To facilitate this, the Working Group requested the Chairs of the Compliance Committee and the PWG to circulate draft proposals for new terms of reference for each in advance of the next annual meeting.

The Working Group noted the utility of the Abridged Compendium as reference guide to ICCAT recommendations and resolutions and discussed the costs and benefits involved in revising it. The Working Group recommended that the Commission develop guidelines regarding procedures, formats, and deadlines for draft recommendations. The Working Group further emphasized the necessity of drafting recommendations that incorporated all applicable measures and clearly repealed earlier versions so that all requirements for a given fishery could be contained in a single recommendation. The Working Group also recommended that the Commission consider earlier deadlines for submission of proposals.

8. Other matters

At its 2009 meeting, in recognition of the increasing workload to the Chair of the Compliance Committee, the Working Group recommended that some mechanism be provided to assist the Chair of the Compliance Committee, such as an ad hoc task force. The ad hoc group would assist the Chair to compile and process data and would not have decision-making authority. This concept was further discussed at the 2009 and 2010 Commission meetings and in the last two inter-sessional meetings of the Compliance Committee. The Chair of the Compliance Committee presented the Working Group a revised proposal reflecting these discussions. Although CPCs considered the revisions an improvement, they noted concerns over the potential size and representation of the group and the timing of submission of the compliance information to the CPCs which would require more time than the proposed two weeks prior to the Commission meeting. The Working Group therefore recommends that the Compliance Committee Chair convene this ad hoc group as a one-year pilot program before decision on permanent implementation of this working arrangement.

The Working Group took note that it had been a few years since the independent performance review had been completed and agreed that it would be worthwhile to review progress by ICCAT in implementing relevant recommendations from that report in light of the outcomes of the first meeting of the Working Group and subsequent decisions of the Commission. The Working Group asked the Chair to implement a process to carry out such a review, if possible before the November 2011 ICCAT meeting. Given the nature of the initiative, it was agreed that support from the officers of the Commission and Secretariat would be important in making a comprehensive assessment of this matter.

9. Adoption of the report

The report was adopted by consensus at the meeting.

10. Adjournment

The 2011 Meeting of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT was adjourned on May 20, 2011.

Appendix 1 to ANNEX 4.3

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Nomination of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of agenda and meeting arrangements
4. Review of issues referred from the 2010 Commission meeting
 - a) Panel structure
 - b) Official languages
5. Process of the review of the ICCAT Convention
 - Precautionary Approach and ecosystem considerations, including by-catch
 - Contribution scheme
 - Provisions to strengthen participation of non-Parties
 - Decision-making processes
 - Timing of entry into force
 - Voting Rules
 - Objection procedures
 - Dispute resolution
 - Capacity building and assistance to developing States
6. Actions needed for the strengthening of the SCRS and recommendations of the Working Group on SCRS Organization
7. Actions needed for the strengthening of ICAT as identified at the 2009 meeting of the Working Group
 - a) Implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management
 - b) Provisions to enhance the participation of Cooperating and non-Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities
 - c) Principles of decision making for conservation and management measures and their application
 - d) Capacity-building and assistance to developing States
 - e) Improvement of Commission functioning
8. Other matters
9. Adoption of the report
10. Adjournment

Appendix 2 to ANNEX 4.3

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**Review of the ICCAT Convention in Light of the Issues Identified
by the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT**

(Submitted by the Chair of the Working Group)

Most of the major governing global marine conservation agreements, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the 1993 FAO Compliance Agreement,¹ and the 1995 United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement,² were adopted well after the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, ICCAT's establishing agreement, entered into force in 1969. In fact, once the amendments to the convention that established the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) enter into force,³ the ICCAT Convention will be the sole remaining straddling stock/highly migratory stock RFMO agreement concluded in the era before UNCLOS. As a result, there are now significant differences between the ICCAT Convention and those global instruments, as well as other RFMO agreements.

At the first meeting of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT in August 2009, the Working Group identified the following priority areas to be considered by the Commission in the context of possible amendments to the ICCAT Convention:

- Precautionary approach
- Ecosystem considerations, including by-catch
- Contribution scheme
- Provisions to strengthen participation of non-Parties to the Convention
- Decision-making processes:
 - Timing of entry into force of recommendations
 - Voting rules
 - Objection procedures
 - Dispute settlement procedures
- Capacity-building and assistance to developing States

The Commission at its 2010 annual meeting requested the Working Group to consider this issue further.

This paper will review the provisions of the ICCAT Convention related to the areas listed above in the context of the developments since they were first drafted in international law, including other agreements related to highly migratory or straddling fish stocks.

– ***Precautionary approach***

While there is no standard definition of the precautionary approach to fisheries management, it is broadly accepted to embody several key elements: that management of resources needs to take a long view and avoid actions that would irreversibly compromise future sustainability, that absence of adequate scientific information should not be used as a reason to postpone taking conservation and management measures; that measures should take into account the best available scientific advice on a number of factors, including a broad range of biological, environmental, and socio-economic elements; and that decisions should be more cautious when information is uncertain, unreliable, or inadequate.⁴

There is no specific mention of the precautionary approach in the ICCAT Convention, though some provisions touch on elements of it. The Preamble sets the objective of the Parties “to co-operate in maintaining the populations of these [tuna and tuna like fishes] at levels which will permit the maximum sustainable catch for food and other purposes.” Article VIII.1(a) charges the Commission to “on the basis of scientific evidence, make recommendations designed to maintain the populations of tuna and tuna-like fishes in the Convention area at levels which will permit the maximum sustainable catch.” And Article 4.1 sets the scope of the Commission’s

¹ Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas.

² Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982, Relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks.

³ Amendment to the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, adopted by NAFO in 2007 (not yet in force).

⁴ See, for example, FAO Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries, 1996: Precautionary Approach to Capture Fisheries and Species Introductions; FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries Articles 6.5 and 7.5; UN Fish Stocks Agreement Article 7.5.

scientific study to include “research on the abundance, biometry, and ecology of the fishes; the oceanography of their environment; and the effects of natural and human factors upon their abundance.”

In contrast, all of the RFMO agreements elaborated in the last 15 years include explicit reference to the need to manage fisheries in accordance with the precautionary approach. These include the agreements establishing the South East Atlantic Fisheries Organization (SEAFO),⁵ the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC),⁶ and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC),⁷ as well as the amended NAFO Convention and the agreement to establish a new RFMO in the South Pacific Ocean.⁸ The SEAFO, WCPFC, IATTC, and South Pacific agreements further include specific provisions on the application of the precautionary approach, largely draft from Article 6 of the 1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement.

The three agreements negotiated before the conclusion of the UN Fish Stocks Agreement – those establishing the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR),⁹ the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT),¹⁰ and the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)¹¹ also lack specific mention of the precautionary approach. Much like the ICCAT Convention, these agreements include to varying degree provisions linked to the core elements of the precautionary approach.¹²

– *Ecosystem considerations, including by-catch*

UNCLOS Article 119 sets out the fundamental obligation to include ecosystem considerations in establishing conservation and management measures on the high seas. This article includes a specific call that those measures must “take into consideration the effects on species associated with or dependent upon harvested species with a view to maintaining or restoring populations of such associated or dependent species above levels at which their reproduction may become seriously threatened.” A similar set of obligations are included in Article 61.2 and 61.3 for fisheries within a coastal State’s exclusive economic zone.

The general objective of the ICCAT Convention, as set out in the preamble, is to cooperate to maintain populations of “tuna and tuna-like fishes” in the Convention Area at levels which will permit maximum sustainable catch. In Article VIII, the Commission is tasked with making recommendations for only “tuna and tuna-like fishes.” Article IV.1 offers a definition of “tuna and tuna-like fishes” to include “the Scombriformes with the exception of the families Trichiuridae and Gempylidae and the genus *Scomber*.” It further tasks the Commission with the study of these fish as well as:

such other species of fishes exploited in tuna fishing in the Convention area as not under investigation by another international fishery organization. Such study shall include research on the abundance, biometry and ecology of the fishes; the oceanography of their environment; and the effects of natural and human factors upon their abundance.

There is no explicit link between this study and the adoption of recommendations under Article VIII. The ICCAT Convention likewise lacks specific provisions that touch on the broader marine ecosystem or of the role of ICCAT, beyond study, in regards to species other than “tuna and tuna-like fishes.”

The other tuna RFMOs have included ecosystem considerations in a variety of ways. CCSBT limits its objective to the conservation and optimum utilization of southern bluefin tuna (Article 3), and the CCSBT Convention gives the Commission a specific mandate to set total allowable catches, allocations, and establish “other additional measures” only for southern bluefin tuna (Article 8.3). However, the Commission in Article 8.1 is given a broader mandate to collect scientific information and data on “ecologically related species” (defined as “living marine species which are associated with southern bluefin tuna, including but not restricted to both predators and prey of southern bluefin tuna”). In setting harvest rules for southern bluefin tuna, the Commission is required to take full account of the reports and recommendations of its Scientific Committee, which include, where appropriate, the status of stocks of ecologically related species (Article 8.8).

⁵ 2003 Convention on the Conservation and Management of Fishery Resources in the South-East Atlantic Ocean.

⁶ 2004 Convention for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean.

⁷ 2010 Convention for the Strengthening of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission Established by the 1949 Convention between the United States of America and the Republic of Costa Rica (“Antigua Convention”).

⁸ Convention on the Conservation and Management of the High Seas Fishery Resources of the South Pacific Ocean, adopted by the Parties 2009 (not yet in force).

⁹ 1982 Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources.

¹⁰ 1994 Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna.

¹¹ 1996 Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.

¹² See for example CCAMLR Article II.3 setting out principles of conservation; CCSBT Article 8.6 requiring measures to “take full account of the report and recommendations of the Scientific Committee.”

The IOTC defines a broader scope that includes a list of species of tunas, mackerels, and billfish, which is contained in an Annex to the Convention that can be amended through a simpler procedure than applies to the Convention itself. The Commission's functions and responsibilities as set out in Article V.2 include adopting conservation and management measures "to ensure the conservation of the stocks covered by this Agreement" and no explicit mention of associated species or ecosystem considerations. However, the Commission is also tasked with gathering, analyzing, and disseminating data and statistics "relevant to the conservation and management of the stocks and to fisheries based on the stocks covered by the Agreement" (Article V.2.(a)), which the Commission has interpreted broadly in practice. Article V.3 also gives the Commission discretion to "adopt decisions and recommendations, as required, with a view to furthering the objectives of this Agreement."

WCPFC and IATTC have the most extensive provisions related to ecosystem considerations and by-catch. Both set a broad mandate in their objectives – IATTC includes "stocks of tuna and tuna-like species and other species of fish taken by vessels fishing for tuna and tuna-like species in the Convention area" (Article I.1), and WCPFC includes "all fish stocks of the species listed in Annex I of [UNCLOS] occurring in the Convention area, and such other species of fish as the Commission may determine" (Article 1(f)). Both also contain numerous specific provisions addressing a range of ecosystem considerations, including the responsibilities of each Commission for both coordinating scientific study of and adopting conservation and management measures for associated and dependent species.¹³ These two texts also go further by giving the Commission the responsibility to adopt measures to avoid by-catch, minimize waste and discards, and mitigate the effects of fishing on the marine environment.¹⁴

– *Contribution scheme*

Each RFMO's contribution scheme is unique, but there are common elements to all. In general, Contracting Party contributions are set according to a formula in the establishing Convention that is used to divide the annual budget of the organization. For some, the specific contribution formula or some elements of it, are instead contained in a separate instrument such as the organization's financial rules. All have at least two components: a basic fee that is applied equally to all Contracting Parties and a variable fee that is based on some measure of utilization. Many, particularly the most recent agreements, also include a factor related to the level of economic development of each Contracting Party. Some include additional considerations such as whether the Contracting Party is a coastal State or has maintained active fisheries in the Convention area in a specific period.

The ICCAT Convention, as amended by the Madrid Protocol, states that the budget contribution scheme is to be elaborated in the Financial Regulations of the Commission. Article X.2 of the Convention notes that the Commission, in adopting this scheme, "should consider *inter alia* each Contracting Party's fixed basic fees for Commission and Panel membership, the total round weight of catch and net weight of canned products for Atlantic tuna and tuna-like fishes and the degree of economic development of the Contracting Parties." The details of the scheme may be modified through agreement of all Contracting Parties present and voting.

– *Provisions to strengthen participation of non-Parties to the Convention*

While the ICCAT Convention includes several paragraphs calling for cooperation between the commission and other international organizations, it has extremely limited provisions addressing the participation of non-Parties.

Article XIV of the ICCAT Convention, as amended by the Paris Protocol, specifies that only States that are members of the United Nations or one of its specialized agencies, and international economic integration organizations made up of States that have transferred the relevant competencies, may sign or adhere to the Convention. Article XI.3 allows the Commission to invite "any Government which is a member of the United Nations or of any Specialized Agency of the United Nations ...to send observers to the meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies." Article IV.1 also calls upon the Commission, in carrying out its scientific responsibilities, to "utilize the available services of any public or private institution, organization or individual."

As the IOTC Convention was concluded under Article 14 of FAO Constitution, its provisions on accession and observers flow from that agreement. Only Members or Associate Members of the FAO and regional economic integration organizations may become Parties, though other States that are members of the UN or its specialized agencies and are either coastal States in the convention area or have vessels fishing for stocks covered by the agreement may participate with the concurrence of two-thirds of its members.

¹³ IATTC Article IV.3, and Article VII.1(a) and (f); WCPFC Article 5(d), Article 6.1(c), Article 10.1 (c) , and Article 12.2(d).

¹⁴ IATTC VII(g) and (k); WCPFC Article 5(e), and (f).

The CCSBT Convention is open to accession only by States whose vessels fish for southern bluefin tuna or through whose jurisdictional waters southern bluefin tuna migrate. However, CCSBT has established by separate resolution¹⁵ an Extended Commission and Extended Scientific Committee encompassing both Parties and Co-operating non-members – who may be States, entities, or fishing entities that have caught southern bluefin tuna in the preceding three years. Such Cooperating non-Members have the same right to participate actively in meetings of the Extended Commission, the Extended Scientific Committee, and their subsidiary bodies as Parties, except the right to vote.

The agreements concluded after the negotiation of the 1995 Fish Stocks Agreement all have terms allowing the involvement of a broader range of participants. SEAFO Convention Article 22.4 states that Parties shall request fishing entities with fishing vessels in the convention area to cooperate with the organization in implementing conservation and management measures. In return, fishing entities “shall enjoy benefits from participation in the fishery commensurate with their commitment to comply” with those measures. WCPFC, IATTC, and the South Pacific agreement take this concept further, by allowing fishing entities that provide a written commitment to abide by the terms of the respective conventions and comply with all conservation and management measures to become full members of the Commission, though not Parties to the agreements.¹⁶ WCPFC and the South Pacific agreement also extend the ability to become Parties to entities as defined in Article 305 of UNCLOS.

CCSBT, SEAFO, IATTC, WCPFC, and the South Pacific agreement each include text calling for Contracting Parties, individually or collectively, to reach out to non-Parties to call their attention to issues related to the respective Commission’s objective, request cooperation, and encourage such non-Parties to join.¹⁷

– *Decision-making processes*

Timing of entry into force of recommendations: Article VIII.2 of the ICCAT Convention specifies a six-month period from the adoption of a measure to its entry into force, the longest of any RFMO. All other RFMO conventions except the CCSBT¹⁸ similarly stipulate a specific period. Periods for entry into force in other RFMOs include: CCAMLR: 180 days; IOTC: 120 days; SEAFO: 60 days; WCPFC: 60 days; IATTC: 45; NAFO (amended Convention): 60 days; South Pacific agreement: 90 days.

Voting rules: ICCAT establishes the basic decision-making standard for recommendations of the Commission in Article VIII.1(b), which states that recommendations shall be made:

- i) at the initiative of the Commission if an appropriate Panel has not been established or with the approval of at least two-thirds of all the Contracting Parties if an appropriate Panel has been established;
- ii) on the proposal of an appropriate Panel if such a Panel has been established;
- iii) on the proposal of the appropriate Panels if the recommendation in question relates to more than one geographic area, species or group of species.

Other voting rules, including the calculation of a quorum and the general standard requiring a majority of the members of the Commission, are contained within the ICCAT Rules of Procedure rather than the Convention.

The other RFMO conventions each include their respecting voting standard in the text of the Convention itself, with only the procedural information in the respective rules of procedure. The standards applicable to the adoption of conservation and management measures themselves vary: CCSBT requires unanimity (Article 7); IOTC (Article IX) requires a two-thirds majority of those present and voting; SEAFO (Article 17) and IATTC (Article IX) require consensus of the Members present; WCPFC (Article 20), the amended NAFO convention (Article XIII), and the South Pacific agreement (Article 16) call for consensus of the Members present, with recourse to voting if efforts to reach consensus fail. In a subsequent vote, WCPFC requires a three-fourths majority of those present and voting, further qualified by the approval of three quarters majorities each of the members and non-members of the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency present and voting. NAFO required two-thirds of those Parties present and casting positive or negative votes. And the South Pacific agreement requires three-quarters of members casting positive and negative votes.

¹⁵ Resolution to Establish an Extended Commission and an Extended Scientific Committee and Rules of Procedure of the Extended Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna; adopted 2001, revised 2003.

¹⁶ WCPFC Annex I; IATTC Article XXVII; South Pacific Annex IV.

¹⁷ CCSBT Article 15; SEAFO Article 22.1; WCPFC Article 32.4; IATTC Article XXVI.1; South Pacific agreement Article 32.

¹⁸ The CCSBT Convention simply states, in Article 8.7, that “All measures decided upon under paragraph 3 above shall be binding on the Parties.”

Objection procedures: Article VIII.3 and VIII.4 of the ICCAT Convention grant all Contracting Parties the right to object to a recommendation before its entry into force. An initial objection will further delay the entry into force of that recommendation 60 days; any subsequent objections each add an additional delay of 45 days. In general, Parties are not bound by recommendations to which they have objected, however if less than one-quarter of the Contracting Parties lodge objections, the objection will have no effect unless the objecting party reaffirms its objection. If a majority of Contracting Parties object, the recommendation will not enter into force. A Contracting Party may withdraw its objection at any time, at which point it will become binding on that Party at the appropriate time.

With the exception of those that base decisions on unanimity or consensus, all other RFMOs have a similar objection process. The chief differences among them are the periods of additional delay in entry into force upon each objection and the conditions that apply to the right to object. IOTC (Article IX.5), like ICCAT, does not condition the right to object; any Member may object to any measure. WCPFC, the amended NAFO Convention, and the South Pacific agreement¹⁹ all require that an objection be based on the grounds that the decision is inconsistent with the establishing Convention, UNCLOS, or the Fish Stocks Agreement, or it unjustifiably discriminates against the member concerned. These measures also include the prospect of a review process to assess the grounds for objection. NAFO and the South Pacific agreement further specify that the objecting member must notify the Commission of the alternative measures it has taken that are equivalent in effect to the decision to which it objected.

Dispute settlement procedures: Part XV of UNCLOS sets out the general framework regarding the resolution of disputes between Parties to that Convention. Part VIII of the Fish Stocks Agreement builds upon those provisions and extends them to disputes between States Parties to that Agreement, whether they arise from the Fish Stocks Agreement itself or another agreement related to straddling or highly migratory fish stocks.

The ICCAT Convention has no provisions establishing dispute settlement procedures, or addressing disputes between Parties in any way.

Other RFMO Conventions include at least some guidance on the settlement of disputes between Parties. In all cases, the general provisions and procedures in Part XV of the Convention form the foundation, specifically its call to resolve disputes peacefully and seek other means to resolution before resorting to binding arbitration. A key element among each is whether the final procedures are compulsory, that is whether a dispute settlement process can be invoked by any one party to the dispute, whether or not with the consent of all of the other parties to the dispute, and whether the result is binding. Those RFMO agreements negotiated in the past 15 years generally either mirror specific articles in Part VIII of the Fish Stocks Agreement, or, as WCPFC and the South Pacific agreement do, simply apply the full terms of that part *mutatis mutandis* to disputes between members of the Commission.²⁰ IOTC, CCSBT, and IATTC take slightly different approaches; IATTC sets up a process that is neither compulsory nor binding (Article XXV), CCSBT's is not compulsory but can lead to binding result (Article 16 and Annex), and IOTC's is not explicit on either point (Article XXIII).

– *Capacity-building and assistance to developing States*

The ICCAT Convention does not include clauses relevant to capacity building or assistance to developing States. This is also true for CCSBT and the amended NAFO Convention. All of the other comparable organizations address the need to cooperate to support the effective implementation of the agreements and the measures adopted pursuant to it. IOTC and IATTC include articles calling for the Commission to act to support technology transfer, training and equipment in support of full participation of developing State members of the Commission.²¹ SEAFO, WCPFC, and the South Pacific agreement contain full sections addressing the special needs of developing States, which parallel the provisions of Part VII of the UN Fish Stocks Agreement. The latter two also establish specific funds to facilitate the effective participation of developing States Parties in the work of the Commission.²²

¹⁹ WCPFC Article 20, NAFO (amended) Article XIV, South Pacific agreement Article 17.

²⁰ SEAFO Article 24, WCPFC Article 31, NAFO (amended) Article XV and Annex II, South Pacific agreement Article 34.

²¹ IOTC Article V.2(b) and (d); IATTC Article XXIII.

²² SEAFO Article 21; WCPFC Article 30; South Pacific agreement Article 19.

Appendix 4 to ANNEX 4.3**Points of Decision for a Workplan of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT***(Presented by the Chair of the Working Group)*

The Working Group on the Future of ICCAT was established pursuant to the *Resolution by ICCAT to Strengthen ICCAT* [Res. 06-18], which sets out the following Terms of Reference:

1. Review the document prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with the Resolution by ICCAT to Strengthen ICCAT [Res. 05-10], the outcome of the 2007 Joint Meeting of Tuna RFMOs in Kobe Japan, as well as other developments in international law, including Conventions, recommendations and resolutions of other regional fisheries management organizations.
2. Further to the review in paragraph 1, evaluate the ICCAT Convention and other ICCAT instruments, including Recommendations and Resolutions and make recommendations in order to strengthen ICCAT. The Working Group may recommend changes to the ICCAT Convention, the Rules of Procedure or other regulations, if appropriate. In particular, the review should consider and make recommendations pertaining to:
 - i) the decision making process;
 - ii) the current structure of ICCAT (constituent bodies);
 - iii) issues arising from the 2006 workshops convened by the Chair of ICCAT; and
 - iv) any other matter relating to the provisions of the Convention.

Resolution 06-18 also indicated that, after the first meeting of the Working Group, the Commission should consider the outcome of this meeting and decide on a future workplan for this Group. The Working Group held its first meeting in August 2009, where it made progress in reviewing the findings of the ICCAT Performance Review and other recent international developments and developing recommendations for priority future work. These recommendations were reported to the 2009 Commission meeting, and several have been implemented. However, there is still a need for the Commission to set a clear workplan for the Working Group's future efforts, particularly as regards the review of the ICCAT Convention.

This paper summarizes the key decisions for the Commission to take in this regard, and provides information to help guide these decisions, including the recent experiences of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC), and the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) as they undertook similar processes.

Points for decision:

- **Will ICCAT begin a process to review and possibly revise its establishing Convention in 2011?**

Although both the Working Group and the Commission have discussed the prospect of undertaking such a process, different views have been expressed about whether this would be an action to take in the near term or at some point in the future.

- **Will the scope of the review be limited to those priority issues identified by the Working Group at its 2009 meeting, broadened to incorporate other key issues, or encompass the whole of the current Convention?**

While recognizing that other issues regarding the Convention could be raised by CPCs, the Working Group at its first meeting identified six key issues that should be considered in the context of possible amendments to the Convention: explicit incorporation of the precautionary approach, explicit incorporation of ecosystem considerations in fisheries management (including by-catch), the budget contribution scheme, provisions to strengthen participation of non-Parties to the Convention, decision-making processes, and capacity-building and assistance to developing States. At the 2009 annual meeting, many CPCs reiterated their endorsement of these priorities.

Each of the three other RFMOs that have undertaken similar reviews followed a different process. NEAFC identified several priority issues and eventually developed a limited number of amendments to address only those issues. NAFO began its review focused on several priority issues, but the scope of amendments eventually

expanded to touch on almost every article of its original Convention IATTC undertook a general review of its original Convention that eventually resulted in the negotiation of an entirely new text.

- **Will the review be conducted within the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT, or through some other means, and how shall the initial work proceed?**

The three RFMOs that have recently undertaken a similar effort to review and amend their establishing conventions have all referred this effort to a working group, but each followed a different process. In one, several contracting parties conducted their own reviews and produced proposals that were referred to a working group. In another, a single contracting party produced a review and proposal refined by a working group. In the third, the Chair of the Working Group produced a draft text for discussion.

The IATTC tasked a Convention Working Group to undertake the initial review of its Convention. Several Contracting Parties conducted their own analysis and presented proposals for revisions to the Convention to the working group. After extensive discussions of these proposals and additional issues brought forward by other working group participants through two meetings, the Working Group Chair produced a draft text. This text formed the basis of negotiations of the new agreement within the Working Group.

NEAFC agreed on the need to strengthen its mandate to address broader ecosystem considerations and referred this task to its existing Working Group on the Future of NEAFC. One of the Contracting Parties produced a full review of the relevant provisions of the NEAFC Convention as well as recommendations for amendments. The text was negotiated and finalized through the Working Group.

In NAFO, one Contracting Party produced a paper on the NAFO Convention in the context of recent developments in international ocean governance, which highlighted a number of areas in which the NAFO Convention was in need of modernization. This led to the creation of the Working Group on the Reform of NAFO. The Chair of the Working Group drew from this paper, as well as a review of other recent fisheries agreements, to produce a Chairman's Draft that formed the basis for negotiations on comprehensive amendments.

Appendix 5 to ANNEX 4.3

Comments On Agenda Item 6 (B)

(Submitted by Chinese Taipei)

The Working Group on the Future of ICCAT, in its first meeting in 2009, recommended that parallel approaches can be taken when undertaking the task of strengthening ICCAT. In the course of reviewing the ICCAT Convention, the Working Group identified six priority issues for the Commission to consider in the context of possible amendments to the ICCAT Convention. On the other hand, there are also actions that can be taken immediately on those issues to strengthen ICCAT without calling for amending the ICCAT Convention. This information paper aims to provide thoughts on one such practical action that could be done immediately by the Commission, before the amendment of the ICCAT Convention is completed, by enhancing the procedural participation of Cooperating non-Contracting Parties in the Commission decision-making (Agenda Item 6 (b)).

“Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities” (CNCP) is an established mechanism in ICCAT. The purpose of it is to enable the non-parties that are involved in the fisheries to build a working relationship with the Commission, so as to better ensure the effectiveness of ICCAT conservation and management measures. Such a mechanism was introduced in ICCAT by a resolution adopted in 1997, and has been later more firmly established in Recommendation 03-20, which provides the framework for the system currently in operation.

The CNCP mechanism has contributed to the observation of ICCAT measures from non-parties. In applying the cooperating status, the applicant is to “confirm its commitment to respect” the Commission’s measures, and to provide information about its fishing and research presence in the Convention area. Another contribution of this mechanism is that it serves to provide a platform on which non-parties could work with ICCAT, and many of those parties have since transformed their relationship with ICCAT and become Contracting Parties.

In view that the CNCP mechanism has its positive contribution, we believe that it is advisable to enhance the procedural participation of the cooperating non-parties in the Commission deliberations. Under the current system a cooperating non-party can speak in the Commission meetings. Besides that there is very limited room for participation for these non-parties. One possible way to enhance such participation is to enable the cooperating non-Contracting Parties to present proposals on matters concerning fisheries conservation and management in the meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies. By this means, a cooperating non-party can perform its responsibilities more directly if it wishes to do so, and it is believed that it should be a positive move to enhance the effectiveness of the work of ICCAT.

Since the legal basis for the CNCP mechanism is a Commission Recommendation, it is open to the Commission to address the procedural capabilities of the cooperating non-party in a similar form. Alternatively, it is also possible for the Contracting Parties to reach a general understanding that would enable cooperating non-parties to present proposals in the Commission meetings, while allowing such a function to be gradually established in practice.

Either way, enhancing the procedural participation of cooperating non-parties should be a positive move toward strengthening ICCAT's effectiveness without changing the current ICCAT framework. We therefore recommend it to the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT.

Appendix 6 to ANNEX 4.3

Draft Working Document on the Principles of Decision making for ICCAT Conservation and Management Measures

(Submitted by the United States, Canada, Brazil and Norway)

RECALLING the Recommended Course of Actions from the first Global Summit of Tuna RFMOs in Kobe, Japan, noted that management decisions should be based upon scientific advice and consistent with the precautionary approach;

NOTING that participants of the first Global Summit of Tuna RFMOs in 2007 in Kobe, Japan agreed that stock assessment results be presented in a standardized “four quadrant, red-yellow-green” format that is now referred to as the Kobe Plot, which is widely embraced as a practical, user-friendly method to present stock status information;

FURTHER NOTING that, at the Second Joint Meeting of Tuna RFMOs in June 2009 in San Sebastian, Spain, a “Strategy Matrix” was adopted to provide fishery managers with the results of potential management actions for meeting management targets, such as ending overfishing and rebuilding overfished stocks, in a standardized manner;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the Strategy Matrix is a harmonized format for RFMO science bodies to convey advice, and that this format for presenting stock assessment results facilitates the application of the precautionary approach by providing Commissions with the basis to evaluate and adopt management options at various levels of probability of success;

RECOGNIZING that the SCRS conducted a successful pilot application of the Kobe II Strategy Matrix for bigeye and bluefin tuna in 2010 and that resultant information was used in developing management recommendations for those species;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. For stocks managed by ICCAT that are not overfished and not subject to overfishing (i.e., “healthy” stocks in the green quadrant of the Kobe plot), management measures shall be designed to result in a low (e.g., X% or less) probability of overfishing.
2. For stocks that are not overfished, but are subject to overfishing, (i.e., stocks in the upper right yellow quadrant of the Kobe plot), the Commission shall adopt management measures designed to result in a [moderately] high (e.g., X% or greater) probability of ending overfishing immediately and in a low (e.g., X% or less) probability of resuming overfishing within an X year period.

3. For overfished stocks that are subject to overfishing (i.e., stocks in the red quadrant of the Kobe plot), the Commission shall adopt management measures designed to result in a high (e.g., X% or greater) probability of ending overfishing immediately. In addition, the Commission shall adopt a plan to rebuild the stock to levels consistent with the Convention Objective within X years. A longer rebuilding period may be adopted if SCRS determines a X year rebuilding program is not possible given the biological productivity of the stock.
4. For overfished stocks that are not subject to overfishing (i.e. stocks in the lower left yellow quadrant of the Kobe plot), the Commission shall adopt management measures designed to rebuild the stock to levels consistent with the Convention Objective within X years and to result in a low (e.g., X% or less) probability of overfishing. A longer rebuilding period may be adopted if SCRS determines a X year rebuilding program is not possible given the biological productivity of the stock.

4.4 REPORT OF THE THIRD JOINT MEETING OF THE TUNA REGIONAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATIONS (Kobe III) (La Jolla, California, USA, July 12-14, 2011)

1. Opening of Meeting

Mr. Stefaan Depypere (EU) opened the meeting for the current Kobe Chair, Mr. Ernesto Penas Lado. Mr. Depypere welcomed participants and introduced Dr. Jane Lubchenco (USA), Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Administrator.

Dr. Lubchenco welcomed the Kobe III participants to La Jolla and noted that global cooperation is essential for the effective management of tunas, swordfish and other highly migratory species. Dr. Lubchenco highlighted that a billion people worldwide depend on seafood as their primary source of protein, making sustainable fisheries and aquaculture key to the world's future food security. Healthy oceans are also essential to those who rely on them for employment. She urged the participants to commit to science-based, sustainable management of highly migratory species and to adopt the proposal on decision-making principles. She called on participants to acknowledge that, when uncertainty exists, the precautionary approach should be applied and urged the participants to make further progress in addressing illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing by agreeing to measures that would reduce the mobility of IUU vessels and help keep their illegal products from entering the market. Finally, Dr. Lubchenco noted tuna RFMOs' important role in ecosystem management, because they are responsible for managing the top predators in our ocean ecosystems and urged participants to continue to work to address big picture ecological considerations needed for ecosystem management.

2. Election of Chair

Mr. Russell Smith (USA) was elected Chair.

3. Appointment of Rapporteur

Ms. Melanie King (USA) was appointed Rapporteur.

4. Adoption of Agenda

The Chair noted that the Agenda was developed by an international Steering Committee and open for public comment prior to Kobe III in order to obtain as much input as possible from Kobe participants about the topics on the Agenda. The Chair noted to the Steering Committee that it was important for the Agenda to be as focused and streamlined as possible, in order to achieve concrete outcomes on key issues. The Agenda was adopted without change and is attached as **Appendix 1 to ANNEX 4.4**.

5. Science

The science session was moderated by Dr. Francis Marsac, Chair of the IOTC Scientific Committee. The Rapporteur for this session was Dr. John Hampton, Manager of the Oceanic Fisheries Programme for the Secretariat of the South Pacific Commission.

a) Review of past Kobe science recommendations

Dr. Naozumi Miyabe (Chair of the WCPFC Scientific Committee) briefly reviewed the science-related recommendations from the Kobe II meeting in 2009 and Kobe II workshops in 2010. The recommendations cover the areas of data sharing and provision of scientific advice, data reporting, and data gathering and analysis. Almost all these items have now been considered and adopted where appropriate by most tRFMOs.

b) Report of relevant recommendations from Joint Technical By-catch Working Group

Mr. Glenn Hurry (Executive Director of the WCPFC) presented an overview of the key issues discussed and the recommendations from the meeting of the Joint Technical By-catch Working Group (JTBWG) held prior to Kobe III.

Kobe III participants recognized the progress made by the JTBWG and welcomed its work plan. The work of the JTBWG will be chaired by Dr. Simon Nicol of the South Pacific Commission. It will meet quarterly, at least initially, by electronic means. Other points raised in discussion during Kobe III included the following:

- a) There needs to be information collected by observers on discards, both of by-catch and target species;
- b) Some participants expressed the importance of monitoring interactions of tuna fisheries with species such as whale sharks and cetaceans and called for measures to mitigate the impacts of tuna fishing on these species, including the preparation of best-practice guidelines for the safe handling and release of captured whale sharks and cetaceans;
- c) Food security considerations should be included in the work on by-catch in the Kobe process, recognizing the desires of some developing states to retain by-catch species that can provide a socio-economic benefit;
- d) More comprehensive data are required to monitor and manage the impacts of tuna fisheries on sharks
- e) The rate of and species take of by-catch in recreational fisheries should be considered as part of by-catch research and assessments.
- f) While a specific set of recommendations on sharks were made by the JTBWG, the same attention was not devoted to other taxa such as seabirds, sea turtles or marine mammals; and
- g) It was noted that while seabirds, sea turtles and marine mammals are always considered by-catch, not all shark catches are genuinely by-catch as in some cases they are targeted or secondary catches of commercial interest.

Kobe III participants noted that data collection and reporting of information concerning by-catch are essential for the estimation of by-catch and the implementation of an ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management. The responsibility of the members and cooperating non-members of the tRFMOs to improve by-catch data collection and reporting was emphasized. Some participants also called for a study conducted by an appropriate organization, such as the FAO, to quantify the amount of food fish discarded in industrial fisheries.

Kobe III recommended that the Joint Technical By-catch Working Group be continued and the report be sent to the tRFMOs for consideration according to their objectives and procedures.

c) Focus issues for Kobe III

i) Data confidentiality and data sharing

Dr. Victor Restrepo (ISSF) presented the background information on “Data Confidentiality and Data Sharing” (in **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 4.4**). Data submitted to or collected by tRFMOs can be used for compliance and/or science purposes. The sharing of certain types of data could assist tRFMOs in carrying out their functions, including:

- a) Sharing of relevant data in order to carry out joint stock assessments (such as for Pacific bigeye tuna) or conduct global meta-analyses; and
- b) Sharing of transshipment and vessel activity data to validate catch statistics and detect IUU fishing.

Currently there is no formal mechanism to facilitate routine data sharing among all tRFMOs (although a data exchange agreement has been concluded recently by WCPFC and IATTC). Dr. Restrepo suggested that Kobe III provided an opportunity to begin to address this issue.

The meeting participants expressed general support for the development of a broad data sharing protocol, including operational level data, in order to advance scientific understanding of tuna stocks and associated species and to improve compliance and combat IUU fishing. Various participants noted that confidentiality of data, especially operational level data, would need to be ensured, for example, by having appropriate time delays between the fishing activity and data release.

Kobe III participants recognized that the five tRFMOs have different data confidentiality rules and recommended that tRFMOs Secretariats cooperate to develop common data confidentiality rules and a draft protocol for data sharing. The protocol will specify the types of data to be shared, how it can be used, and who can have access to it. It was suggested that the WCPFC-IATTC Data Exchange Agreement might be used as a starting point for the development of the draft protocol.

ii) Addressing common issues in RFMO's scientific bodies

Dr. Josú Santiago (Chair of the ICCAT Standing Committee on Research and Statistics) presented the background information on “Addressing Common Issues in tRFMOs Scientific Bodies” (in **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 4.4**). Four specific issues were discussed:

- a) Developing a checklist of minimum standards for stock assessments;
- b) Developing a template for the Executive Summaries of Scientific Committee reports;
- c) Establishing an annotated list of common issues in two priority lists; and
- d) Creating a new Joint Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) Technical Working Group.

The Kobe III participants generally supported the development of a checklist of minimum standards for stock assessments and the Executive Summary template. Some participants suggested the following components for inclusion in executive summaries, if not already included:

- a) Catch and effort summaries;
- b) Key model parameters;
- c) Assessment results in relation to specified reference points and levels of uncertainty (perhaps using the Kobe II Strategy Matrix (K2SM) when uncertainties in assessment results are quantified);
- d) Fishery specific impact curves in multi-gear fisheries;
- e) Regional specific impact curves in fisheries with extended geographic ranges; and
- f) Clear management advice.

The participants supported the list of cross-cutting issues and their prioritization as identified in the above presentation (see **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 4.4**).

Kobe III participants agreed that the K2SM is a useful tool for evaluating management strategies or options, provided that the uncertainties in assessments can be adequately quantified. Participants acknowledged that considerable work remains to be done both to reduce uncertainty in stock assessments, and to develop common standards or guidelines for how uncertainty is reflected. It was also noted that the definition of science-based limit reference points and target reference points linked to management objectives are important elements underpinning the K2SM. Kobe III participants recommended that the scientific committees and bodies of the tRFMOs jointly develop methods to better quantify the uncertainty and understand how this uncertainty is reflected in the risk assessment inherent in the K2SM. The participants further noted that decisions on these issues by tRFMOs could improve the Commissions' capacity for implementing precautionary management measures.

Some participants suggested that both the impact of fish aggregating devices (FADs) in oceanic ecosystems and the study of movements of highly migratory species might be elevated from the second priority to the first priority list. It was also noted that standardized catch per unit effort (CPUE), being the basis of most tuna assessments, is a priority area for further study. In particular, further work is required to better utilize purse seine CPUE in stock assessments. This is a particular issue for yellowfin and bigeye tuna assessments, where the size of historically major longline fleets are declining.

Recognizing that a Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) process needs to be widely implemented in the tRFMOs in the line with implementing a precautionary approach for tuna fisheries management, Kobe III participants recommended that a Joint MSE Technical Working Group be created and that this joint working group work electronically, in the first instance, in order to minimize the cost of its work. The terms of reference for that joint working group should include:

- a) Review the literature and experiences of tRFMOs in relation to MSE in order to investigate the feasibility of its application to different tunas;
- b) Provide guidance for developing MSE and operational models (OM) for tuna biology/ecology/fisheries in relation to the main sources of uncertainty arising from tuna assessments; and
- c) To the extent possible, provide and develop the modeling framework to apply the OM /MSE to tuna assessments by tRFMOs.

It was stressed that appropriate attention be given to building the capacity of tRFMO participants in the use of the MSE approach. Also, it was stressed that necessary management action should not be delayed while MSE systems are developed.

6. Management

The management session was moderated by Ms. Anna Willock (Australia); Mr. Vladimir Puentes (Colombia) served as rapporteur.

a) Review of past Kobe management recommendations

Mr. Matt Hooper (New Zealand) presented the past Kobe III management recommendations relevant to the management of tuna fisheries and potential areas for improvement.

There was agreement by participants that recommendations related to capacity building for developing members and cooperating non-members are particularly important, including ensuring funds are available to allow participation of developing members in tRFMO scientific and commission meetings. It was noted that efforts to fund the travel of developing members have allowed some small island developing States (SIDS) to hold chairmanships in WCPFC. Participants noted that other sources of funding should be explored to facilitate participation of developing members in international meetings and that Global Environment Facility funds in particular have allowed participation of developing States in various fora. Some participants stated that capacity building should support more than attending meetings, but also fully accessing the fisheries under each tRFMO's jurisdiction. Kobe III participants took note that several tRFMOs have funds to assist developing Nation participation in meetings, and that most recently, IATTC agreed to develop a mechanism in this regard. Several participants also suggested that while most funds available for training focus on training by experts from developing members, more consideration should be given to funding horizontal training programs among developing members to allow them to share experiences and learn from other members in similar economic circumstances. Several participants also highlighted the importance of funding to study artisanal fisheries.

b) Summary report of Joint IATTC-WCPFC Workshop

Mr. Fabio Hazin (Chairman of ICCAT) presented the results of the Joint IATTC-WCPFC Workshop that took place on July 11, 2011 in La Jolla, California, USA. Participants were pleased by the results of the workshop and agreed to consider the results at the IATTC and WCPFC annual meetings.

c) Relevant recommendations from the Joint Technical By-catch Working Group

Mr. Glenn Hurry presented the outcomes of the Joint Technical By-catch Working Group (JTBWG) related to management. The Chair noted that it was not up to the Kobe III participants to endorse the work of the JTBWG, given that body's terms of reference, which includes referring recommendations to RFMOs and their science bodies as appropriate.

Participants discussed the value of species specific management measures versus management measures that apply across all species of a taxa. Participants agreed that for taxa such as seabirds, effective management measures can be effective across the taxa. Some participants expressed concern that shark measures need to be species specific due to the nature of the fishery. The distinction between the incidental catch of sharks and targeted shark fisheries was highlighted.

Several participants requested that the JTBWG consider the utility of circle hooks in reducing by-catch. Participants also recommended that the JTBWG consider the issues of juvenile finfish catches and discards in its future meetings. Several participants also highlighted the importance of by-catch to food security and local economies in developing members.

In accordance with the Terms of Reference for the JTBWG, which were adopted at the Kobe II By-catch Workshop, the Kobe III participants welcomed the report of the first meeting of the By-catch Joint Technical Working Group and **recommended** that it be transmitted to each tRFMO for its consideration

d) Focus issues for Kobe III

i) Capacity and allocation

Mr. Toufik El Ktiri (Morocco) presented the background information contained in on "Capacity" (in **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 4.4**).

Many participants noted that addressing overcapacity of the global tuna fleet is an important issue that needs to be addressed in the Kobe process, taking into account the rights of developing members. Other participants expressed that they did not believe Kobe is an appropriate forum to address this difficult issue. Participants noted that the global vessel register currently under development will be an important tool to address over capacity and IUU fishing activities.

The Kobe III participants recommended that each tRFMO Secretariat annually measure existing capacity in tuna fisheries under its jurisdiction and monitor where that capacity is used and by whom. The results of this work should be referred to the respective Commission for its consideration.

In order to assist in the analysis and appropriate management decision-making to reduce overfishing and overcapacity, Kobe III participants recommend that by 2013 each tRFMO establish a record of vessels, by gear type, actively fishing for stocks under its jurisdiction, and that all tRFMO Secretariats coordinate the establishment of a common vessel database linked, to the extent possible, to the existing consolidated list of active vessels (CLAV), taking into account the requirements of each tRFMO for vessel registration.

Many participants noted that there is an important difference between the transfer of capacity among ocean basins and the transfer of capacity within a tRFMO area of competence from developed to developing members. Regarding the former, members must ensure the transfer is in accordance with relevant tRFMO measures and appropriate given the status of the stocks. Regarding the later, such transfer can be beneficial in allowing developing coastal members to realize their development aspirations without increasing the overall capacity of the fleet.

Participants discussed the following considerations, based on a list provided by Mexico, when determining whether a transfer of capacity among participants is appropriate:

- a) Legal framework for the capacity transfer;
- b) Current status of the fisheries resources;
- c) Fishing method used of the vessel to be transferred and effect of this method in the area where the capacity was transferred;
- d) If capacity is transferred within one RFMO, or from one RFMO to another, particular situations to be handled according to each one;
- e) If the capacity to be transferred is going to a place where the capacity is at its limit or there is overcapacity;
- f) The impact of the transfer in coastal States, particularly in developing States;
- g) If the transfer is made by a developing country and does not contribute to overcapacity;
- h) Effects of the transfer on the conservation measures of the tRFMO receiving that capacity;
- i) Reasons for the capacity transfer; and
- j) Beneficial owner of the capacity.

Participants suggested that these considerations should apply to capacity transfers but not to the increase in capacity. Participants noted that tRFMOs should examine whether it is appropriate to transfer capacity from one tRFMO to another, taking into account the fact that Kobe II participants recommended that tuna fishing capacity should not be transferred between tRFMO areas and, as appropriate within tRFMO areas, unless in accordance with the measures of the tRFMOs concerned.

The importance of tuna fisheries for the economies of coastal states, particularly for SIDS, was emphasized by many participants, and there was agreement that this consideration should be taken into account in any capacity reduction or transfer scheme. Participants recommended that each tRFMO draw up a strategy to enhance the participation of developing coastal members in sustainable tuna development and trade, including ensuring that conservation and management measures promote and do not undermine the sustainable development of tuna fisheries and industries of developing coastal States.

In view of these discussions, Kobe III participants recommended that developed fishing members freeze large scale purse seine capacity under their flag. Based on the status of the stocks, each tRFMO should consider a scheme for:

- Reduction of over capacity in a way that does not constrain the access to, development of, and benefit from sustainable tuna fisheries, including on the high seas, by developing coastal states, in particular small island developing States, territories, and States with small and vulnerable economies; and

- Transfer of capacity from developed fishing members to developing coastal fishing members within its area of competence where appropriate.

ii) Decision-making principles

Ms. Sylvie Lapointe (Canada) presented the background information on “Kobe II Guidelines: Addressing Overfishing and/or Stocks that are Overfished” (in **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 4.4**). Kobe III participants welcomed these guidelines for decision-making on conservation and management measures, especially in view of adopting precautionary management approaches for tuna fisheries, and recommended that the decision-making framework guidelines outlined therein be referred to the respective tRFMOs for consideration.

7. Compliance and Enforcement

The compliance and enforcement discussion was moderated by Mr. Matar Sambou (Senegal) and rapporteured by Dr. Hamady Diop (CSRP).

a) Review of past Kobe Compliance and Enforcement Recommendations

The session began with an overview of the past recommendations of the Kobe process regarding compliance and enforcement presented by Mr. Roberto Cesari (EU). The Kobe III participants noted their appreciation of the progress made by the tRFMOs since the adoption of these recommendations.

b) Summary of Pre-Kobe III Preparatory Workshop on Port State Measures and Catch Documentation Schemes

Ms. Hyunwook Kwon (Korea) presented the report from the pre-Kobe III workshop on port state measures (PSM), underlining the importance of ensuring adequate and appropriate capacity building for developing countries for PSM as well as the various documentation systems for tuna and tuna-like species.

c) Focus Issues for Kobe III

i) Unique vessel identifiers and harmonized IUU list

Mr. Miguel Herrera (IOTC) presented an update on the Secretariats’ progress in developing a CLAV and other background information on a “Global Consolidated List of Authorized Vessels (CLAV)” (in **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 4.4**). Mr. Herrera noted that while the CLAV included a process for assigning a unique vessel identifier, most tRFMOs were not yet including these numbers in their published authorized vessel lists. Kobe III participants recommended that the tRFMO Secretariats continue this work and that it be coordinated with the ongoing Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) effort to develop a global record of fishing vessels.

Kobe III participants noted their appreciation for the work already conducted by the tRFMO Secretariats on the development of a consolidated list of authorized vessels, including the implementation of UVIs and recommended that they continue these efforts. Furthermore, the delegates recommended that these efforts be coordinated with the FAO effort to develop and implement a global record of fishing vessels, refrigerated transport vessels, and supply vessels.

Ms. Deirdre Warner-Kramer (USA) presented the background information on “Harmonized IUU Vessel Lists Across tRFMOs” (in **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 4.4**). A paper on basic principles for RFMO procedures on cross-listing vessels that have been listed on other RFMO IUU Vessel Lists was presented by the United States. These principles are included in **Appendix 4 to ANNEX 4.4**. Participants recommended that the principles be referred to the tRFMOs for consideration as each moves towards developing criteria and procedures for cross-listing IUU vessels, and recommended that the development of compatible IUU vessel listing criteria and procedures, to the maximum extent possible, should be given priority.

ii) Standardized Report Cards on data submission

Ms. Julia Hsiang-Wen Huang (Chinese Taipei) presented the background information on a “Statistical Data Report Card” (in **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 4.4**) concerning data submission in tRFMOs and the idea of creating a standardized data report card to compare data submission of members across tRFMOs. Participants

recommended the development of harmonized data report card formats to compare data submission across tRFMOs, but cautioned that it should not be used to compare tRFMO performance, but rather members' performance.

Kobe III participants recommended that the tRFMOs establish a common format for assessing compliance with data reporting requirements. Furthermore, to facilitate compliance, delegates recommended that all tuna RFMOs streamline and harmonize the reporting formats, procedures, and timing.

iii) Port State Measures

Ms. Michele Kuruc (FAO) presented the background information on “Port State Measures (PSM)” (in **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 4.4**). Norway presented a white paper on the FAO Agreement on PSM, included in **Appendix 5 to ANNEX 4.4**. The participants of Kobe III discussed the important role of port state measures to combat IUU fishing and reaffirmed that tRFMOs should adopt port state measures as recommended in the report of the Kobe II MCS workshop. Kobe III participants agreed on the need to provide capacity building support for developing countries in implementing port state measures.

iv) Market measures/CDS/Trade tracking

Mr. Shingo Ota (Japan) presented the background information on “Market Measures/CDS/Trade Tracking” (in **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 4.4**). Kobe III participants noted that electronic catch document schemes (CDS) would lower costs of implementation and emphasized the need to provide support for developing countries for such programs.

The Kobe III participants, reaffirming the recommendations regarding port state measures and CDS, recommended that tRFMOs, developed States, and NGOs accelerate efforts to provide capacity building assistance through various means, including workshops, to implement CDS, port state measures, and data collection and to participate in the scientific work.

8. Future of Kobe process

Participants agreed that the Kobe process has been helpful in advancing many common issues among tRFMOs, but some participants cautioned that contentious issues such as capacity can be more effectively addressed in the tRFMOs themselves. It was recommended that the Kobe process continue but allow some time for implementation of agreed recommendations before convening another joint tRFMO meeting. In light of the financial and scheduling burden, particularly for developing members, participants considered several possible intervals until the next joint tRFMO meetings and the issue was left undecided.

Participants recommended that a Steering Committee be formed to review and report to the tRFMOs regarding progress made in implementing all of the recommendations agreed to in the Kobe process, pursuant to the terms of reference included in **Appendix 3 to ANNEX 4.4**.

9. Other matters

Ms. Kuruc made an intervention to inform Kobe III participants of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) sustainable fisheries initiative that can provide funding for a variety of projects. Several participants noted that efforts under GEF have benefited WCPFC members and emphasized its potential to improve tuna management. No other matters were discussed.

10. Adoption of meeting report and intersessional work plan

The recommendations agreed by the participants under each agenda items are included in **Appendix 3 to ANNEX 4.4**. The meeting report was adopted by correspondence.

11. Adjournment

The Chair thanked the participants for their contributions and adjourned the meeting.

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Election of Chair
3. Appointment of Rapporteur
4. Adoption of agenda
5. Science
 - a) Review of past Kobe science recommendations
 - b) Report of relevant recommendations from Joint Technical By-catch Working Group
 - c) Focus issues for Kobe III
 - i) Data confidentiality and data sharing
 - ii) Addressing common issues in RFMOs' scientific bodies
6. Management
 - a) Review of past Kobe management recommendations
 - b) Summary report of Joint IATTC-WCPFC Workshop
 - c) Report of relevant recommendations from Joint Technical Bycatch Working Group
 - d) Focus issues for Kobe III
 - i) Capacity and allocation
 - ii) Decision-making principles
7. Compliance and enforcement
 - a) Review of past Kobe compliance and enforcement recommendations
 - b) Summary of Pre-Kobe III Preparatory Workshop on Port State Measures and Catch Documentation Schemes
 - c) Focus issues for Kobe III
 - i) Unique vessel identifiers and harmonized IUU list
 - ii) Standardized report cards on data submission
 - iii) Port State Measures
 - iv) Market measures/CDS/trade tracking
8. Future of Kobe Process
9. Other matters
10. Adoption of meeting report and intersessional work plan (if needed)
11. Adjournment

Appendix 2 to ANNEX 4.4**Reference Documents****– Background for Agenda Item 5.c.i.*****Topic: Data Sharing Across Tuna RFMOs***

The five tuna regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) generally collect a variety of data and information for both scientific and compliance purposes. Some of this information could enhance the RFMOs' efforts to meet their objectives, such as addressing illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing or bycatch issues, if relevant data and information were routinely shared. However, there is currently no mechanism which allows the organizations to share data and information across the RFMOs, including the respective scientific committees. The Kobe III meeting could provide a forum for discussing and possibly developing rules and a mechanism to allow data sharing between the respective RFMOs.

To be successful, a key issue to address will be data confidentiality. All five of the tuna RFMOs have adopted data confidentiality rules and/or procedures. While the respective rules or procedures vary, they provide some structure to the process of cross-RFMO data sharing. Taking into account existing frameworks, the discussion could determine exactly what information is useful to share, who would have access to information, and how data utilization and dissemination would be controlled, providing for confidentiality. During Kobe III, parties could discuss the utility of allowing the RFMOs to share different types of information, recognizing that some may be more useful than others.

Examples of data that could be shared across tuna RFMOs range from scientific data (such as catch and effort data by gear type, biological sampling, bycatch, and observer data) to information that can assist in compliance reviews (such as transshipment information across RFMOs and trade data). For example, sharing catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE) and biological data could enhance the results of stock assessments. Regarding at-sea transshipment, significant amounts of tuna product are transshipped in order to reach the final market destination; the ability to cross-check transshipment information among RFMOs would facilitate the identification of IUU product that crosses convention boundaries. The Kobe III discussions could focus on the possibility of developing rules and a mechanism to allow such data to be shared among tuna RFMOs.

– Background for Agenda Item 5.c.ii.***Topic: Addressing Common Issues in Tuna RFMOs Scientific Bodies***

Three important recommendations (Rec. 14, 15 and 19) made by the K2Sci requested the 5 RFMO's Scientific Committees to progress on common practices and scientific issues. While formal exchanges between tRFMO SC Chairs have not generally occurred over the intervening time, there have been a few which address common scientific issues across tRFMOs. Among those, the 2011 stock assessment workshop organized by the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) and the outcomes of the Technical Experts Overseeing Third Country Expertise (TXOTX) project are viewed by the SC Chairs as positive contributions in support of developing scientific advice. Other joint initiatives are needed.

A brief summary on the way the three above mentioned recommendations were tackled by the SCs is presented below:

1. To develop a checklist and minimum standards for stock assessments (Rec. 14)

Guidelines for the presentation of data, quality control procedures, CPUE series used, stock assessment (SA) models and outputs, would ensure a greater transparency and facilitate peer-review of methods used and results produced by the SCs. The IOTC-SC has adopted such guidelines in 2007, which were further expanded in 2010 to apply to all assessments conducted. The IOTC is also developing a data quality scoring system that would help identify fleets that require improvements in the data quality. ICCAT is also developing a checklist for SA documentation aiming at generating automatically standard reports of stock status and projections, keeping track of inputs/outputs. The IATTC has adopted external peer- reviews of its SAs, centering the review on the methodology and assumptions of the assessment models. This practice was applied to bigeye SA in 2010 and it is programmed to be done for the yellowfin tuna SA methods in 2012. The WCPFC-SC has strict guidelines for the provision of scientific data by member states to the Commission, data quality control, and SA procedures. It

also plans to conduct an external peer-review of 2011 bigeye stock assessment in 2012. However, WCPFC-SC requested clarification of Recommendation 14 text when it reviewed all Kobe-2 workshop recommendations. The CCSBT Extended Scientific Committee (ESC) conducts detailed assessments for a single stock only and considered that a checklist was not likely to be of significant value to the CCSBT. Nevertheless, the CCSBT does have requirements in place regarding the provision of data (including change control rules) as well as specifications for CPUE series, operating models and robustness trials.

2. To develop a common template for executive summaries to summarize stock status and management recommendations (Rec. 15)

The IOTC template provides the required information on fisheries indicators, stock status and management advice. However, the SC agreed the current template which has not changed over the past years, needs to be revised. The new template will diverge substantially from the current one in order to be more user-friendly and easier to update. The current structure of the ICCAT Executive Summary reports, implemented in 1995, fairly well fits the FIRMS reporting format. Nevertheless, the 2011 Working Group on the Organization of the SCRS of ICCAT reflected the need to make improvements to the current structure and a proposal will be presented to the SCRS. The IATTC produces a Fishery Status Report annually that summarizes stock status and trend for all of the major fish stocks managed by the commission. A separate document summarizing the management advice and recommendations is made as part of the annual meeting of the Commission. The WCPFC-SC provides information on stock status and trends, management advice and recommendations, which include estimates of management quantities, Kobe charts, MSY and catch trends and specification to be taken to achieve associated MSY levels. The WCPFC-SC agreed to develop a draft template for discussion at Kobe-3. The CCSBT-ESC considered this recommendation more relevant to the other tRFMOs which are dealing with numerous species and stock assessments. Nevertheless, the CCSBT produces a standardized user friendly report on Biology, Stock Status and Management of Southern Bluefin Tuna each year, which is distributed to FAO and other RFMOs with an interest in southern bluefin tuna. The CCSBT also inputs this information into the FIRMS system, which provides a common interface and reporting format on stock status and management for numerous global stocks.

Finally, similar actions can be noted across the approaches developed by the 5 tRFMO regarding Kobe-2 Recommendations 14 and 15. However, there is still room for further improvements through coordinated action that could be discussed and proposed at Kobe-3. The SC Chairs would welcome any additional inputs and considerations from the CPCs

3. To establish an annotated list of common issues and prioritize them for discussion at the Kobe 3 meeting (Rec. 19)

From the discussions held at the ISSF SA workshop (2011) and the repeated concerns expressed by the SCs in their plenary sessions, several cross-cutting issues can be raised and prioritized.

– First set of priorities:

- How to best quantify uncertainty in the assessments in terms of populating the K2Strategy Matrix.
- Define best practices for large-scale tuna tagging programs in support of developing fishery management advice.
- Re-examine life history parameters (growth and age, natural mortality, maturity, steepness of the stock-recruitment relationship) and compare those across oceans in the perspective of reconciling values that are often assumed
- How to improve standardization of purse seine and longline CPUEs for their use as reliable proxies of abundance

– Second set of priorities:

- Movements of HMS species (highly viscous or highly migratory? reasons for differences between oceans?) and their implication in management (e.g. oceanic MPAs, interactions between fisheries)
- How to link ecosystem and multispecies approaches and models with stock assessment?
- The impact of FADs in oceanic ecosystems
- Incorporating oceanographic information into the assessment and forecasting of abundance trends

The best way to achieve cross-fertilization and progress on those issues is through joint workshops focusing on those themes or through the strength of the participation in the workshops already offered by the RFMO's such as the IATTC fall workshops which have dealt with several of the issues mentioned above. Concerns were

expressed in Kobe-2 meetings that gathering a significant number of participants to these workshops would be a challenging issue if too many of these are organized.

Another critical issue which is broader than the solely scientific aspects is the evaluation of the expected performance of decision rules (usually associated with the status of the stock relative to reference points) that are translated into management actions. This process, which is known as the Management Strategy Evaluation, is a participative approach involving all stakeholders, from scientists to managers, the industry and the fishing communities, and it represents a crucial process in the implementation of the precautionary approach. It should be developed globally for tuna fisheries and we propose that a Joint MSE Technical Working Group be organized during the next biennium to progress on this issue. Draft Terms of Reference for such a Working Group is attached.

Finally, the t-RMFO SCs underline that the proposed action would incur additional financial and manpower costs which have not been budgeted.

4. Joint Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) Technical Working Group: Terms of Reference

The Joint MSE Technical Working Group (TMSEWG) should be relatively small in nature so as to work more efficiently (e.g., 2-3 representatives from each Tuna RFMO). The TMSEWG will support, streamline, and seek to harmonize the MSE related activities of stock assessment working groups. The WG will have the ability, where necessary, to consult and work with other experts including those from fishing industry, IGOs and NGOs. The findings/recommendations of the TMSEWG will be considered by each RFMO, including, as appropriate, their technical bodies, in accordance with the procedures of each RFMO. The RFMOs may provide feedback to the TMSEWG as necessary. To the extent possible, the TMSEWG will meet electronically, but should also focus on providing advice to next SC meeting of Tuna RFMOs in 2012.

Terms of Reference:

- 1) Review the literature and the experiences of tRFMOs in relation to MSE in order to investigate the feasibility to apply to different tunas.
- 2) Provide guidance for developing MSE and operational models (OM) for tuna biology/ecology/fisheries in relation to the main sources of uncertainty arising from tuna assessment.
- 3) To the extent possible, provide and develop the modeling framework to apply the OM/MSE to tunas among Tuna RFMOs.
- 4) The duration of the TMSEWG will depend on the needs and requests of the Tuna RFMOs.

– Background for Agenda Item 6.d.i.

Topic: Capacity

Kobe III provides an opportunity to advance the discussion of capacity and allocation issues in the global tuna community, to review past progress, and identify ongoing issues of concern.

The issue of capacity has been controversial both in the Kobe process and within the tuna RFMOs, and the debate has centered on reconciling the need to reduce the overcapacity of the global tuna fleet with the aspirations of developing coastal states to develop their fisheries and avoid undue restrictions on their artisanal fleets. At Kobe II, participants agreed that the global fishing capacity for tuna is too high and that “in order to address this problem it is imperative that members of RFMOs collaborate at a global level, and that each flag State or fishing entity ensure that its fishing capacity is commensurate with its fishing opportunities as determined by each tuna RFMO. The participants agreed that this problem should be addressed in a way that does not constrain the access to, development of, and benefit from sustainable tuna fisheries, including on the high seas, by developing coastal States.” At Kobe II participants also noted that it is important that capacity reduction measures not result in capacity transfers between tuna RFMOs. The Kobe II Management Workshop built off of these outcomes with recommendations that included consideration of a freeze on capacity on a fishery by fishery basis, consideration of rights-based approaches, and ensuring an exchange of information on fleet capacities among the RFMOs.

The IATTC, ICCAT, IOTC, and WCPFC all currently have some form of capacity controls. IATTC Resolution C-02-03 establishes a total vessel capacity limit for all vessels fishing in the eastern Pacific Ocean and allocates a vessel capacity limit to each member. ICCAT has limited the number of vessels operating in certain fisheries

such as eastern bluefin tuna (Recommendation 10-04), northern albacore (Recommendation 98-08), and bigeye (Recommendations 04-01, 09-01, 10-01). In 2009 the IOTC adopted a comprehensive capacity measure replacing previous capacity limits on tropical tunas, swordfish, and albacore fleets. The WCPFC has adopted a resolution to reduce the overcapacity of purse seine vessels in the western Pacific Ocean (Resolution 2005-02), as well as a number of binding measures that either directly or indirectly address capacity measures in certain fisheries (CMMs 2004-04, 2005-02, 2005-03, 2006-03, 2006-04, 2008-01, 2009-07, and 2009-11). In many cases, RFMOs have struggled with implementation and adherence of these measures by their members.

Kobe III presents an opportunity to discuss the progress made on past Kobe recommendations related to capacity, the complexities of measuring and monitoring capacity, the effectiveness of the current capacity limits, and the potential for improved strategies and coordinated approaches that can balance the need to reduce the global tuna fleet capacity with the aspirations of developing States.

– **Background for Agenda Item 5.d.ii**

Topic: Kobe III Guidelines - Addressing Overfishing and/or Stocks that are Overfished

At Kobe I, the five tuna regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) Commissioners agreed to the “Kobe Plot” (or Chart, see below) as a harmonized diagram showing the current and historical level of biomass (B) and fishing mortality (F) versus B_{MSY} ¹ and F_{MSY} in three colors (green, yellow and red) to illustrate the status of a given stock of tunas. The Kobe Plot has become a standard feature of scientific and policy documents at the tuna RFMOs, and facilitates presentation of stock assessment results in an easily understood, clear and concise manner.

Kobe II produced the “Kobe II Strategy Matrix” (K2SM) as a harmonized format for presentation of fishery management alternatives. The K2SM is expected to improve the way in which the tuna RFMOs’ Scientific Committees communicate to the Commissioners the potential risks and consequences of management options. When possible, K2SM tables, or similar tools, can guide Commission discussions when adopting conservation and management measures with the aim of providing a high probability of achieving and maintaining stocks at levels consistent with Convention objectives. The precautionary approach, which reflects the UN Fish Stocks Agreement as well as certain tuna RFMO Conventions, may be implemented by adopting a higher level of probability.

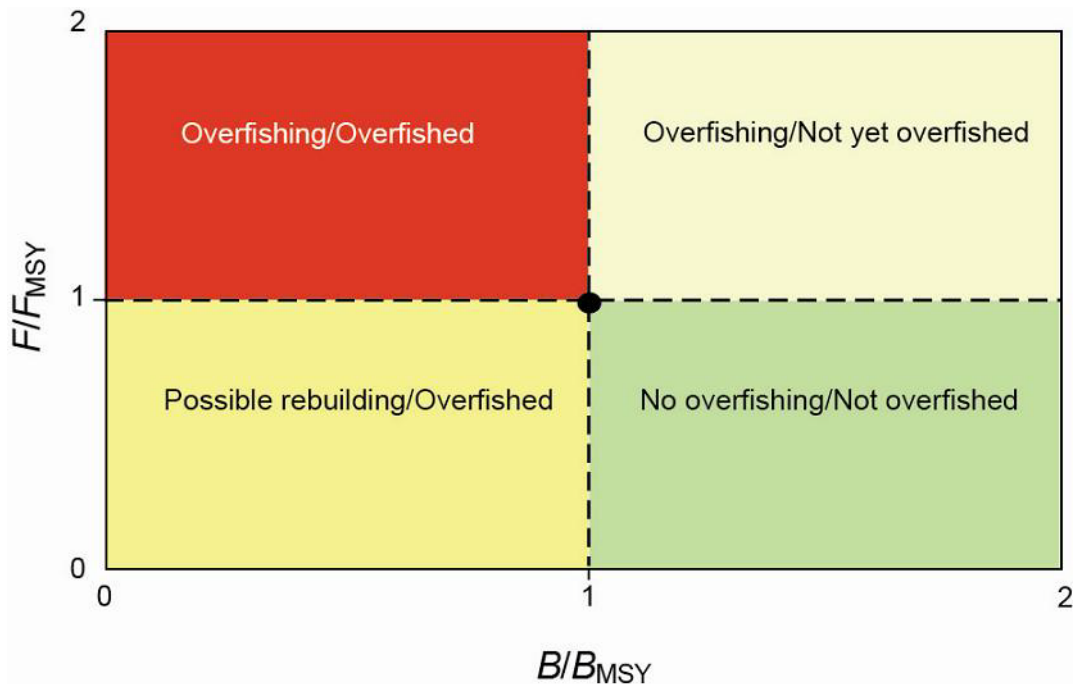
The Kobe III meeting presents an opportunity to develop this process further by establishing guidelines for decision-making on conservation and management measures that are based on objectives stipulated in the Convention of the applicable tuna RFMO and/or objectives that have been previously agreed. This work should build upon the stock status represented in the Kobe Plot as well as the options in the K2SM, taking a precautionary approach through specific probability levels. These guidelines can consist of harvest control rules that establish a target level of biomass (*e.g.* B_{MSY}) and a limit level of fishing mortality (*e.g.* F_{MSY}). The precautionary approach may also be incorporated by setting target B sufficiently above B_{MSY} and/or limit F sufficiently below B_{MSY} to take uncertainties into account.

Potential guidelines for decision-making on conservation and management measures

- 1) For stocks that are in the green zone, management measures should be established which result in a low probability of exceeding limit F .
- 2) For stocks that are in the lower left-hand yellow zone, management measures should be established which result in a reasonably high probability of rebuilding biomass to target B within a certain timeframe, with a low probability of exceeding limit F .
- 3) For stocks that are in the upper right-hand yellow zone, management measures should be established that result in a low probability of exceeding limit F within a certain timeframe, and with a reasonably high probability of maintaining biomass at target B .
- 4) For stocks that are in the red zone, management measures should be established which result in a reasonably high probability of rebuilding biomass to target B within a certain timeframe and which result in a low probability of exceeding limit F within a certain timeframe.
- 5) When the relevant Commission is unable to reach agreement on management measures, a default measure will be in effect. The default measure, (*e.g.*, set fishing mortality at the level with a low probability of exceeding F_{MSY}) must be specified in advance.

¹ MSY = Maximum sustainable yield.

6) For stocks that are in the red zone and whose fishing mortality levels and biomass levels are such that, according to scientific advice, the stock is in imminent danger of collapse, fishing mortality should be set at a level of zero (closure).



– **Background for Agenda Item 5.d.ii.**

Topic: Global Consolidated List of Authorized Vessels (CLAV)

Since the late 1990s, the five tuna regional fisheries management organizations (tRFMOs) have adopted measures that call for their members to authorize large-scale fishing vessels, carrier vessels and other types of vessels, as appropriate, to operate in their areas of competence or catch species under their purview. tRFMO Secretariats are responsible for maintaining and publishing Records of Authorized Vessels in a timely manner. During the first joint tRFMO meeting in 2007 (Kobe I), the participants “underlined the need for a stronger cooperation and coordination among tuna RFMOs particularly, unification of lists of authorized as well as IUU² vessels. tRFMOs agreed to work towards the creation of a harmonized list of tuna-fishing vessels that is as comprehensive as possible (positive list) including use of a permanent unique identifier for each vessel such as an International Maritime Organisation (IMO number)”. Such a list would consolidate the information contained in the Records of Authorized Vessels of each tRFMO, identifying duplicates to the extent possible and assigning unique vessel identifiers (UVIs) for vessels that have not yet been assigned IMO identification numbers.

The IATTC and the IOTC Secretariats built the first versions of the CLAV in 2007 and 2009, respectively. The tRFMOs noted that these lists, albeit useful at the time they were created, represented only snapshots in time of the T-RFMO Lists of Authorized Vessels, agreeing on the need for the tRFMOs to establish a mechanism to allow for a more frequent consolidation of their lists of authorized vessels. This was achieved through the organization of the “Workshop on Exchange of Information and Maintenance of the Consolidated List of Authorized Vessels of Tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organizations”, held in February 2011 with the support of FAO and the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF). The Workshop, which was attended by database and compliance managers from the tRFMO Secretariats and participants from FAO, agreed on the procedures and time frames to be used in the consolidation of vessel records.

The IOTC Secretariat, in collaboration with the other Secretariats, undertook a new update of the CLAV in February 2011, and has updated this information several times since then. Authorized fishing vessels are identified through a tRFMO Unique Vessel Identifier (TUVI) that corresponds to the IMO number if the vessel has been assigned one; if not, the vessel is assigned a temporary unique identifier. This information and the

² Illegal, unreported, and unregulated.

vessel list are shared among tRFMOs. The latest update, carried out in April 2011, identified a total of 19,587 vessels authorized by the five tRFMOs, with 17,035 vessels authorized by only one tRFMO and 2,052 authorized by two or more tRFMOs. 157 fishing vessels were identified as authorized by all five tRFMOs.

The tRFMOs, through the IOTC, are currently cooperating with the FAO with a view to streamlining the procedures for the consolidation of lists of authorized vessels, including modification of the duplicate-finding algorithm used by the FAO Vessel Record Management Framework to be used by the CLAV, and increase the frequency of updates to reach close to real-time updates in the future.

In addition, the T-RFMOs have identified the following areas for future development of the CLAV:

- Incorporation and maintenance of historical records in the CLAV.
- Incorporation of non-fishing vessels in the CLAV (*e.g.* carrier vessels), if authorized by T-RFMOs.

The use of the CLAV can be helpful in the following areas:

- Portal to access authorized fishing vessels from all T-RFMOs in one go: only one website to consult.
- Improved data quality through the identification of inconsistent data: for instance conflicting vessel attributes reported by two or more tRFMO for the same vessel.
- Provide a first building block for the future Global Vessel Record free of charge.
- Studies of total capacity of major tuna fleets: the identification of individual vessels done at the CLAV will reduce double-counting to a minimum.

– **Background for Agenda Item 7.c.i.**

Topic: Harmonized IUU Vessel Lists across tRFMOs

As a tool to help curtail illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, four of the five tuna regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) have established IUU vessel listing procedures. The listing process differs slightly among each organization, and only ICCAT provides for cross-listing vessels from other tuna RFMOs' IUU vessel lists. The lack of cross-listing can limit the effectiveness of the IUU vessel list as a tool, given that fishing vessels are capable of moving across ocean basins, even within a single year. The Kobe III meeting presents an opportunity to make progress on efforts to create a harmonized IUU vessel list across all five t-RFMOs. Such an outcome would be consistent with the Kobe I and Kobe II recommendations, and it would contribute to the development of a global IUU vessel list.

A possible product of Kobe III is a model measure on the establishment of a common IUU vessel list. This model measure could provide each tuna RFMO with a process for adding other tuna RFMOs IUU-listed vessels to its IUU list. The process could be based on the ICCAT procedure in ICCAT Recommendation 09-10, which provides for cross-listing once an IUU vessel list and supporting information is received from another tuna RFMO. As procedures for addition or deletion of a vessel from the list are different in each RFMO, the model measure should leave the specifics of such procedures up to each organization. A provision of information supporting the listing on other tRFMO vessel lists could address due process concerns. If this model measure were adopted by each tRFMO, this could be an important first step in the creation of a global IUU tuna vessel list.

Background for Agenda Item 7.c.ii.

Topic: Statistical Data Report Card

Each of the five tuna regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) has requirements for statistical data reporting. In particular, they require reporting of data that are essential for stock management decisions. However, many members of tuna RFMOs are not fully complying with their data reporting obligations or are unable to do so. This can negatively affect the quality of the stock assessments and hamper scientific committees' ability to provide meaningful management advice. The Kobe III meeting provides a great opportunity to discuss the merit in recommending that each tuna RFMO require its Secretariat to prepare an annual report on the completeness, accuracy, and timeliness of data submissions using a common reporting format where feasible. Requiring such reports for all of the tuna RFMOs and establishing a generic reporting format would provide a common framework to encourage timely and accurate data submissions across the

RFMOs while allowing each tuna RFMO the flexibility to focus on its particular conservation measures. In some tuna RFMOs, such as the IATTC, members do not receive information on which members are not meeting their data submission requirements, including completeness and timeliness. Some organizations also lack guidelines for submitting the required information and do not take compliance actions against members that are failing to meet their obligations. For all these reasons, data are often late, incomplete, or missing.

The report could be as simple as a spreadsheet prepared annually by the appropriate Secretariat that would list the specific data submissions and reporting obligations for catch or other data by species. The completeness, accuracy, and timeliness of the data submitted by each member of the tuna RFMO would be noted. The “data report cards” prepared by the ICCAT Secretariat can serve as an example. A common format across the tuna RFMOs would enable comparison of members’ reporting record across organizations. Such a report would also allow the respective compliance bodies to evaluate the data deficiencies by members and recommend appropriate actions, taking into account any explanations and/or plans for corrective action.

In addition, there could also be a recommendation that the Secretariats assess the extent to which missing statistical data have adversely affected the most recent stock assessments and an appraisal of the data deficiencies with respect to formulation of management advice (as is done under ICCAT Recommendation 05-09). Another useful component of ICCAT Recommendation 05-09 is the requirement that members provide an explanation on their reporting deficiencies, including the reasons underlying the identified data gaps, capacity challenges, and plans for corrective action.

Background or Agenda Item 7.c.iii.

Topic: Port State Measures

For more than a decade, there has been a general understanding among the international fisheries community that port State control schemes and measures can be an important component of efforts to deter illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities. Recognition of the importance of port State measures is reflected in provisions for such measures in global instruments such as the UN Fish Stocks Agreement and FAO International Plan of Action on IUU fishing (IPOA-IUU), actions taken by States individually and through regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs), and culminated in the adoption of the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) at the 36th Session of the FAO Conference in 2009. The PSMA is designed to combat IUU fishing through, *inter alia*, establishing minimum standards for the conduct of fishing vessel inspections and inspector training by port States; requiring Parties to the Agreement to investigate and take appropriate enforcement action in response to IUU activity detected during an inspection; requiring denial of port entry and/or use of ports for landing, transshipping, and other services to vessels that have been engaged in IUU fishing; and assisting developing States in their development and implementation of effective port State measures.

Concurrent with progress on this issue at the global level reflected in the PSMA, the international community has highlighted the importance of the adoption of port State measures at the regional level, as reflected in United Nations General Assembly Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries and the resolutions and recommendations of previous meetings of the Kobe process:

2010 UN General Assembly Resolution 65/38:

“Recognizing the need for States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to continue to develop and implement, consistent with international law, effective port State measures to combat overfishing and illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, the critical need for cooperation with developing States to build their capacity, and the importance of cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization in this regard ...”

Recommendations of Kobe II Workshop on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS):

“Port State Measures

1. Encourage RFMO Members to consider signing and ratifying the FAO Port State Measures Agreement at their earliest opportunity.

2. Where they do not already exist, where appropriate, adopt port State control measures that are consistent with the FAO Port State Measures Agreement, and that take into account the specific characteristics and circumstances of each RFMO.”

In furtherance of the minimum standards in the PSM Agreement and international calls for actions at the regional level, in recent years IATTC, ICCAT, IOTC, and WCPFC have considered proposals for comprehensive port State measures schemes modeled on the PSMA. IOTC adopted a scheme at its 2010 annual meeting³, and the development of schemes by other tuna RFMOs is expected to continue.

At Kobe III, participants could exchange views on such aspects associated with port State measures as special requirements of developing States in implementing such measures, challenges to implementation, strategies for effective and realistic implementation by tuna RFMOs, minimum standards and harmonization of measures among the tuna RFMOs and member States, and collaboration and cooperation among the five tuna RFMOs and their member States, including information sharing.

Background for Agenda Item 7.c.iv.

Topic: Market measures/CDS/trade tracking

As a follow-up to Kobe II, the *International Workshop on Improvement, Harmonization and Compatibility of Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Measures, Including Monitoring Catches from Catching Vessels to Markets* was held in Barcelona in June 2010. Participants at the Workshop agreed with the principle of expanding coverage by catch documentation schemes (CDS) to other tuna species in addition to Atlantic bluefin tuna and southern bluefin tuna, as well as to sharks. They also noted that there would be several topics to be considered, such as utilization of modern technologies (*e.g.*, electronic CDS), priority species to be covered, capacity building for implementation, use of tags, who validates catches in EEZs, how to treat purse-seine catches destined to canneries, how to treat fresh products, how to address catches made by artisanal fisheries, *etc.* In general, participants agreed that more discussion of these topics within RFMOs was needed, and that tuna RFMOs should be encouraged to do so and report to Kobe III on their consideration of these issues.

After the Workshop, CDS proposals were submitted to IATTC, ICCAT and IOTC, taking into consideration the discussions at the Workshop. For various reasons, none of the RFMOs adopted any of these proposals, but decided to continue discussions.

It should be noted that ICCAT has established a working group to develop an electronic Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation System for strengthening the implementation of the existing scheme. The working group met in February 2011, and the results will be discussed at the next annual meeting of ICCAT in November.

WCPFC also agreed at its seventh annual meeting to form an inter-sessional CDS Working Group, to be coordinated by Papua New Guinea, to progress work on an inclusive WCPFC CDS that includes flag, coastal and market States, and enables certification and export. It was agreed that the first consultation would involve the development of Terms of Reference for the CDS Working Group.

At Kobe III, participants will be informed of the state of play and expected to exchange views on this issue.

³ The IOTC adopted Port State Measures as Resolution 10-11, incorporating major requirements of the PSMA.

Appendix 3 to ANNEX 4.4**Kobe III Recommendations****I. Science**

- (1) Recognizing that the five tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (tRFMOs) have different data confidentiality rules, and noting this might curb the exchange of data across tRFMOs, Kobe III participants recommended that tRFMO Secretariats cooperate to develop common data confidentiality rules and a draft protocol for data sharing. The protocol will specify the types of data to be shared, how it can be used, and who can have access to it.
- (2) Emphasizing the potential of the Kobe II Strategy Matrix (K2SM) to communicate efficiently among all stakeholders and to assist in the decision-making process according to different levels of risk, but also recognizing that substantial uncertainties still remain in the assessments, Kobe III participants recommended that the Scientific Committees and Bodies of the tRFMOs develop research activities to better quantify the uncertainty and understand how this uncertainty is reflected in the risk assessment inherent in the K2SM.
- (3) Recognizing that a Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) process needs to be widely implemented in the tRFMOs in the line of implementing a precautionary approach for tuna fisheries management, it is recommended that a Joint MSE Technical Working Group be created and that this Joint Working Group work electronically, in the first instance, in order to minimize the cost of its work.

II. Management***By-catch Working Group***

- (4) In accordance with the Terms of Reference for the Joint Technical By-catch Working Group (JTBWG), which were adopted at the Kobe II Bycatch Workshop, Kobe III participants welcomed the report of the first meeting of the JTBWG and recommended that it be transmitted to each tRFMO for its consideration.

Capacity and allocation

- (5) Kobe III participants recommended that each tRFMO Secretariat annually measure existing capacity in tuna fisheries under its jurisdiction and monitor where that capacity is used and by whom. The results of this work should be referred to the respective Commission for its consideration.
- (6) In order to assist in the analysis and appropriate management decision-making to reduce overfishing and overcapacity, Kobe III participants recommended that by 2013 each tRFMO establish a record of vessels, by gear type, actively fishing for stocks under its jurisdiction, and that all tRFMO Secretariats coordinate the establishment of a common vessel database linked, to the extent possible, to the existing consolidated list of active vessels, taking into account the requirements of each tRFMO for vessel registration.
- (7) Kobe III participants recommend that developed fishing members freeze large-scale purse-seine capacity under their flag. Based on the status of the stocks, each tRFMO should consider a scheme for:
 - Reduction of over capacity in a way that does not constrain the access to, development of, and benefit from sustainable tuna fisheries, including on the high seas, by developing coastal States, in particular small island developing States, territories, and States with small and vulnerable economies; and
 - Transfer of capacity from developed fishing members to developing coastal fishing members within its area of competence where appropriate.

Decision-Making

- (8) Kobe III participants recommended that the decision-making framework guidelines outlined in **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 4.4** be referred to the respective tRFMOs for consideration.

III. Compliance and Enforcement

- (9) Kobe III participants noted their appreciation for the work already conducted by the tRFMO Secretariats on the development of a consolidated list of authorized vessels, including the implementation of unique vessel identifiers (UVIs), and recommended that they continue these efforts. Furthermore, the participants recommended that these efforts be coordinated with the Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations (FAO) effort to develop and implement a global record of fishing vessels, refrigerated transport vessels, and supply vessels.
- (10) Kobe III participants recommended that tRFMOs cooperate to harmonize illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) vessel listing criteria, processes, and procedures, to the maximum extent possible, and move towards adopting principles, criteria, and procedures for cross-listing IUU vessels that are listed on the IUU list of other tRFMOs, taking into account the principles in **Appendix 4 to ANNEX 4.4**.
- (11) Kobe III participants recommended that the tRFMOs establish a common format for assessing compliance with data reporting requirements. Furthermore, to facilitate compliance, participants recommended that all tRFMOs streamline and harmonize their reporting formats, procedures, and timing.
- (12) Kobe III participants, reaffirming the recommendations regarding port state measures and catch document schemes (CDS), recommended that tRFMOs, developed States, and NGOs accelerate efforts to provide capacity building assistance through various means, including workshops, to implement CDS, port state measures, and data collection and to participate in the scientific work.

IV. Future of Kobe Process

- (13) To support the ongoing importance of meeting the core objective of the Kobe process to harmonize approaches and actions of the five tRFMOs, a Steering Committee will be established, comprised of the Chairs and Vice Chairs of each of the five tRFMOs, supported by the five Executive Directors/Secretaries of those same tRFMOs.
- (14) The Steering Committee's mandate will be to review and report to the five tRFMOs, on a regular basis as determined by the Steering Committee, on the implementation of the recommendations agreed to during the Kobe process, including those adopted at Kobe III. The first meeting of the Steering Committee will take place during the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) meeting in Rome, July 2012, and the work of the Steering Committee will be guided by the principle of transparency.
- (15) Beginning from the adoption of this recommendation at Kobe III, the Secretariat of each of the five tRFMOs will propose that the agenda of their respective annual meetings include a specific item on the Kobe process, to be introduced and led by the Commission Chair, and focused on a review by the tRFMO members of the Kobe process recommendations requiring action by that tRFMO.
- (16) Tuna RFMO members should provide input to the Steering Committee through the Chair(s) of their respective RFMO(s) and during the annual review at the RFMO meeting(s).

Appendix 4 to ANNEX 4.4

Basic Principles for Adopting Measures for Cross-listing Vessels Listed as IUU by Other RFMOs

1. Compatible listing criteria, processes and procedures

There should be a common understanding among t-RFMOs of each other's listing criteria, processes and procedures. To the maximum extent possible, criteria, processes and procedures should be made compatible among all the t-RFMOs.

2. Scope

An RFMO should ensure its IUU cross-listing procedures are applicable to IUU vessel lists of other RFMOs that have an appropriate nexus (e.g., species and/or geographical) to the cross-listing RFMO. For example NAFO's

cross-listing procedure is limited to IUU listings of NEAFC, which covers similar fisheries, and which has a convention area that is in close geographical proximity to the NAFO convention area. In the case of ICCAT, its cross-listing provision provides for the recognition of IUU listings of all other tuna RFMOs, thereby limiting its scope to RFMOs with species mandates (and therefore vessel coverage) similar to that of ICCAT. Given the global mobility of tuna vessels, ICCAT's cross-listing provision does not have a specific geographical limitation.

3. Information sharing between RFMOs

Effective IUU cross-listing provisions depend on the ability and willingness of RFMOs to share information on listing determinations with one another. This should include timely communication to other tuna RFMOs of IUU listings as well as supporting information considered by the original listing RFMOs and other relevant information regarding the listing determination (e.g., listing criteria, processes and procedures used and information on deliberations of the RFMO).

4. Preserving decision-making authority of the cross-listing RFMO

It is important that members of the cross-listing RFMO have the opportunity to consider each vessel, on a case-by-case basis, and to decide not to cross-list a vessel under certain circumstances, including, but not limited to, where:

- the original listing was not compatible or consistent with the RFMO's listing decision criteria or processes,
- there is satisfactory information to establish that the vessel did not engage in the IUU activity identified by the listing RFMO,
- appropriate action has been taken in response to the IUU fishing activities in question, or
- there is insufficient information on the basis for the original listing to make a cross-listing determination.

Decisions by an RFMO to place a vessel that appears on another RFMO's IUU list on its own IUU vessel list through a cross-listing mechanism should be based on a review of all documentation provided to the RFMO considering the cross-listing, any new relevant information, and a review of the report from the original RFMO reflecting its decision-making process.

As a result of this review, any member of the cross-listing RFMO should have the opportunity to object to the cross-listing of any vessel, or request additional time to consider it, given that the original listing RFMO may use different criteria and/or processes for IUU determinations, or a member of the RFMO with the cross-listing provision may not be a member of the original listing RFMO, and therefore would not have participated in the original decision to place the vessel on the IUU list.

5. Timely delisting and listing procedures

In recognition of the original RFMO's primary expertise in determining what activities are IUU under its requirements, removal of a cross-listing should be automatic upon removal of the vessel from the IUU vessel list of the original listing RFMO. Cross-listing procedures should provide for inter-sessional delisting and, to the extent possible and appropriate, for inter-sessional listing, of vessels from other RFMO IUU vessel lists.

Appendix 5 to ANNEX 4.4

The FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing

By the Norwegian Delegation

Several initiatives have been taken by global organizations, by many regional bodies and States to counteract illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, in particular by implementing relevant parts of the FAO International Plan of Action on IUU Fishing (IPOA-IUU). As a follow-up to the IPOA-IUU, FAO adopted in 2005 a Model Scheme on Port State Measures to Combat IUU Fishing, describing basic and minimum standards for subsequent action to be taken in particular within regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs).

Following the successful implementation of some regional schemes, it soon was recognised that global and binding efforts in ports could be a cost-effective way of targeting IUU fishing. The main reasons for relying not only on regional application are that not all port States are members of the relevant RFMOs, not all regions are

covered by RFMOs, some RFMOs deal only with a limited number of species, there are regions with more than one RFMO and finally vessels engaged in IUU fishing move in and out of areas under jurisdiction of multiple States and operate within areas of competence of several RFMOs.

Numerous calls for a binding, global agreement on port State control appeared, and the FAO Committee of Fisheries agreed in 2007 to pursue such an initiative, and a FAO Technical Consultation commenced in mid 2008. The Consultation finalized its work in August 2009 after four rounds of negotiations, and the Agreement was adopted by the FAO's governing Conference on 25 November 2009, and it is set to enter into force once 25 ratifications have been received by the depositary, the FAO.

The FAO Agreement is by many considered to be a milestone achievement as States commit themselves to take steps to identify and deny IUU vessels access to ports or the use of port services. The FAO treaty describes minimum standards and takes on board tools already used by some RFMOs, such as powerful actions based on IUU vessel lists, creation of a stronger linkage to the flag State of the vessel as well as applying port State measures to transhipped fish. The application of such measures will now be extended from a regional to a global level, including the indirect establishment of a global IUU vessel list as actions are linked to such a list established by any RFMO.

Immediately following the adoption of the agreement at FAO Conference in November 2009, the first eleven FAO members signed the treaty, indicating their clear intention to becoming a party. But so far, there are only three parties to the instrument. The effectiveness of the instrument depends of course on the number of countries that commit themselves to be bound by its provisions, and their will and capacity to implement them.

Norway urges States to ratify or accede to the FAO Agreement as soon as possible, and to take initiatives within tuna-RFMOs to use this instrument as a basis for developing comprehensive regional schemes tailored to meet special regional requirements, noting also the need for harmonization between tuna-RFMOs in line with the objective of the Kobe-process.

The main elements of the FAO Agreement are described in the following **Attachment to Appendix 5 to ANNEX 4.4**.

Attachment to Appendix 5 to ANNEX 4.4

The FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing – Main Elements

The FAO Agreement consists of ten parts and five annexes.

1. General

The general provisions are set out in part 1, which includes terms, objective, application, relationship with other international instruments, integration and coordination at the national level and cooperation and exchange of information. It should be noted that the term “fishing related activities” is limited to fish (all species of living marine resources, whether processed or not) that have not been previously landed at a port, as well as the provisioning of personnel fuel, gear and other supplies at sea.

The objective of the FAO Agreement is to combat IUU fishing through the implementation of effective port State measures, and thereby to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources and marine ecosystems.

The FAO Agreement applies to all vessels not flagged to the port State, except for vessels of a neighbouring State that are engaged in artisanal fishing for subsistence where the States cooperate to ensure that there is no IUU fishing and for container vessels that are not carrying fish, or if carrying fish, only fish that have been previously landed.

2. Entry into port

Part 2 of the FAO Agreement deals with entry into ports, and establishes a step by step process for the port State to allow or deny the entry and the use of its port. Use includes landing, transshipping, packaging, processing, refuelling, resupplying, maintenance and dry-docking. Ports where vessels may request entry must be designated and publicised, and have sufficient capacity. Prior notification must be required sufficiently in advance to allow the port State time for examination before access to port is granted, based on the notification as well as other information it may require to determine whether the vessel has engaged in IUU fishing, the port State shall decide whether to authorise or to deny entry into its port. A port State shall, however, deny access if it has sufficient proof that a vessel has engaged in IUU fishing, and in this regard in particular if the vessel is on an IUU vessel list established by an RFMO. A port State may allow such a vessel into its port exclusively for the purpose of inspection and taking alternative measures which are at least as effective as denial of port entry. If an IUU vessel is in port for any reason, the port State shall deny the use of its port.

3. Use of ports

Provisions on the use of ports are set out in part 3 of the FAO Agreement, and describe the conditions where vessels shall not be allowed the use of ports, and notification processes. A vessel that has entered a port, shall not be permitted to use that port if the vessel does not have an authorisation required by the flag State or a coastal State, or if there is clear evidence that the fish on board was taken in contravention with coastal State measures. Furthermore use shall be denied if the flag State, on request, fails to confirm that the fish onboard was taken in accordance with requirements of an RFMO or the port State has reasonable grounds to believe that IUU fishing had taken place, unless the vessel can establish otherwise. Exceptions shall be made for port services that are essential to the safety or health of the crew or the safety of the vessel, or for the scrapping of the vessel concerned. The port State shall promptly notify the flag State, and other States and RFMOs as appropriate, about any denials.

4. Inspections and follow-up actions

Inspections and follow-up actions are dealt with in part 4 of the FAO Agreement. Port States shall conduct an annual number of inspections necessary to achieve the objective of the FAO Agreement, and seek to agree on minimum levels through RFMOs. Inspection priority must be given to vessels that have been denied the use of ports under the Agreement, on requests from States or RFMOs to inspect a particular vessel and vessels for which there are clear grounds for suspecting engagement in IUU fishing. The FAO Agreement lists a series of duties on port States in carrying out inspections, including qualification of inspectors noting the guidelines for training programmes, identity cards, examination, cooperation and communication and an obligation to minimise interference and inconvenience. The port State is required to produce a report of the inspection, and to transmit the results the flag State and others as appropriate. Port States are encouraged to establish mechanisms for direct electronic exchange of information as well as other information-sharing mechanisms relevant to the FAO Agreement. If an inspection unveils that there are clear grounds for believing that a vessel has been engaged in IUU fishing, the port State shall promptly notify the flag State of the vessel of its findings and shall deny the use of its ports.

5. Role of flag States

Specific duties apply when a party to the FAO Agreement act as a flag State. Its vessels shall be required to cooperate during inspections and it shall request that inspections or other measures to be taken by another port State if there are clear grounds to believe that one of its vessels has engaged in IUU fishing. A flag State shall furthermore encourage its vessels to use only ports that act in a manner consistent with the FAO Agreement, and parties to the FAO Agreement are encouraged to develop international procedures for identifying States, which do not act in accordance or in a manner consistent with the FAO Agreement. A flag State is also obliged to investigate and take appropriate enforcement actions if it receives an inspection report indicating clear grounds to believe that one of its vessels has engaged in IUU fishing, and shall report to other parties and relevant organisations on actions taken in this regard.

6. Requirements of developing countries

Part 6 contains a comprehensive framework for assistance to developing countries in implementing the FAO Agreement, including the assessment of their needs. In particular assistance shall be provided for enhancing their legal basis and capacity, their participation in international organisations as well as technical assistance to

strengthen and coordinating the development of port State measures. Parties shall cooperate to establish funding mechanisms to assist in developing port State measures, capacity for monitoring, control and surveillance, for training, for access to technology and equipment. Technical and financial assistance may be provisioned through bilateral, regional and multilateral levels, including South-South cooperation. An *ad hoc* working group will be established, which shall make recommendations on funding mechanisms, including a scheme for contribution, identification and mobilisation of funds as well as criteria and procedures to guide implementation and progress.

RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY ICCAT IN 2011

11-01

TRO

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT ON A MULTI-ANNUAL CONSERVATION
AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR BIGEYE AND YELLOWFIN TUNAS**

CONSIDERING that the adoption of a multi-annual program for the medium-term will contribute to the conservation and sustainable management of the bigeye and yellowfin tuna fishery;

EXPRESSING GRAVE CONCERN about the difficulties encountered by the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) in investigating the state of the stock of bigeye and yellowfin tunas from the Convention area because of the lack of reliable data collection mechanisms by some CPCs;

IN VIEW THEREFORE OF THE NEED to closely monitor the fishing activities by fishing vessels;

AWARE of the considerable efforts that have already been carried out by CPCs involved in these fisheries;

RECOGNIZING the contribution that a reduction in the harvest of juvenile tunas in the Gulf of Guinea can contribute to the long-term sustainability of the stocks;

NOTING that the SCRS does not have the data necessary to fully evaluate options for area/time closures and to propose precise relevant recommendations;

RECOGNIZING that a pilot implementation of an area/time closure will contribute to the collection of such necessary data, and will favour the reduction of the catches of juvenile bigeye and yellowfin tunas;

RECOGNIZING also that timely reporting of catch will assist greatly in the monitoring of the fisheries;

RECOGNIZING the necessity to adopt monitoring and control measures to ensure the respect of conservation and management measures and to improve the scientific assessment of those stocks is necessary;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

Multi-annual Management and Conservation Program

1. Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities (CPCs) whose vessels fish bigeye and/or yellowfin tunas in the Convention area shall implement a Multi-annual Management and Conservation Program for the period 2012-2015.

Capacity limitation for bigeye tuna

2. A capacity limitation shall be applied for the duration of the Multi-annual Program, in accordance with the following provisions:
 - a) The capacity limitation shall apply to vessels 20 meters length overall (LOA) or greater fishing bigeye tuna in the Convention area.
 - b) CPCs which have been allocated a catch limit in accordance with paragraph 11 shall each year:
 - i) Adjust their fishing effort so as to be commensurate with their available fishing possibilities
 - ii) Be restricted to the number of their vessels notified to ICCAT in 2005 as fishing for bigeye tuna. However, the maximum number of longline and purse seine vessels shall each year be subject to the following limits:

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Longliners</i>	<i>Purse seiners</i>
China	45	-
EU	269	34
Ghana	-	13
Japan	245	-
Panama	-	3
Philippines	11	-
Korea	14	-
Chinese Taipei	75	-

- c) Ghana shall be allowed to change the number of its vessels by gear type within its capacity limits communicated to ICCAT in 2005, on the basis of two bait boats for one purse seine vessel. Such change must be approved by the Commission. To that end, Ghana shall notify a comprehensive and detailed capacity management plan to the Commission at least 90 days before the Annual meeting. The approval is notably subject to the assessment by the SCRS of the potential impact of such a plan on the level of catches.
- d) The capacity limitation shall not apply to CPCs whose annual catch of bigeye tuna in the Convention area in 1999, as provided to the SCRS in 2000, is less than 2,100 t.

Specific authorization to fish for bigeye and/or yellowfin tunas

3. CPCs shall issue specific authorizations to vessels 20 meters LOA or greater flying their flag allowed to fish bigeye and/or yellowfin tunas in the Convention area, and to vessels flying their flag used for any kind of support to this fishing activity (hereafter referred to as "authorized vessels").

ICCAT Record of authorized bigeye and yellowfin vessels

4. CPCs shall by 1 July each year notify the list of authorized vessels to the Executive Secretary in an electronic form and in accordance with the format set in the Guidelines for Submitting Data and Information Required by ICCAT.
5. The Commission shall establish and maintain an ICCAT record of authorized bigeye and yellowfin vessels. Fishing vessels 20 meters LOA or greater not entered into this record are deemed not to be authorized to fish, retain on board, tranship, transport, transfer, process or land bigeye and/or yellowfin tunas from the Convention area.
6. CPCs shall without delay notify the Executive Secretary of any addition to, deletion from and/or modifications of the initial list at any time such change occurs.

For CPCs for which a capacity limitation applies in accordance with paragraph 2b) vessels fishing bigeye and/or yellowfin tunas in the Convention area may be replaced only by vessels of equivalent capacity or lesser. After the establishment of the initial ICCAT list, the retroactive listing of vessels shall not be allowed.

7. The Executive Secretary shall without delay post the record of authorized vessels on the ICCAT website.

Vessels actively fishing bigeye and/or yellowfin tunas in a given year

8. Each CPC shall by 1 July each year notify to the Executive Secretary the list of authorized vessels flying their flag which have fished bigeye and/or yellowfin tunas in the Convention area in the previous calendar year.

The Executive Secretary shall report each year these lists of vessels to the Compliance Committee.

9. The provisions of paragraphs 3 to 8 do not apply to recreational vessels.

Catch limits for bigeye tuna

10. The annual Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for 2012 and subsequent years of the Multi-annual Program is 85,000 t for bigeye tuna. The following shall apply:
- If the total of catches exceeds the TAC in a given year, the excess amount shall be paid back by CPCs to which a catch limit has been granted for the species concerned. Excess quantities shall be deducted the following year on a *prorata* basis from the adjusted quotas/catch limits of the CPC concerned, as per paragraphs 14 and 15.
 - The TAC and catch limits for 2012 and subsequent years of the Multi-annual Program shall be adjusted based on the latest scientific assessment available. Whatever the outcome, the relative shares used to establish the annual catch limits for the CPCs appearing in paragraph 11 shall remain unchanged.
11. The following catch limits shall be applied for 2012 and subsequent years of the Multi-annual Program to the following CPCs:

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Annual catch limits for the period 2012-2015 (t)</i>
China	5,572
European Union	22,667
Ghana	4,722
Japan	23,611
Panama	3,306
Philippines	1,983
Korea	1,983
Chinese Taipei	15,583

12. Catch limits shall not apply to CPCs whose annual catch of bigeye tuna in the Convention area in 1999, as provided to the SCRS in 2000, is less than 2,100 t. However, the following shall apply:
- CPCs which are not developing coastal States shall endeavour to maintain their annual catch less than 2,100 t;
 - if the catch of bigeye tuna of any developing coastal CPC not listed in paragraph 11 above exceeds 3,500 t for any one year, a catch limit shall be established for that developing CPC for the following years. In such a case, the relevant CPC shall adjust its fishing effort so as to be commensurate with their available fishing possibilities

Transfers

13. The following annual transfer of bigeye tuna shall be authorized in 2012-2015:
- from Japan to China: 3000 t
 - from Japan to Ghana: 70 t
 - from China to Ghana: 70 t
 - from Chinese Taipei to Ghana: 70 t
 - from Korea to Ghana: 20 t.

Underage or overage of catch

14. Underage or overage of an annual catch limit for CPCs listed in paragraph 11 for bigeye tuna may be added/to or shall be deducted from the annual catch limit as follows:

<i>Year of catch</i>	<i>Adjustment Year</i>
2011	2012 and/or 2013
2012	2013 and/or 2014
2013	2014 and/or 2015
2014	2015 and/or 2016
2015	2016 and/or 2017

However,

- a) The maximum overage that a CPC may transfer in any given year shall not exceed 30% of its annual initial catch limit;
 - b) For Ghana, the overage catch of bigeye tuna in the period 2006 to 2010 shall be repaid by reducing the catch limit of Ghana for bigeye tuna by a yearly amount of 337 t for the period 2012 to 2021.
15. Notwithstanding paragraph 14, if any CPC exceeds its catch limit during any two consecutive management periods, the Commission will recommend appropriate measures, which may include, but are not limited to, reduction in the catch limit equal to a minimum of 125% of the excess harvest, and, if necessary, trade restrictive measures. Any trade measures under this paragraph will be import restrictions on the subject species and consistent with each CPC's international obligations. The trade measures will be of such duration and under such conditions as the Commission may determine.

TAC for yellowfin tuna

16. The annual TAC for 2012 and subsequent years of the Multi-annual program is 110,000 t for yellowfin tuna and shall remain in place until changed based on scientific advice. If the total catch in any year exceeds the TAC for yellowfin tuna, the Commission shall review the relevant conservation and management measures in place.

Recording of catch and fishing activities

17. Each CPC shall ensure that its vessels 20 meters LOA or greater fishing bigeye and/or yellowfin tunas in the Convention area record their catch in accordance with the requirements set out in **Annex 1** and in the *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Recording of Catch by Fishing Vessels in the ICCAT Convention Area* [Rec. 03-13].
18. CPCs shall ensure that purse seine and bait boat vessels flying their flag, when fishing in association with objects that could affect fish aggregation, including fish aggregating devices (FADs), shall identify in a logbook:
- a) Any deployment and retrieval of FAD, and
 - b) The position, date, identification of the aggregating device and results of the set.
19. CPCs shall ensure that the logbooks referred to in paragraph 17 are promptly collected and the information made available to the SCRS.

Area/Time closure in relation with the protection of juveniles

20. Fishing for, or supported activities to fish for bigeye and yellowfin tunas in association with objects that could affect fish aggregation, including FADs, shall be prohibited:
- a) From 1 January to 28 February each year, and
 - b) In the area delineated as follows:

Northern limit	African coast
Southern limit	Parallel 10° South latitude
Western limit	Meridian 5° West longitude
Eastern limit	Meridian 5° East longitude

21. The prohibition referred to in paragraph 20 includes:
- launching any floating objects, with or without buoys;
 - fishing around, under, or in association with artificial objects, including vessels;
 - fishing around, under, or in association with natural objects;
 - towing floating objects from inside to outside the area.

22. The efficacy of the area/time closure referred to in paragraph 20 for the reduction of catches of juvenile bigeye and yellowfin tunas shall be evaluated by the SCRS in 2014 or until such a time as the SCRS has adequate information to provide detailed advice on any alternate area/time closure.
23. Each CPC fishing in the geographical area of the area/time closure shall:
 - a) Take appropriate action against vessels flying their flag that do not comply with the area/time closure referred to in paragraph 20,
 - b) Submit an annual report on their implementation of the area/time closure to the Executive Secretary, who shall report to the Compliance Committee at each Annual meeting.

FAD Management Plans

24. By 1 July of each year, CPCs with purse seine and baitboat vessels fishing for bigeye and yellowfin tunas in association with objects that could affect fish aggregation, including FADs, shall submit to the Executive Secretary Management Plans for the use of such aggregating devices by vessels flying their flag, following the Guidelines for Preparation for FAD Management Plans suggested in **Annex 2**.
25. The Executive Secretary shall report the content of these Management Plans to SCRS and to the Compliance Committee for review at each annual meeting.

VMS

26. If the VMS satellite tracking device of a vessel referred to in paragraph 3 stops functioning or has a technical failure when the vessel is inside the area/time closure referred to in paragraph 20, the flag State shall require the vessel to exit the area without delay. The fishing vessel shall not be authorized to enter the area again without the satellite tracking device having been repaired or replaced.

ICCAT Regional Observer Program

27. The ICCAT Regional Observer Program in **Annex 3** shall be established in 2013 to ensure observer coverage of 100% of all surface fishing vessels 20 meters LOA or greater fishing bigeye and/or yellowfin tunas in the area/time closure referred to in paragraph 20.

Identification IUU activity

28. The Executive Secretary shall without delay verify that any vessel identified or reported in the context of this Multi-annual Program is on the ICCAT record of authorized vessels and not out of compliance with the provisions of paragraphs 20 and 21. If a possible violation is detected, the Executive Secretary shall, without delay, notify the flag CPC. The flag CPC shall immediately investigate the situation and, if the vessel is fishing in relation with objects that could affect fish aggregation, including FADs, request the vessel to stop fishing and, if necessary, leave the area without delay. The flag CPC shall without delay report to the Executive Secretary the results of its investigation and the corresponding measures taken.
29. The Executive Secretary shall report to the Compliance Committee at each Annual meeting on any issue related to identification of unauthorized vessels, the implementation of the VMS, the Regional observer provisions and the results of the relevant investigation made by the flag CPCs concerned.
30. The Executive Secretary shall propose to include any vessels identified in accordance with paragraph 28, or vessels for which the flag CPC has not carried out the required investigation in accordance with paragraph 29, on the provisional IUU list.

Port Sampling Plan

31. The Commission requests the SCRS to develop, by 2012, a Port Sampling Plan aimed at collecting fishery data for bigeye, yellowfin, and skipjack tunas that are caught in the geographical area of the area/time closure referred to in paragraphs 20.

32. Beginning in 2013, the port sampling program referred to paragraph 31 shall be implemented in landing or transshipment ports. Data and information collected from this sampling program shall be reported to ICCAT each year beginning in 2014, describing, at a minimum, the following by country of landing and quarter: species composition, landings by species, length composition, and weights. Biological samples suitable for determining life history should be collected as practicable.

General provisions

33. This Recommendation replaces [Rec. 93-04], [Rec. 98-03], [Rec. 04-01], [Res. 05-03], [Rec. 08-01], [Rec. 09-01] and [Rec. 10-01].

Requirements for Catch Recording**Minimum specification for paper or electronic logbooks:**

1. The logbook must be numbered by sheets.
2. The logbook must be filled in every day (midnight) or before port arrival
3. One copy of the sheets must remain attached to the logbook
4. Logbooks must be kept on board to cover a period of one- trip operation.

Minimum standard information for logbooks:

1. Master name and address
2. Dates and ports of departure, Dates and ports of arrival
3. Vessel name, registry number, ICCAT number and IMO number (if available).
4. Fishing gear:
 - a) Type FAO code
 - b) Dimension (length, mesh size, number of hooks ...)
5. Operations at sea with one line (minimum) per day of trip, providing:
 - a) Activity (fishing, steaming...)
 - b) Position: Exact daily positions (in degree and minutes), recorded for each fishing operation or at noon when no fishing has been conducted during this day.
 - c) Record of catches:
6. Species identification:
 - a) By FAO code
 - b) Round (RWT) weight in t per set
 - c) Fishing mode (FAD, free school, etc.)
7. Master signature
8. ICCAT Regional Observer signature, if applicable
9. Means of weight measure: estimation, weighing on board and counting.
10. The logbook is kept in equivalent live weight of fish and mentions the conversion factors used in the evaluation.

Minimum information in case of landing, transshipments:

1. Dates and port of landing /transshipments
2. Products: number of fish and quantity in kg
3. Signature of the Master or Vessel Agent

Guidelines for Preparation of FAD Management Plans

The FAD Management Plan for a CPC purse seine fleet must include at least:

- a) Number of FAD to be deployed per purse seine and per FAD type
- b) FAD design characteristics (a description)
- c) FAD markings and identifiers

and could include:

1. Objective of the FAD Management Plan
2. Description
 - a) Vessel-types and support and tender vessels,
 - b) FAD types: AFAD = anchored; DFAD = drifting
 - c) Reporting procedures for AFAD and DFAD deployment,
 - d) Catch reporting from FAD sets (consistent with the Commission's Standards for the Provision of Operational Catch and Effort Data),
 - e) Minimum distance between AFADs,
 - f) Incidental by-catch reduction and utilization policy,
 - g) Consideration of interaction with other gear types,
 - h) Statement or policy on "FAD ownership"
3. Institutional arrangements
 - a) Institutional responsibilities for the FAD Management plan,
 - b) Application processes for FAD deployment approval,
 - c) Obligations of vessel owners and masters in respect of FAD deployment and use,
 - d) FAD replacement policy,
 - e) Reporting obligations,
 - f) Observer acceptance obligations,
 - g) Conflict resolution policy in respect of FADs.
4. FAD construction specifications and requirements
 - a) Lighting requirements,
 - b) Radar reflectors,
 - c) Visible distance,
 - d) Radio buoys (requirement for serial numbers),
 - e) Satellite transceivers (requirement for serial numbers).
5. Applicable areas
 - a) Details of any closed areas or periods e.g. territorial waters, shipping lanes, proximity to artisanal fisheries, etc.
6. Applicable period for the FAD Management Plan
7. Means for monitoring and reviewing implementation of the FAD Management Plan
8. Means for reporting to the Executive Secretary

ICCAT Regional Observer Program

1. Each CPC shall require its fishing vessels involved in the bigeye and/or yellowfin tunas fisheries in the area and during the area/time closure referred to in paragraph 20 of this Recommendation to carry an ICCAT observer.
2. By 1 November each year, CPCs shall notify to the ICCAT Executive Secretariat a list of its observers.
3. The Secretariat of the Commission shall appoint the observers before 15 November each year, and shall place them on board the fishing vessels flying the flag of Contracting Parties and of non-Contracting Cooperating Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities that implement the ICCAT observer program. An ICCAT observer card shall be issued for each observer.
4. The Secretariat shall issue a contract listing the rights and duties of the observer and the master of the vessel. This contract shall be signed by both parties involved.
5. The Secretariat shall establish an ICCAT observer program manual.

Designation of the observers

6. The designated observers shall have the following qualifications to accomplish their tasks:
 - Sufficient experience to identify species and fishing gear;
 - Satisfactory knowledge of the ICCAT conservation and management measures assessed by a certificate provided by the CPCs and based on ICCAT training guidelines;
 - The ability to observe and record accurately;
 - A satisfactory knowledge of the language of the flag of the vessel observed.

Obligations of the observer

7. Observers shall:
 - a) Have completed the technical training required by the guidelines established by ICCAT;
 - b) Be nationals of one of the CPCs and, to the extent possible, not of the flag State of the fishing vessel;
 - c) Be capable of performing the duties set forth in point 8 below;
 - d) Be included in the list of observers maintained by the Secretariat of the Commission;
 - e) Not have current financial or beneficial interests in the bigeye and/or yellowfin tuna fisheries.

Observer tasks

8. The observer tasks shall be in particular:
 - a) To monitor the fishing vessels' compliance with the relevant conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission.

In particular the observers shall:

- i) Record and report upon the fishing activities carried out;
- ii) Observe and estimate catches and verify entries made in the logbook;
- iii) Sight and record vessels which may be fishing in contravention to ICCAT conservation and management measures;
- iv) Verify the position of the vessel when engaged in catching activity;
- v) Carry out scientific work such as collecting task II data when required by the Commission, based on the directives from the SCRS.

- b) Report without delay, with due regard to the safety of the observer, any fishing activity associated with FADs made by the vessel in the area and during the period referred to in paragraph 20 of this Recommendation.
 - c) Establish general reports compiling the information collected in accordance with this paragraph and provide the master and farm operator the opportunity to include therein any relevant information.
 - d) Submit to the Secretariat the aforementioned general report within 20 days from the end of the period of observation.
 - e) Exercise any other functions as defined by the Commission.
9. Observers shall treat as confidential all information with respect to the fishing and transshipment operations of the fishing vessels and accept this requirement in writing as a condition of appointment as an observer;
10. Observers shall comply with requirements established in the laws and regulations of the flag State which exercises jurisdiction over the vessel to which the observer is assigned.
11. Observers shall respect the hierarchy and general rules of behaviour which apply to all vessel personnel, provided such rules do not interfere with the duties of the observer under this program, and with the obligations of vessel personnel set forth in paragraph 12 of this Program.

Obligations of the flag States of fishing vessels

12. The responsibilities regarding observers of the flag States of the fishing vessels and their masters shall include the following, notably:
- a) Observers shall be allowed to access to the vessel personnel and to the gear, cages and equipment;
 - b) Upon request, observers shall also be allowed access to the following equipment, if present on the vessels to which they are assigned, in order to facilitate the carrying out of their duties set forth in paragraph 8:
 - i) satellite navigation equipment;
 - ii) radar display viewing screens when in use;
 - iii) electronic means of communication;
 - c) Observers shall be provided accommodations, including lodging, food and adequate sanitary facilities, equal to those of officers;
 - d) Observers shall be provided with adequate space on the bridge or pilot house for clerical work, as well as space on deck adequate for carrying out observer duties; and
 - e) The flag States shall ensure that masters, crew and vessel owners do not obstruct, intimidate, interfere with, influence, bribe or attempt to bribe an observer in the performance of his/her duties.

The Secretariat, in a manner consistent with any applicable confidentiality requirements, is requested to provide to the flag State of the fishing vessel, copies of all raw data, summaries, and reports pertaining to the trip. The Secretariat shall submit the observer reports to the Compliance Committee and to the SCRS.

Observer fees

- a) The costs of implementing this Program shall be financed by the fishing vessel's owners. The fee shall be calculated on the basis of the total costs of the program and on prorata of their participation. This fee shall be paid into a special account of the ICCAT Secretariat and the ICCAT Secretariat shall manage the account for implementing the Program;
- b) No observer shall be assigned to a vessel for which the fees, as required under sub-paragraph a), have not been paid.

11-02

SWO

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT
FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NORTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH**

RECALLING the *Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT to Amend the Rebuilding Program for North Atlantic Swordfish* [Rec. 06-02] and the *Recommendation by ICCAT for the Conservation of North Atlantic Swordfish* [Rec. 10-02];

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the concern of the SCRS that the allowable country-specific catch levels agreed in [Rec. 10-02] exceed the TAC adopted by the Commission and the scientific recommendation;

DETERMINED to ensure that the total catch for any one year during the management period does not exceed the TAC of 13,700 t;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. The Contracting Parties, and non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities (CPCs) whose vessels have been actively fishing for swordfish in the North Atlantic shall take measures to ensure the conservation of North Atlantic swordfish with the goal of maintaining B_{MSY} , with greater than 50% probability.
2. TAC and catch limits
 - a) A total allowable catch (TAC) shall be 13,700 t for North Atlantic swordfish for 2012 and 2013.
 - b) The annual catch limits as shown in the table below shall be applied for the two-year period.

	<i>Catch limit** (t)</i>
European Union ***	6,718*
United States***	3,907*
Canada	1,348*
Japan***	842*
Morocco	850
Mexico	200
Brazil	50
Barbados	45
Venezuela	85
Trinidad & Tobago	125
United Kingdom (OTs)	35
France (St. Pierre et Miquelon)	40
China	75
Senegal	250
Korea***	50
Belize***	130
Philippines	25
Côte d'Ivoire	50
St. Vincent & the Grenadines	75
Vanuatu	25
Chinese Taipei	270

* Catch limits of these four CPCs are based upon quota allocation shown in 3.c) of the 2006 *Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT to Amend the Rebuilding Program for North Atlantic Swordfish* [Rec. 06-02].

** The following transfers of annual catch limits shall be authorized:

- From US to Morocco: 150 t¹
- From Japan to Morocco: 50 t
- From Japan to Canada: 35 t
- From EU to France (St. Pierre et Miquelon) : 40 t
- From Senegal to Canada: 100 t
- From Trinidad & Tobago to Belize: 75 t
- From Philippines to China: 25t
- From Chinese Taipei to Canada: 35 t

These transfers do not change the relative shares of CPCs as reflected in the above catch limits.

¹ Tonnage from this transfer to be used to support joint scientific research and to support Morocco's efforts to eliminate the use of driftnets.

*** Japan shall be allowed to count up to 400 t of its swordfish catch taken from the part of the North Atlantic management area that is East of 35°W and South of 15°N, against its uncaught South Atlantic swordfish catch limits.

The European Union shall be allowed to count up to 200 t of its swordfish catch taken from the South Atlantic management area against its uncaught North Atlantic swordfish catch limits.

The US shall be allowed to count up to 200 t of its swordfish catch taken from the area between 5°N and 5°S, against its uncaught North Atlantic swordfish catch limit.

Belize shall be allowed to count up to 75 t of its swordfish catch taken from the area between 5°N and 5°S, against its uncaught North Atlantic swordfish catch limit

Korea shall be allowed to count up to 69.5 t of swordfish catch taken from the North Atlantic management area in 2012, against its uncaught South Atlantic catch limit.

- c) The total TACs for 2012-13 shall not be exceeded. For this purpose, if the total annual catch exceeds the TAC of 13,700 t in 2012 or 2013, CPCs who have exceeded their individual adjusted catch limits shall pay back their overharvest in accordance with paragraph 5 of this recommendation. Any amount of the overharvest remaining after such adjustment shall be deducted from the annual catch limits of each CPC in 2014 or 2015, respectively, on a prorata basis of the catch limits in Table in 2.b) above.
3. The Commission shall establish at its 2013 meeting conservation and management measures for a next three-year period on the basis of the SCRS advice resulting from the new stock assessment as well as the ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities [Rec. 01-25]. In support of this effort, the Commission shall consider development/management plans of coastal developing CPCs and fishing/management plans of other CPCs in 2012 and 2013 so that adjustments can be made to the existing catch limits and other conservation measures in 2013, as appropriate. Each CPC shall submit its development or fishing/management plan to the Commission by September 15 of each year.
 4. In advance of the next assessment of North Atlantic swordfish, the SCRS shall develop a Limit Reference Point (LRP) for this stock. Future decisions on the management of this stock shall include a measure that would trigger a rebuilding plan, should the biomass decrease to a level approaching the defined LRP as established by the SCRS.
 5. Any unused portion or excess of the annual adjusted quota may be added to/shall be deducted from, according to the case, the respective quota/catch limit during or before the adjustment year, in the following way:

<i>Catch year</i>	<i>Adjustment year</i>
2010	2012
2011	2013
2012	2014
2013	2015

However, the maximum underage that a Party may carryover in any given year shall not exceed 25% of the initial catch limit for those CPCs holding catch limits more than 500 t, and 50% for other CPCs.

6. Provisions of the *Recommendation by ICCAT Regarding Compliance in the Bluefin Tuna and North Atlantic Swordfish Fisheries* [Rec. 96-14] and of paragraph 5 above, shall be applied to the implementation of the individual catch limits in paragraph 2 and for over-harvests that occurred in 2009 and/or 2010, for each CPC. Each year is considered a separate management period, as that term is used in the *Recommendation by ICCAT Regarding Compliance in the Bluefin Tuna and North Atlantic Swordfish Fisheries*, except for Japan, for which the management period is three years (2011-2013).
7. If Japan's landings exceed its catch limits in any year, the overage shall be deducted in subsequent years so that total landings for Japan shall not exceed its total catch limits for the three-year period commencing in 2011. When annual landings by Japan are less than its catch limits, the underage may be added to the subsequent years' catch limits, so that total landings by Japan do not exceed its total for the same three-year period. Any underages or overages from the 2008-2010 management period shall be applied to the three-year management period specified herein.
8. Japan shall maintain a national observer program on 8% of vessels operating in the North Atlantic.
9. All CPCs catching swordfish in the North Atlantic shall endeavor to provide annually the best available data to the SCRS, including catch, catch at size, location and month of capture on the smallest scale possible, as determined by the SCRS. The data submitted shall be for broadest range of age classes possible, consistent with minimum size restrictions, and by sex when possible. The data shall also include discards and effort statistics, even when no analytical stock assessment is scheduled. The SCRS shall review these data annually.
10. In order to protect small swordfish, CPCs shall take the necessary measures to prohibit the taking of and landing of swordfish in the entire Atlantic Ocean weighing less than 25 kg live weight, or in alternative, 125 cm lower jaw fork length (LJFL); however, the CPCs may grant tolerances to boats which have incidentally captured small fish, with the condition that this incidental catch shall not exceed 15 percent of the number of swordfish per landing of the total swordfish catch of said boats.
11. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 10, any CPC may choose, as an alternative to the minimum size of 25 kg/ 125 cm LJFL, to take the necessary measures to prohibit the taking by its vessels in the Atlantic Ocean, as well as the landing and sale in its jurisdiction, of swordfish (and swordfish parts), less than 119 cm LJFL, or in the alternative 15 kg, provided that, if this alternative is chosen, no tolerance of swordfish smaller than 119 LJFL, or in the alternative 15 kg, shall be allowed. For swordfish that have been dressed, a cleithrum to keel (CK) measurement of 63cm can also be applied. A Party that chooses this alternative minimum size shall require appropriate record keeping of discards. The SCRS should continue to monitor and analyze the effects of this measure on the mortality of immature swordfish.
12. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article VIII, paragraph 2, of the Convention, with respect to the annual individual catch limits established above, the CPCs whose vessels have been actively fishing for North Atlantic swordfish shall implement this recommendation as soon as possible in accordance with the regulatory procedures of each CPC.
13. Notwithstanding the *Recommendation by ICCAT Regarding the Temporary Adjustment of Quotas* [Rec. 01-12], in between meetings of the Commission, a CPC with a TAC allocation of North Atlantic swordfish, as per section 2 may make a one-time transfer within a fishing year of up to 15% of its TAC allocation to other CPCs with TAC allocations, consistent with domestic obligations and conservations considerations. Any such transfer may not be used to cover over harvests. A CPC that receives a one-time catch limits transfer may not retransfer that catch limits.
14. This *Recommendation* replaces the *Recommendation by ICCAT for the Conservation of North Atlantic Swordfish* [Rec. 10-02].

**RECOMMENDATION FOR MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR
MEDITERRANEAN SWORDFISH IN THE FRAMEWORK OF ICCAT**

NOTING that the SCRS in its assessment in 2007, as reaffirmed in its 2009 advice, estimated that fish less than three years old usually represent 50-70% of the total yearly catches in terms of numbers and 20-35% in terms of weight and indicates that a reduction in the volume of juvenile catches would improve yield per recruit and spawning biomass per recruit levels,

RECOGNISING that the Commission's Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) indicated in its 2010 stock assessment that the Commission should adopt a Mediterranean swordfish fishery management plan which ensures that the stock will be rebuilt and kept in levels that are consistent with the ICCAT Convention objective,

NOTING that the SCRS in its assessment in 2010 indicated that overall results suggest that fishing mortality needs to be reduced to move the stock toward the Convention objective of biomass levels which could support MSY and away from levels which could allow a rapid stock decline,

NOTING that the SCRS in its assessment in 2010 indicated that technical modifications of the longline fishing gears, as well as, the way they are operated can be considered as an additional technical measure in order to reduce the catch of juveniles,

RECALLING the *Recommendation by ICCAT relating to Mediterranean Swordfish* [Rec. 03-04], which encourages Contracting Parties, and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities (hereafter referred to as CPCs) to take measures to reduce juvenile Mediterranean swordfish catches,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the SCRS advice given in 2008, 2009 and 2010, advocating seasonal closures pending the adoption of a more comprehensive management plan for Mediterranean swordfish,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the SCRS advise that swordfish and in particular juvenile swordfish is also caught as a by-catch in other fisheries and that all catches of swordfish should stop during the closed period,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the advices given in 2010 for the swordfish have been considered as still valid in 2011,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Mediterranean Swordfish* [Rec. 09-04] needs to be replaced to set the basis for such a more comprehensive management plan for Mediterranean swordfish,

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF THE ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

ICCAT records of vessels authorised to catch Mediterranean swordfish

1. At the latest on the 31 August 2012, and on the 15 January for the following years, CPCs shall provide to the ICCAT Secretariat the lists of all fishing vessels authorized to catch swordfish for the current year in the Mediterranean Sea. These lists shall distinguish:
 - a) All catching vessels authorized to fish actively for swordfish, meaning any vessel that targets swordfish (defined on the basis of the more abundant species anytime on board) during a given fishing season. Vessels not introduced on this list are not authorized to catch, retain on board, tranship, transport, process or land swordfish exceeding more than 5% of the total catch on board by weight or/and number of pieces.
 - b) All vessels authorized for swordfish sport and recreational fisheries as defined in the paragraph 2 m) and n) of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04.

CPCs shall provide these lists according to the format set out in the Guidelines for Submitting Data and Information Required by ICCAT.

2. Procedures referred in the *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Establishment of an ICCAT Record of Vessels over 20 Meters in Length Overall or Greater Authorized to Operate in the Convention Area* shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Special fishing authorisation

3. Vessels included in the list of authorized vessels under point 1.a and which use harpoons, or participate in pelagic longline fisheries for highly-migratory pelagic stocks in the Mediterranean shall have a special fishing permit for each authorised fishery, by target species and area.
4. By 30 June each year CPCs shall submit to the ICCAT Secretariat the list of the special fishing permits delivered for the previous year.

Closed fishing season

5. Mediterranean swordfish shall not be caught (either as a targeted fishery or as by-catch), retained on board, transhipped or landed during the period from 1 October to 30 November and during an additional period of one month between 15 February and 31 March. CPCs shall communicate to the Commission, by 15 January 2012, the starting date of this additional month of closure.
6. CPCs shall monitor the effectiveness of these closures and shall submit to the Commission, at the latest two months before the annual meeting of the Commission, all relevant information on appropriate controls and inspections to ensure compliance with the measure.

Minimum size

7. Only entire specimens of swordfish, without removal of any external part, or gilled and gutted specimens, can be retained on board, transhipped, landed and transported.
8. In order to protect small swordfish, CPCs shall take the necessary measures to prohibit the catching, retaining on board, transhipping, landing, transporting, storing, selling, displaying or offering for sale Mediterranean swordfish measuring less than 90 cm LJFL or, in alternative, weighing less than 10 kg of round weight or 9 kg of gutted weight, or 7.5 kg of gilled and gutted weight.

However, the CPCs may grant tolerances to vessels which have incidentally captured small fish below the minimum size, with the condition that this incidental catch shall not exceed:

- a) 10% by weight or/and number of pieces per landing of the total swordfish catch of said vessels (in 2012),
- b) 5% by weight or/and number of pieces per landing of the total swordfish catch of said vessels as from 2013.

Technical characteristics of the fishing gear

9. The maximum number of hooks that can be set or taken on board of vessels targeting swordfish should be fixed at 2800 hooks for swordfish fishery. A second set of rigged hooks may be allowed on board for trips longer than 2 days provided that are duly lashed and stowed in lower decks so that it may not readily be used.
10. Hook size should never be smaller than 7 cm of height for fishing targeting swordfish.
11. The length of the pelagic longlines will be of maximum 30 NM (55 km).

Other measures

12. Recognition will be given to CPCs which take more restrictive measures than those foreseen in paragraphs 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11.

Scientific information and advice

13. CPCs shall ensure the maintenance or development of adequate scientific information for highly migratory pelagic species in the Mediterranean.
14. By 30 June each year, CPCs shall communicate specific information for the fishing vessels that were authorized to carry out pelagic longline fisheries and harpoons in the Mediterranean during the preceding year:
 - a) Specific information on the fishing vessel:
 - Name of the vessel (if no name, the registry number without country initials should be indicated);
 - Registry number;
 - ICCAT list number;

CPCs shall communicate this list electronically to the ICCAT Secretariat according to the format set out in the Guidelines for Submitting Data and Information Required by ICCAT.

- b) Specific information related to fishing activities, based on sampling or for the whole fleet:
 - Fishing period(s) and total annual number of fishing days of the vessel, by target species and area;
 - Geographical areas, by ICCAT statistical rectangles, for the fishing activities carried out by the vessel, by target species and area;
 - Type of vessel, by target species and area;
 - Number of hooks used by the vessel, by target species and area;
 - Number of longline units used by the vessel, by target species and area;
 - Overall length of all longline units for the vessel, by target species and area.
 - c) Specific data on the catches, in the smallest time-area possible:
 - Size and, if possible, age distributions of the catches,
 - Catches and catch composition per vessel and,
 - Fishing effort (average fishing days per vessel, average number of hooks per vessel, average longline units per vessel, average overall length of longline per vessel).

These data shall be provided to SCRS in the format required by ICCAT.

15. The SCRS shall provide in 2013 an updated assessment of the state of the stock on the basis of updated data. It shall assess the effects of this management framework and provide advice on possible amendments of the various measures with a view to recover or to maintain the stock within safe biological limits while delivering economically viable fishing activity.
16. Based on such scientific advice, the ICCAT may decide, by end of 2013 on advisable changes of the management framework for swordfish with a view to complying with the management objective.

Repeals

17. This Recommendation replaces the *Recommendation by ICCAT for a Management Framework for the Sustainable Exploitation of Mediterranean Swordfish and Replacing ICCAT Recommendation 08-03* [Rec. 09-04].

11-04

ALB

**SUPPLEMENTAL RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT CONCERNING
THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALBACORE REBUILDING PROGRAM**

RECALLING the 1998 *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Limitation of Fishing Capacity on Northern Albacore* [Rec. 98-08], the *Recommendation by ICCAT on North Atlantic Albacore Catch Limits for the Period 2008-2009* [Rec. 07-02], and the *Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Rebuilding Program on North Atlantic Albacore* [Rec. 09-05];

NOTING that the objective of the Convention is to maintain populations at levels that will support maximum sustainable catch (usually referred to as MSY);

CONSIDERING that the 2009 Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) stock assessment concluded that the northern albacore stock is overfished and overfishing is occurring, and recommended a level of catch of no more than 28,000 t to meet the Convention management objective by 2020;

RECALLING the importance that all fleets participating in the northern albacore fishery submit the required data (catch, effort and catch-at-size) on their fisheries for transmission to the SCRS;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. An annual Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 28,000 t is established for 2012 and for 2013.
2. This annual TAC shall be allocated among the ICCAT Contracting Parties, Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities (hereafter referred to as CPCs) according to the following:

<i>Party</i>	<i>2012 and 2013 Quota (t)</i>
European Union	21,551.3
Chinese Taipei	3,271.7 ^{1,2}
United States	527
Venezuela	250

3. With the exception of Japan, CPCs other than those mentioned in paragraph 2 shall limit their catches to 200 t.
4. Japan shall endeavour to limit its total northern albacore catches to a maximum of 4% in weight of its total bigeye tuna longline catch in the Atlantic Ocean.
5. Any unused portion or excess of a CPC's annual quota/catch limit may be added to/shall be deducted from, according to the case, the respective quota/catch limit during or before the adjustment year, in the following way:

<i>Year of Catch</i>	<i>Adjustment Year</i>
2012	2014 and/or 2015
2013	2015 and/or 2016

However, the maximum underage that a Party may carry-over in any given year shall not exceed 25% of its initial catch quota.

If, in any year, the combined landings of CPCs exceed the TAC of 28,000 t, the Commission will re-evaluate the northern albacore recommendation at its next Commission meeting and recommend further conservation measures, as appropriate.

6. The 1998 *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Limitation of Fishing Capacity on Northern Albacore* [Rec. 98-08] remains in force.

¹ Chinese Taipei will transfer each year 100 t from its quota to St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

² Chinese Taipei will transfer annually 200 t in 2012 and 2013 from its quota to Belize.

7. The SCRS shall conduct an assessment of this stock in 2013 and provide advice to the Commission on the appropriate management measures to achieve and maintain the Convention objectives. In support of this work, CPCs should promote a scientific program to collect data/information on changes to distribution and/or migratory routes and factors that influences these changes.

In advance of the next assessment of Northern Atlantic Albacore, the SCRS shall develop a Limit Reference Point (LRP) for this stock. Future decisions on the management of this stock shall include a measure that would trigger a rebuilding plan, should the biomass decrease to a level approaching the defined LRP as established by the SCRS.

8. This Recommendation replaces *Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Rebuilding Program on North Atlantic Albacore* [Rec. 09-05].

11-05

ALB

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT ON THE SOUTHERN ALBACORE
CATCH LIMITS FOR 2012 AND 2013**

NOTING that the current high level of uncertainty in the stock status has led to a less optimistic view of the stock status compared to the 2007 stock assessment with MSY estimated at 27,964 t compared to 29,900 t in 2007;

NOTING FURTHER the conclusions of the 2011 Albacore Assessment Meeting, and of the 2011 SCRS Report, that the southern albacore stock is likely to be overfished and is experiencing overfishing with the current best estimate of SSB_{2009}/SSB_{MSY} being 0.88(0.55-1.59) and the current best estimate of $F_{current}/F_{MSY}$ being 1.07(0.44-1.95);

ACKNOWLEDGING that total annual catches since 2004 have been considerably lower than MSY;

RECOGNISING the need to implement measures to improve the southern albacore stock to MSY levels, this being the management objective of ICCAT;

FURTHER NOTING that catches exceeding 24,000 t will not permit the rebuilding of the stock within the projected time frame;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that additional work is needed before sharing arrangements for southern albacore based on the *ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities* [Ref. 01-25] can be developed and agreed on;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. The annual total catch limit for albacore caught in the Atlantic Ocean South of 5°N shall be set at 24,000 t for 2012 and 2013, this being the maximum allowable catch to permit stock rebuilding.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, should the total reported albacore catches in 2011, as reported to the 2012 ICCAT meeting, exceed 29,900 t, the TAC for 2013 shall be reduced by the full amount of the 2011 catch in excess of 29,900 t.
3. The five participants actively fishing for southern albacore, namely Chinese Taipei, South Africa, Namibia, Brazil and Uruguay, shall participate in a sharing arrangement of 21,000 t. In addition to the sharing arrangement limit, the five participants shall not exceed their individual catch limits¹, namely 13,000 t for Chinese Taipei, 10,000 t for South Africa and Namibia combined, 3,500 t for Brazil, and 1,200 t for Uruguay.
4. Catch limits shall apply to the European Union (1,540 t), Belize (300 t), Philippines (150 t), Korea (150 t). Japan shall endeavour to limit its total catch of southern albacore to 4% by weight of its total longline bigeye tuna catch in the Atlantic Ocean south of 5°N.
5. All other CPCs, which are not actively fishing for southern albacore, shall be limited to a maximum catch of 100 t.
6. a) All CPCs mentioned in paragraph 3 and 4 shall provide regular reporting of provisional accumulative southern albacore catches to the ICCAT Secretariat according to the following schedule:
 - total catches made from the 1 January to the 30 June shall be reported before the 31 July;
 - total catches from 1 January to 30 September shall be reported before the 31 October, and;
 - total catches from the 1 January to 31 December shall be reported before the 31 January the following year.

¹ Individual catch limits referred to in paragraph 3 merely represents country aspirations under the current stock status and should be considered within the total sharing arrangement limit of 21,000 t. These limits are only applicable for the current conservation measure and shall have no bearing for future allocations.

- 6.b) In addition to the provisions of paragraph 6(a) Japan shall also report its bigeye tuna catches south of 5°N simultaneously with its albacore catches.
- 6.c) The ICCAT Secretariat shall immediately distribute reported catches to all CPCs concerned
7. At the second reporting period (31 October), if the total reported catches of all five participants of the sharing arrangement exceeds 16,800 t (80% of the sharing arrangement limit) then these participants shall be required to report on a monthly basis to the ICCAT Secretariat for the remainder of the year.
 8. If at any stage a participant referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 (excluding Japan) reaches 80% of its individual catch limit then it shall be required to report its respective catch on a monthly basis to the ICCAT Secretariat for the remainder of the year.
 9. Should the catches of the sharing arrangement exceed 21,000 t, without any of the five participants exceeding their individual catch limits, then the sharing arrangement shall be reduced in the subsequent year by 100% of the total amount exceeded. This reduction shall also apply pro rata to all the individual catch limits in the subsequent year.
 10. Should the catches of the sharing arrangement exceed 21,000 t, due to any of the five participants exceeding their individual catch limits, then the sharing arrangement shall be reduced in the subsequent year by 100% of the total amount exceeded. In addition, the participants, which have caused the over-catch shall have its individual catch limit reduced in the subsequent year by 125% of the total exceeded amount.
 11. If any CPC referred to in paragraph 4 (excluding Japan) exceeds its catch limits then such CPC shall have its catch limits reduced by 100% of the total exceeded amount in the subsequent year.
 12. All other CPCs, referred to in paragraph 5, which exceed their individual catch limits shall have their catch limits reduced by 100% of the total exceeded amount in the year after their catches have been reviewed at the ICCAT Commission meeting.
 13. Should Japan exceed its southern albacore by-catch limit of 4% by weight of its total longline bigeye tuna catch in the Atlantic Ocean south of 5°N in 2012 or 2013, then the matter shall be referred to the subsequent Commission meeting to determine an appropriate catch limit to be implemented in the subsequent management period.
 14. Should the total catches exceed 24,000 t (TAC) in any given year until 2013, without any participant exceeding its catch limits, then the amount caught in excess of the TAC shall be reduced from the sharing arrangement in the subsequent year in which the over-catch has been reviewed by the ICCAT Commission.
 15. No provision shall be made for carry-over of under-harvests under the previous conservation measure [Rec 07-03] to the current conservation measure. Underages in any given year of this conservation measure may not be carried over to the subsequent year.
 16. Those Contracting Parties, Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities fishing actively for southern albacore shall immediately improve their catch reporting systems to ensure the reporting of accurate and validated southern albacore catch and effort data to ICCAT in full accordance with the ICCAT requirements for provision of Task I and Task II catch, effort and size data.
 17. The next stock assessment of southern albacore shall be brought forward to 2013 given the need to reduce the uncertainty of the 2011 stock assessment. Scientists of entities actively fishing for southern albacore are strongly encouraged to analyse their fisheries data and to participate in the 2013 assessment.
 18. All aspects of the southern albacore catch limit and sharing arrangement shall be reviewed and revised at the 2013 ICCAT Commission meeting, taking account of the results of the updated southern albacore stock assessment to be conducted in 2013. This review and revision shall also address any over-harvests made in excess of the 2012 and 2013 TAC.
 19. This Recommendation replaces, in its entirety, the 2007 *Recommendation by ICCAT on the Southern Albacore Catch Limit for 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011* [Rec. 07-03].

11-06

BFT

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT CONCERNING THE ATLANTIC-WIDE
RESEARCH PROGRAMME FOR BLUEFIN TUNA (GBYP)**

RECALLING the Commission decision in 2008 to adopt the Atlantic-wide Research Programme for the Bluefin Tuna (GBYP), endorsing the proposal made by the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS).

RECALLING the Commission decision in 2009 to initiate the Atlantic-wide Research Programme for Bluefin Tuna (GBYP), endorsing the reviewed and updated SCRS proposal.

RECALLING also the *Resolution by ICCAT Concerning Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Scientific Research on Stock Origin and Mixing* (Res. 08-06).

RECOGNIZING that the research results obtained by GBYP in the initial two phases of the programme provided a large amount of historical and new data on bluefin tuna, including promising results on fishery-independent data obtained by aerial survey on bluefin tuna spawning aggregations.

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the initial experience showed serious limits caused by the absence of specific provision for the research, particularly important after the adoption and enforcement of the ICCAT Rec. 08-05, Rec.09-06 and Rec. 10-04.

CONSIDERING that the current limits are able to impede the regular activity of the GBYP as they have been proposed by the SCRS and endorsed by the Commission, with particular reference to the aerial survey on spawning aggregations, the biological and genetic sampling and the tagging activities.

FURTHER CONSIDERING that similar problems encountered by a previous ICCAT programme (BYP) were resolved by the *Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT on Bluefin Tuna Research in the Central North Atlantic Ocean* (Rec. 01-08).

RECOGNIZING that the SCRS, in its 2011 Report, has recommended that the Commission should adopt specific provisions for allowing the regular research activity of GBYP.

ACKNOWLEDGING the importance of conducting the GBYP research as it was requested by the Commission under a clear legal framework.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. The Contracting Parties, Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities (hereinafter referred to as CPCs) shall provide the maximum assistance to ICCAT-GBYP for permits to operate in their relevant maritime areas or airspaces over marine zones which are under their jurisdiction, following the conditions of domestic rules and legislation of each concerned CPC on these issues.
2. The CPCs shall provide ICCAT-GBYP all the necessary contacts at the national level to assist in carrying out the research activities.
3. Scientific institutions and entities participating in the ICCAT-GBYP research activities are exempt from the Commission's conservation measures on bluefin tuna for up to a maximum of an overall amount of 20 metric tons of bluefin tuna annually ("Research Mortality Allowance" or "RMA") taken or killed incidentally during the GBYP biological and genetic sampling programme or the tagging activities, as approved by the SCRS and endorsed by the Commission. These tunas cannot be sold for commercial purposes and shall be reported in detail to ICCAT and SCRS at the end of each Phase of GBYP, according to specific rules that will be established by the ICCAT Secretariat and attached to the research contracts.
4. Scientific institutions and entities participating in the ICCAT-GBYP scientific research activities, as designated, identified and authorized by the ICCAT-GBYP Coordination, are exempt from the Commission's conservation measures on bluefin tuna and particularly from the minimum size limit, the limit concerning the use of any fishing gear or tool and the fishery closures, for allowing the GBYP scientific research activities to be conducted at any time of the year, with any gear and for sampling any size of bluefin tuna, according to the annual programme approved by the SCRS and endorsed by the Commission.
5. All CPCs undertake to consider providing the necessary funding or other logistical support in order to conduct this critical scientific endeavor.

11-07

BIL

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE
PLAN TO REBUILD BLUE MARLIN AND WHITE MARLIN POPULATIONS**

RECALLING the 2010 *Recommendation by ICCAT on the Plan to Rebuild Blue Marlin and White Marlin Populations* [Rec. 10-05],

ALSO RECALLING that Rec. 10-05 requires Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities (CPCs) to establish at the 2011 Commission meeting a multi-year plan to rebuild blue marlin and white marlin populations on the basis of the SCRS advice;

FURTHER RECALLING that the objective of the Convention is to maintain populations at levels that will support maximum sustainable catch (usually referred to as MSY),

CONSIDERING that the 2011 Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) stock assessment indicates that the blue marlin stock is below B_{MSY} and that fishing mortality is above F_{MSY} and that unless the recent catch levels are substantially reduced, the stock will likely continue to decline,

ALSO CONSIDERING that the 2011 SCRS recommended that the Commission should implement management measures to immediately reduce fishing mortality on blue marlin stock, by adopting a TAC of 2,000 t or less, to allow the stock to increase, and by adopting measures to manage fishing mortality by the non-industrial fleet,

ALSO CONSIDERING that in 2012 the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) shall assess the stock of white marlin

NOTING that, due to the misidentification problems between white marlin and spearfishes (genus *Tetrapturus*), the SCRS also recommended that management recommendations combine these species as a mixed stock until more accurate species identification and differentiation of species catches are available,

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. The terms of the 2006 *Recommendation by ICCAT to Further Strengthen the Plan to Rebuild Atlantic Blue Marlin and White Marlin Populations* [Rec. 06-09] shall be extended through 2012, except for paragraph 3, which shall read as follows:

A TAC of 2,000 t for blue marlin shall be established for 2012, as recommended by the SCRS. In 2012, the annual amount of blue marlin and white marlin (including spearfish) that can be harvested and retained for landing by pelagic longline and purse seine vessels must be no more than 30% of a CPC highest annual landing level from 1996 to 2004 (excluding 1997 for Chinese Taipei), for blue marlin and white marlin individually. Should a CPC harvest and land less than the limit specified above, the CPC shall not carry forward any underharvest to subsequent years, with the exception of those CPCs whose catch limit under this measure is less than 5 t who will be limited to carry forward a maximum amount of 50% of their initial catch limit from one year to the next. All blue marlin and white marlin brought to pelagic longline and purse seine vessels alive shall be released in a manner that maximizes their survival. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to marlins that are dead when brought along the side of the vessel and that are not sold or entered into commerce.

2. Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities (CPCs) shall establish at the 2012 Commission meeting a multi-year plan to rebuild blue marlin and white marlin populations on the basis of SCRS advice, including the establishment of total mortality limits by CPC, taking into account the *ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities* [Ref. 01-25] adopted in 2001.
3. The Secretariat, in conjunction with the SCRS, shall research and review existing regional or individual CPC data collection programs, including capacity building programs, for artisanal fisheries. The Secretariat and the SCRS will present their findings at the 2013 Commission meeting, including a plan to work with relevant regional and sub-regional international organizations and CPCs to expand such programs or implement them in new areas to improve data on billfish catches in these fisheries.
4. In 2012, the SCRS shall analyze the potential benefits and applicability of the use of time/area closures as a tool for marlin conservation.

11-08

BYC

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT ON THE CONSERVATION
OF SILKY SHARKS CAUGHT IN ASSOCIATION WITH ICCAT FISHERIES**

CONSIDERING that silky sharks (*Carcharhinus falciformis*) are caught in association with ICCAT fisheries;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the silky shark has been ranked as the species with the highest degree of vulnerability in the 2010 ecological risk assessment for Atlantic sharks;

CONSIDERING that SCRS recommends that proper conservation and management measures, similar to those adopted for other vulnerable shark species, be also adopted for the silky shark;

NOTING the geographic range of the silky shark which inhabits coastal and oceanic waters throughout the tropics;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNA (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. Contracting Parties, and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities (hereafter referred to as CPCs) shall require fishing vessels flying their flag and operating in ICCAT managed fisheries to release all silky sharks whether dead or alive, and prohibit retaining on board, transshipping, or landing any part or whole carcass of silky shark.
2. CPCs shall require vessels flying their flag to promptly release silky sharks unharmed, at the latest before putting the catch into the fish holds, giving due consideration to the safety of crew members. Purse seine vessels engaged in ICCAT fisheries shall endeavor to take additional measures to increase the survival rate of silky sharks incidentally caught.
3. CPCs shall record through their observer programs the number of discards and releases of silky sharks with indication of status (dead or alive) and report it to ICCAT.
4. Silky sharks that are caught by developing coastal CPCs for local consumption are exempted from the measures established in paragraphs 1 and 2, provided these CPCs submit Task I and, if possible, Task II data according to the reporting procedures established by the SCRS. CPCs that have not reported species-specific shark data shall provide a plan by July 1, 2012, for improving their data collection for sharks on a species specific level for review by the SCRS and Commission. Developing coastal CPCs exempted from the prohibition pursuant to this paragraph shall not increase their catches of silky sharks. Such CPCs shall take necessary measures to ensure that silky sharks will not enter international trade and shall notify the Commission of such measures.
5. Any CPC that does not report Task I data for silky shark, in accordance with SCRS data reporting requirements, shall be subject to the provisions of paragraph 1 until such data have been reported.
6. The prohibition on retention in paragraph 1 does not apply to CPCs whose domestic law requires that all dead fish be landed, that the fishermen cannot draw any commercial profit from such fish and that includes a prohibition against silky shark fisheries.
7. In their annual reports, CPCs shall inform the Commission of steps taken to implement this Recommendation through domestic law or regulations, including monitoring, control and surveillance measures that support implementation of this recommendation.
8. In 2012, the SCRS Sub-Committee on Statistics shall evaluate the data collection improvement plans (referenced in paragraph 4) submitted by CPCs and, as necessary, make recommendations on how shark data collection can be improved.
9. In 2013, the SCRS shall evaluate the information provided under paragraphs 3 and 4 and report on the sources of silky shark mortality in ICCAT fisheries, including silky shark discard mortality rates, and provide an analysis and advice regarding the benefits of a range of specific silky shark management options.
10. This measure should be reviewed in 2013 in light of the advice provided by the SCRS in accordance with paragraph 9.

11-09

BYC

**SUPPLEMENTAL RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT ON REDUCING
INCIDENTAL BY-CATCH OF SEABIRDS IN ICCAT LONGLINE FISHERIES**

RECALLING the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Reducing Incidental By-catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries* [Rec. 07-07];

RECOGNISING the need to strengthen mechanisms to protect endangered seabirds in the Atlantic Ocean;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) International Plan of Action for Reducing the Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries (IPOA-Seabirds);

ACKNOWLEDGING that to date some Contracting Parties, Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities (hereinafter referred to as “CPCs”) have identified the need for, and have either completed or are near finalizing, their National Plan of Action on Seabirds;

RECOGNISING the concern that some species of seabirds, notably some albatrosses and petrels, are threatened with global extinction;

NOTING that the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels has entered into force;

NOTING that the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) has adopted Recommendation GFCM/35/2011/13 launching a process, to be carried out in coordination with other RFMOs, with a view to reducing incidental by-catch of seabirds in fisheries in the GFCM Competence Area,

CONSCIOUS that the ICCAT seabird assessment has been completed and has concluded that ICCAT fisheries are having a measurable impact on seabird species;

RECOGNIZING the progress that some CPCs have made in addressing seabird bycatch in their fisheries:

**THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF THE ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:**

1. CPCs shall record data on seabird incidental catch by species through scientific observers in accordance with the Recommendation 10-10 and report these data annually.
2. CPCs shall seek to achieve reductions in levels of seabird by-catch across all fishing areas, seasons, and fisheries through the use of effective mitigation measures, while giving due consideration to the safety of crew members and the practicability of mitigation measures.
3. In the area south of 25 degrees South latitude, CPCs shall ensure that all longline vessels use at least two of the mitigation measures in **Table 1**. These measures should also be considered for implementation in other areas, as appropriate, consistent with scientific advice.
4. In the Mediterranean, mitigation measures in **Table 1** should be implemented on a voluntary basis. The SCRS is encouraged to work in coordination with the GFCM as provided for in GFCM Recommendation 35/2011/13.
5. Mitigation measures used pursuant to paragraph 3 shall conform to the minimum technical standards for the measures as shown in **Table 1**.
6. The design and deployment for bird scaring lines should also meet the additional specifications provided in **Annex 1**.
7. CPCs shall collect and provide to the Secretariat information on how they are implementing these measures and on the status of their National Plans of Action for Reducing Incidental Catches of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries.

8. In 2015, the SCRS shall conduct another fishery impact assessment to evaluate the efficacy of these mitigation measures. Based on this fishery impact assessment, the SCRS shall make appropriate recommendations, if necessary, to the Commission on any modifications.
9. The Commission shall consider adopting additional measures for the mitigation of any incidental catch of seabirds in light of any new scientific information available, if necessary and consistently with the precautionary approach.
10. Notwithstanding Article VIII of the Convention the provisions of this Recommendation shall come into force to the extent possible by January 2013 but not later than July 2013.
11. ICCAT Rec. 07-07 will continue to apply in the area between 20°S to 25°S.

Table 1. Mitigation measures that comply with the following minimum technical standards.

<i>Mitigation measure</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Specification</i>
Night setting with minimum deck lighting	No setting between nautical dawn and before nautical dusk. Deck lighting to be kept to a minimum	Nautical dusk and nautical dawn are defined as set out in the Nautical Almanac tables for relevant latitude, local time and date. Minimum deck lighting should not breach minimum standards for safety and navigation.
Bird-scaring lines (Tori lines)	Bird-scaring lines shall be deployed during longline setting to deter birds from approaching the branch line.	<p>For vessels greater than or equal to 35 m:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deploy at least 1 bird-scaring line. Where practical, vessels are encouraged to use a second tori pole and bird scaring line at times of high bird abundance or activity; both tori lines should be deployed simultaneously, one on each side of the line being set - Aerial extent of bird-scaring lines must be greater than or equal to 100 m. - Long streamers of sufficient length to reach the sea surface in calm conditions must be used. - Long streamers must be at intervals of no more than 5m. <p>For vessels less than 35m:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deploy at least 1 bird-scaring line. - Aerial extent must be greater than or equal to 75m. - Long and/or short (but greater than 1m in length) streamers must be used and placed at intervals as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Short: intervals of no more than 2m. o Long: intervals of no more than 5m for the first 55 m of bird scaring line. <p>Additional design and deployment guidelines for bird-scaring lines are provided in Annex 1 of this Recommendation.</p>
Line weighting	Line weights to be deployed on the snood prior to setting	Greater than a total of 45 g attached within 1 m of the hook or; Greater than a total of 60 g attached within 3.5 m of the hook or; Greater than a total of 98 g weight attached within 4 m of the hook.

Supplemental Guidelines for Design and Deployment of Tori Lines

Preamble

Minimum technical standards for deployment of tori lines are found in **Table 1** of this Recommendation, and are not repeated here. These supplemental guidelines are designed to assist in preparation and implementation of tori line regulations for longline vessels. While these guidelines are relatively explicit, improvement in tori line effectiveness through experimentation is encouraged, within the requirements of **Table 1** in the Recommendation. The guidelines take into account environmental and operational variables such as weather conditions, setting speed and ship size, all of which influence tori line performance and design in protecting baits from birds. Tori line design and use may change to take account of these variables provided that line performance is not compromised. On-going improvement in tori line design is envisaged and consequently review of these guidelines should be undertaken in the future.

Tori line design

1. An appropriate towed device on the section of the tori line in the water can improve the aerial extension.
2. The above water section of the line should be sufficiently light that its movement is unpredictable to avoid habituation by birds and sufficiently heavy to avoid deflection of the line by wind.
3. The line is best attached to the vessel with a robust barrel swivel to reduce tangling of the line.
4. The streamers should be made of material that is conspicuous and produces an unpredictable lively action (e.g. strong fine line sheathed in red polyurethane tubing) suspended from a robust three-way swivel (that again reduces tangles) attached to the tori line.
5. Each streamer should consist of two or more strands.
6. Each streamer pair should be detachable by means of a clip so that line stowage is more efficient.

Deployment of tori lines

1. The line should be suspended from a pole affixed to the vessel. The tori pole should be set as high as possible so that the line protects bait a good distance astern of the vessel and will not tangle with fishing gear. Greater pole height provides greater bait protection. For example, a height of around 7 m above the water line can give about 100 m of bait protection.
2. If vessels use only one tori line it should be set to windward of sinking baits. If baited hooks are set outboard of the wake, the streamer line attachment point to the vessel should be positioned several meters outboard of the side of the vessel that baits are deployed. If vessels use two tori lines, baited hooks should be deployed within the area bounded by the two tori lines.
3. Deployment of multiple tori lines is encouraged to provide even greater protection of baits from birds.
4. Because there is the potential for line breakage and tangling, spare tori lines should be carried onboard to replace damaged lines and to ensure fishing operations can continue uninterrupted. Breakaways can be incorporated into the tori line to minimize safety and operational problems should a longline float foul or tangle with the in-water extent of a streamer line.
5. When fishers use a bait casting machine (BCM), they must ensure coordination of tori line and machine by:
 - i) ensuring the BCM throws directly under the tori line protection, and
 - ii) when using a BCM (or multiple BCMs) that allows throwing to both port and starboard, two tori lines should be used.
6. When casting branchline by hand, fishers should ensure that the baited hooks and coiled branchline sections are cast under the tori line protection, avoiding the propeller turbulence which may slow the sink rate.
7. Fishers are encouraged to install manual, electric or hydraulic winches to improve ease of deployment and retrieval of tori lines.

11-10

BYC

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT ON INFORMATION COLLECTION
AND HARMONIZATION OF DATA ON BY-CATCH
AND DISCARDS IN ICCAT FISHERIES**

RECALLING the findings of ICCAT's independent performance review in 2008, including the panel's recommendation that "ICCAT develop a stronger approach generally to by-catch and develop and adopt appropriate mitigation measures including reporting on the effectiveness of these measures throughout the fisheries";

ACKNOWLEDGING the findings of the International Workshop on Tuna RFMO Management of Issues Relating to Bycatch in June 2010, including the recommendation that RFMOs should assess fishery impacts on bycatch, using the best available data;

CONSIDERING that the FAO issued International Guidelines for By-catch Management and Reduction of Discards in January 2011, advising RFMOs to recognize the importance of addressing bycatch problems and to collaborate with other RFMOs to address common issues of concern;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the recommendations developed at the first meeting of the Joint Tuna RFMO Technical Working Group on Bycatch in July 2011;

RECOGNIZING that discussions within the Future of ICCAT Working Group have highlighted the importance of ecosystem considerations;

NOTING that the *Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish Minimum Standards for Fishing Vessel Scientific Observer Programs* [Rec. 10-10] requires CPCs to establish observer programs to collect data that quantify bycatch (including sharks, sea turtles, marine mammals, and seabirds) and report this information to the SCRS;

RESPONDING to recommendations from the SCRS Subcommittee on Ecosystems, including the need for all CPCs to collect and provide bycatch data to the SCRS;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the SCRS Sub-Committee on Ecosystems, together with the Working Group on Stock Assessment Methods, is developing guidelines for the presentation and analysis of bycatch statistics;

DETERMINED to improve data collection and reporting on bycatch in ICCAT fisheries, as a basis for future assessment by the SCRS of impacts of these fisheries on bycatch species and consideration of appropriate conservation and management measures by the Commission;

UNDERSCORING the importance of full and active involvement by ICCAT in the work of the Joint Tuna RFMO Technical Working Group on By-Catch, including the development of minimum standards for data collection;

FURTHER NOTING that although Recommendations 04-10, 07-07 and 10-09 established some reporting requirements for species encountered as bycatch in ICCAT fisheries, many CPCs have not taken the necessary steps to collect and report these data.

**THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:**

1. Notwithstanding other data collection and reporting programs and requirements adopted by ICCAT and noting continued obligations to fulfill those requirements, in particular those of Recommendation 10-10:
 - a) Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities (CPCs) shall require the collection of bycatch and discard data in their existing domestic scientific observer programs and logbook programs;

- b) CPCs that wish to employ an alternative scientific monitoring approach for vessels <15 meters, as specified in paragraph 1b) of Recommendation 10-10, shall describe their alternative approach as part of the observer program report that is due to the SCRS on July 31, 2012 (as required by paragraph 5 of Recommendation 10-10).
 - c) For artisanal fisheries that are not subject to ICCAT's minimum standards for scientific observer programs (Recommendation 10-10) or recording of catch requirements (Recommendation 03-13) CPCs shall implement measures to collect bycatch and discard data through alternative means and describe these efforts in their Annual Reports, beginning in 2012. The SCRS shall evaluate these measures in 2013 and provide advice to the Commission on this matter;
 - d) CPCs shall report the bycatch and discard data collected under paragraphs 1a and b to the Secretariat in the format specified by SCRS, in accordance with existing deadlines for data reporting;
 - e) CPCs shall report on steps taken to mitigate bycatch and reduce discards, and on any relevant research in this field, as part of their Annual Reports, beginning in 2012;
2. CPCs shall provide these data in a manner consistent with their domestic confidentiality requirements.
 3. Where possible, CPCs shall provide existing identification guides for sharks, seabirds and turtles and marine mammals caught in the Convention Area to the ICCAT Secretariat, and the Secretariat shall request sub-regional RFMOs to provide the Commission with relevant identification guides. The Secretariat shall share these guides with the T-RFMO Technical Working Group on Bycatch, as appropriate.
 4. The ICCAT Secretariat and SCRS will continue to support the work plan of the T-RFMO Joint Bycatch Technical Working Group.
 5. This recommendation applies to discards and bycatch of species caught in association with fisheries managed by ICCAT, as reflected in the FAO International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and the Reduction of Discards.

11-11

GEN

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT TO CLARIFY THE APPLICATION OF COMPLIANCE
RECOMMENDATIONS AND FOR DEVELOPING THE COMPLIANCE ANNEX**

RECOGNIZING the need to clarify the procedures regarding implementation of ICCAT's compliance recommendations that address the treatment of under/over harvest of catch limits and minimum size tolerances, including the deadline and process for the submission of compliance tables and for developing the Compliance Annex;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. By 15 September of each year, Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, Entities, and Fishing Entities (CPCs) shall complete and submit the following to ICCAT using Commission-approved tables and forms provided by the Secretariat:
 - an "ICCAT Compliance Reporting Table" covering each of its applicable fisheries, and
 - a form for each stock or species, as appropriate, showing how adjusted quotas or catch limits were calculated taking into account ICCAT's rules on under and overharvests.

The Compliance Reporting Table shall cover the current reporting year and any revisions of previous years' data, which should be highlighted for ease of reference. The table format shall include, *inter alia*, current catches, balance, adjusted quotas/catch limits, and, where applicable, minimum size data. CPCs shall submit their compliance reporting table and forms for the application of underharvests/overharvests electronically in the format provided by the Secretariat.

2. Upon submission of the ICCAT Compliance Reporting Tables to the Commission, the Secretariat in consultation with the Compliance Committee Chairman shall prepare and distribute to CPCs a "Compliance Annex." The Annex will reflect: (1) all catch limits and minimum sizes/tolerances to which each CPC is subject; (2) each CPC's catch statistics submitted to the SCRS for the current reporting year, and any revisions to previous years' data; (3) any underharvests or overharvests; (4) all catch limit reductions that each Party must take pursuant to applicable rules and any catch limit increases a CPC may choose to take due to underharvest; and (5) the dates by when such reductions or increases will be taken. In the Compliance Annex, the Secretariat shall also note where compliance table submissions by CPCs indicate actions that may be inconsistent with ICCAT recommendations for consideration by the Compliance Committee.
3. At each annual meeting, the Compliance Committee shall review and adjust, as necessary, the Compliance Annex to ensure it reflects the proper application of ICCAT's compliance recommendations. In support of this review, each CPC shall report on the information presented in its ICCAT Compliance Reporting Table, including a detailed explanation of any overharvest of a catch limit and/or minimum size tolerance level, the actions already taken, or to be taken, to prevent further overharvest, and the dates by which such actions will be taken. CPCs shall also report any changes to the compliance information provided in previous years and explain, in detail, any changes to their Compliance Reporting Table made after the 15 September deadline. If a CPC's compliance data differs substantially from relevant statistics reported to SCRS, the Committee shall seek an explanation for the difference, where necessary and appropriate.
4. At each annual meeting, the Compliance Committee will present the results of its deliberations on the application of ICCAT's compliance recommendations, as reflected in a final Compliance Annex, for endorsement, in whole or in part, by the Commission. The Compliance Annex will be appended to the meeting report.
5. This Recommendation replaces *Recommendation by ICCAT on Application of Three Compliance Recommendations* (98-14) in its entirety.

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN
ICCAT RECORD OF VESSELS 20 METERS IN LENGTH OVERALL OR GREATER
AUTHORIZED TO OPERATE IN THE CONVENTION AREA**

RECALLING that ICCAT adopted at its 2000 meeting a *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Registration and Exchange of Information of Fishing Vessels Fishing for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the Convention Area* [Rec. 00-17],

FURTHER RECALLING that ICCAT adopted at its 1994 meeting a *Resolution by ICCAT Regarding the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas* [Res. 94-08],

FURTHER RECALLING that the Commission has been taking various measures to prevent, deter and eliminate the illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fisheries conducted by large-scale tuna fishing vessels,

NOTING that large-scale fishing vessels are highly mobile and easily change fishing grounds from one ocean to another, and have high potential of operating in the Convention area without timely registration with the Commission,

RECALLING that the FAO Council adopted on June 23, 2001 an International Plan of Action (IPOA) aiming to prevent, to deter and to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, that this plan stipulates that the regional fisheries management organization should take action to strengthen and develop innovative ways, in conformity with international law, to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing and in particular to establish records of vessels authorized and records of vessels engaged in IUU fishing,

FURTHER RECALLING that the Commission, in 2002, established an ICCAT Record of Vessels 24 meters in length overall or greater and then, in 2009, expanded the list to include all vessels 20 meters in length overall or greater,

**THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF THE ATLANTIC TUNA (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:**

1. The Commission shall establish and maintain an ICCAT record of fishing vessels 20 meters in length overall or greater (hereinafter referred to as “large scale fishing vessels” or “LSFVs”) authorized to fish for tuna and tuna-like species in the Convention Area. For the purpose of this recommendation, LSFVs not entered into the record are deemed not to be authorized to fish for, retain on board, transship or land tuna and tuna-like species.
2. Each CPC shall submit to the ICCAT Executive Secretary, the list of its LSFVs that are authorized to operate in the Convention area. The initial list and any subsequent changes shall be submitted electronically in a format provided by the Secretariat. This list shall include the following information:
 - Name of vessel, register number
 - IMO number (if any)
 - Previous name (if any)
 - Previous flag (if any)
 - Previous details of deletion from other registries (if any)
 - International radio call sign (if any)
 - Type of vessels, length, gross registered tonnage (GRT), or, where possible, Gross Tonnage (GT)
 - Name and address of owner(s) and operator(s)
 - Gear used
 - Time period authorized for fishing and/or transshipping. However, in no case shall the authorization period include dates more than 30 days prior to the date of submission of the list to the Secretariat.

The ICCAT record shall consist of all LSFVs submitted under this paragraph.

3. Each CPC shall promptly notify the ICCAT Executive Secretary of any addition to, any deletion from and/or any modification of the ICCAT record at any time such changes occur. Periods of authorization for modifications or additions to the list shall not include dates more than 30 days prior to the date of submission

of the changes to the Secretariat. The Secretariat shall remove from the ICCAT Record of Vessels any vessel for which the period of authorization has expired.

4. The ICCAT Executive Secretary shall maintain the ICCAT record, and take any measure to ensure publicity of the record and make the record available through electronic means, including placing it on the ICCAT website, in a manner consistent with confidentiality requirements noted by CPCs.
5. The flag CPCs of the vessels on the record shall:
 - a) Authorize their LSFVs to operate in the Convention area only if they are able to fulfill in respect of these vessels the requirements and responsibilities under the Convention and its conservation and management measures;
 - b) Take necessary measures to ensure that their LSFVs comply with all the relevant ICCAT conservation and management measures;
 - c) Take necessary measures to ensure that their LSFVs on the ICCAT record keep on board valid certificates of vessel registration and valid authorization to fish and/or transship;
 - d) Ensure that their LSFVs on the ICCAT record have no history of IUU fishing activities or that, if those vessels have such history, the new owners have provided sufficient evidence demonstrating that the previous owners and operators have no legal, beneficial or financial interest in, or control over those vessels, or that having taken into account all relevant facts, their LSFVs are not engaged in or associated with IUU fishing;
 - e) Ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners and operators of their LSFVs on the ICCAT record are not engaged in or associated with tuna fishing activities conducted by LSFVs not entered into the ICCAT record in the Convention area; and
 - f) Take necessary measures to ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners of the LSFVs on the ICCAT record are citizens or legal entities within the flag CPCs so that any control or punitive actions can be effectively taken against them.
6. CPCs shall review their own internal actions and measures taken pursuant to paragraph 5, including punitive and sanction actions and in a manner consistent with domestic law as regards disclosure, report any relevant results of the review to the Commission at its annual meeting. In consideration of any CPC reports on the relevant results of such reviews, the Commission shall, if appropriate, request the flag CPCs of LSFVs on the ICCAT record to take further action to enhance compliance by those vessels to ICCAT conservation and management measures.
7.
 - a) CPCs shall take measures, under their applicable legislation, to prohibit the fishing for, the retaining on board, the transshipment and landing of tuna and tuna-like species by the LSTVs which are not entered into the ICCAT record.
 - b) To ensure the effectiveness of the ICCAT conservation and management measures pertaining to species covered by Statistical Document Programs:
 - i) Flag CPCs or, if the vessel is under a charter arrangement, the exporting CPC shall validate statistical documents only for the LSFVs on the ICCAT record,
 - ii) CPCs shall require that the species covered by Statistical Document Programs caught by LSFVs in the Convention area, when imported into the territory of a Contracting Party be accompanied by statistical documents validated for the vessels on the ICCAT record and,
 - iii) CPCs importing species covered by Statistical Document Programs and the flag States of vessels shall cooperate to ensure that statistical documents are not forged or do not contain misinformation.
8. Each CPC shall notify the ICCAT Executive Secretary of any factual information showing that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting LSTVs not on the ICCAT record to be engaged in fishing for and/or transshipment of tuna and tuna-like species in the Convention area.

9. a) If a vessel mentioned in paragraph 8 is flying the flag of a CPC, the Executive Secretary shall request that CPC to take measures necessary to prevent the vessel from fishing for tuna and tuna-like species in the Convention area.
 - b) If the flag of a vessel mentioned in paragraph 8 cannot be determined or is of a non-Contracting Party without cooperating status, the Executive Secretary shall compile such information for future consideration by the Commission.
10. The Commission and the CPCs concerned shall communicate with each other, and make the best effort with FAO and other relevant regional fishery management bodies to develop and implement appropriate measures, where feasible, including the establishment of records of a similar nature in a timely manner so as to avoid adverse effects upon tuna resources in other oceans. Such adverse effects might consist of excessive fishing pressure resulting from a shift of the IUU LSFVs from the Atlantic to other oceans.
11. The *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Establishment of an ICCAT Record of Vessels 20 Meters in Length Overall or Greater* [Rec. 09-08] is replaced in its entirety by this recommendation.

11-13

GEN

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT ON THE PRINCIPLES OF DECISION
MAKING FOR ICCAT CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES**

RECALLING the Recommended Course of Actions from the first Global Summit of Tuna RFMOs in Kobe, Japan, noted that management decisions should be based upon scientific advice and consistent with the precautionary approach;

NOTING that participants of the first Global Summit of Tuna RFMOs in 2007 in Kobe, Japan agreed that stock assessment results be presented in a standardized “four quadrant, red-yellow-green” format that is now referred to as the “Kobe Plot,” which is widely embraced as a practical, user-friendly method to present stock status information;

FURTHER NOTING that, at the Second Joint Meeting of Tuna RFMOs in June 2009 in San Sebastian, Spain, a “Strategy Matrix” was adopted to provide fisheries managers with the statistical probability of meeting management targets, including ending overfishing and rebuilding overfished stocks, in a standardized manner as a result of potential management actions;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the Strategy Matrix is a harmonized format for RFMO science bodies to convey advice, and that this format for presenting stock assessment results facilitates the application of the precautionary approach by providing Commissions with the basis to evaluate and adopt management options at various levels of probability of success;

**THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:**

To support the achievement of the ICCAT Convention objective, the following principles, based on the status of stocks as represented by the Kobe Plot, shall guide the development of management measures for ICCAT-managed stocks:

1. For stocks that are not overfished and not subject to overfishing (i.e., stocks in the green quadrant of the Kobe plot), management measures shall be designed to result in a high probability of maintaining the stock within this quadrant.
2. For stocks that are not overfished, but are subject to overfishing, (i.e., stocks in the upper right yellow quadrant of the Kobe plot), the Commission shall immediately adopt management measures, taking into account, *inter alia*, the biology of the stock and SCRS advice, designed to result in a high probability of ending overfishing in as short a period as possible.
3. For stocks that are overfished and subject to overfishing (i.e., stocks in the red quadrant of the Kobe plot), the Commission shall immediately adopt management measures, taking into account, *inter alia*, the biology of the stock and SCRS advice, designed to result in a high probability of ending overfishing in as short a period as possible. In addition, the Commission shall adopt a plan to rebuild these stocks taking into account, *inter alia*, the biology of the stock and SCRS advice.
4. For stocks that are overfished and not subject to overfishing (i.e. stocks in the lower left yellow quadrant of the Kobe plot), the Commission shall adopt management measures designed to rebuild these stocks in as short a period as possible, taking into account, *inter alia*, the biology of the stock and SCRS advice.

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT ON PENALTIES APPLICABLE IN CASE OF
NON FULFILMENT OF REPORTING OBLIGATIONS**

GIVEN that following Article IX of the Convention, Contracting Parties agree to supply, on the request of the Commission, any available statistical, biological and other scientific information that the Commission may need for the purposes of this Convention and that all Task I and II data should be submitted annually to the Secretariat by July the year following the fishing activities;

RECALLING the *Resolution by ICCAT on the Deadlines and Procedures for Data Submission* [Res. 01-16] and the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Compliance with Statistical Reporting Obligations* [Rec. 05-09];

FURTHER RECALLING that the ICCAT *Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities* (Ref. 01-25) clearly links fisheries access with the obligation to provide accurate data on fishing effort and catch;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Atlantic Shortfin Mako Sharks Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries* [Rec. 10-06], which provides that “CPCs that do not report Task I data for Atlantic shortfin mako sharks, in accordance with SCRS data reporting requirements, shall be prohibited from retaining this species, beginning in 2013 until such data have been received by the ICCAT Secretariat”;

NOTING that incomplete reporting or no data reporting also concerns species other than shortfin mako and that, despite the adoption of numerous measures intended to address the matter, lack of compliance with reporting obligations still is a problem for the Scientific Committee and for the Commission;

FURTHER NOTING that, in order that all ICCAT fisheries are managed in line with the precautionary approach, it is necessary to take measures aimed at eliminating or reducing non-reporting and misreporting;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF
ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. CPCs shall include information in their Annual Reports on actions taken to implement their reporting obligations for all ICCAT fisheries, including shark species caught in association with ICCAT fisheries, in particular the steps taken to improve their Task I and Task II data collection for direct and incidental catches;
2. Actions taken by CPCs, as described in paragraph 1, shall be reviewed annually by ICCAT’s Compliance Committee, beginning in 2013;
3. CPCs that do not report Task I data, including zero catches, for one or more species for a given year, in accordance with SCRS data reporting requirements, shall be prohibited from retaining such species as of the year following the lack or incomplete reporting until such data have been received by the ICCAT Secretariat.

11-16

GEN

RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT ON ACCESS AGREEMENTS

AWARE of the data reporting requirements for all CPCs and the importance of complete statistical reporting to the work of SCRS and the Commission;

MINDFUL of the need to ensure transparency among CPCs, in particular to facilitate joint efforts to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing;

RECALLING the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Vessel Chartering* [Rec. 02-21] that establishes reporting and other requirements for chartering arrangements;

RECALLING the *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Duties of Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities in Relation to their Vessels in the ICCAT Convention Area* [Rec. 03-12], which requires CPCs to ensure that their vessels do not conduct unauthorized fishing within areas under the national jurisdiction of other States, through appropriate cooperation with coastal States concerned, and other relevant means available to the flag CPC;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities, and Fishing Entities (CPCs) that allow foreign-flagged vessels to fish in waters under their jurisdiction for species managed by ICCAT, and CPCs whose vessels fish in waters under the jurisdiction of another CPC or non-Contracting party (NCP) for species managed by ICCAT pursuant to an agreement, shall, individually or jointly, notify the Commission prior to beginning fishing activities of the existence of such agreements and provide to the Commission information concerning these agreements, including:
 - The CPCs, NCPs, or other entities involved in the agreement;
 - The time period or periods covered by the agreement;
 - The number of vessels and gear types authorized;
 - The stock or species authorized for harvest, including any applicable catch limits;
 - The CPC's quota or catch limit to which the catch will be applied;
 - Monitoring, control, and surveillance measures required by the flag CPC and coastal State involved;
 - Data reporting obligations stipulated in the agreement, including those between the parties involved, as well as those regarding information that must be provided to the Commission;
 - A copy of the written agreement.
2. For agreements in existence prior to the entry into force of this recommendation, the information specified in paragraph 1 shall be provided in advance of the 2012 Commission meeting.
3. When an access agreement is modified in a manner that changes any of the information specified in paragraph 1, these changes shall be promptly notified to the Commission.
4. Consistent with ICCAT data reporting requirements, flag CPCs involved in the agreements specified in paragraph 1 shall ensure that all target and incidental catches made pursuant to these agreements are reported to the SCRS.
5. Flag CPCs and coastal CPCs involved in the agreements specified in paragraph 1 shall provide a summary of the activities carried out pursuant to each agreement, including all catches made pursuant to these agreements, in their annual report to the Commission.
6. In cases where coastal CPCs allow foreign-flagged vessels to fish in waters under their jurisdiction for species managed by ICCAT through a mechanism other than a CPC-to-CPC or CPC-to-NCP agreement, the coastal CPC shall be solely responsible for providing the information required by this Recommendation. Flag CPCs with vessels involved in such an agreement, however, shall endeavor to provide to the Commission relevant information regarding that agreement as indicated in paragraph 1.

7. The Secretariat shall develop a form for reporting the information specified in this recommendation and annually compile CPC submissions into a report to be presented to the Commission for consideration at its annual meeting.
8. This recommendation does not apply to chartering arrangements covered by the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Vessel Chartering* [Rec. 02-21].
9. All information provided pursuant to this Recommendation shall be consistent with domestic confidentiality requirements.

11-18

GEN

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT FURTHER AMENDING RECOMMENDATION 09-10
ESTABLISHING A LIST OF VESSELS PRESUMED TO HAVE CARRIED OUT
ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING ACTIVITIES IN
THE ICCAT CONVENTION AREA**

RECALLING that the FAO Council adopted on 23 June 2001 an International Plan of Action to prevent, to deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IPOA-IUU). This plan stipulates that the identification of the vessels carrying out Illegal Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) activities should follow agreed procedures and be applied in an equitable, transparent and non-discriminatory way.

RECALLING that ICCAT has already adopted measures against IUU fishing activities and, in particular, against large-scale tuna longline vessels,

CONCERNED by the fact that IUU fishing activities in the ICCAT area continue, and these activities diminish the effectiveness of ICCAT conservation and management measures,

FURTHER CONCERNED that there is evidence of a large number of vessel owners engaged in such fishing activities which have re-flagged their vessels to avoid compliance with ICCAT management and conservation measures, and to evade the ICCAT-adopted non discriminatory trade measures,

DETERMINED to address the challenge of an increase in IUU fishing activities by way of counter-measures to be applied in respect to the vessels, without prejudice to further measures adopted in respect of flag States under the relevant ICCAT instruments.

CONSIDERING the results of the ICCAT *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Measures to Combat IUU Fishing, which was held in Tokyo from May 27 to 31, 2002,

CONSCIOUS of the urgent need to address the issue of large-scale fishing vessels as well as other vessels conducting IUU fishing and fishing related activities in support of IUU fishing,

NOTING that the situation must be addressed in the light of all relevant international fisheries instruments and in accordance with the relevant rights and obligations established in the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF THE ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

Definition of IUU Activities

1. For the purposes of this recommendation, the fishing vessels flying the flag of a non-Contracting Party, or a Cooperating non-Contracting Party, Entity or Fishing Entity, or a Contracting Party are presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities in the ICCAT Convention area, *inter alia*, when a Contracting Party or a Cooperating non-Contracting Party, Entity or Fishing Entity (hereafter referred to as CPC) presents evidence that such vessels:
 - a) Harvest tunas and tuna-like species in the Convention area and are not registered on the ICCAT list of vessels authorized to fish for tuna and tuna-like species in the ICCAT Convention area;
 - b) Harvest tuna and tuna-like species in the Convention area, whose flag State is without quotas, catch limit or effort allocation under relevant ICCAT conservation and management measures;
 - c) Do not record or report their catches made in the ICCAT Convention area, or make false reports;
 - d) Take or land undersized fish in contravention of ICCAT conservation measures;
 - e) Fish during closed fishing periods or in closed areas in contravention of ICCAT conservation measures;
 - f) Use prohibited fishing gear in contravention of ICCAT conservation measures;
 - g) Transship with, or participate in joint operations such as re-supply or re-fuelling vessels included in the IUU vessels list;

- h) Harvest tuna or tuna-like species in the waters under the national jurisdiction of the coastal States in the Convention area without authorization and/or infringes its laws and regulations, without prejudice to the sovereign rights of coastal States to take measures against such vessels,
- i) Are without nationality and harvest tunas or tuna-like species in the ICCAT Convention area, and/or
- j) Engage in fishing activities contrary to any other ICCAT conservation and management measures.

Information on alleged IUU activities

2. CPCs shall transmit every year to the Executive Secretary at least 120 days before the annual meeting, the list of vessels flying the flag of a non-Contracting Party presumed to be carrying out IUU fishing activities in the Convention Area during the current and previous year, accompanied by the supporting evidence concerning the presumption of IUU fishing activity.

This list shall be based on the information collected by CPCs, *inter alia*, under relevant ICCAT recommendations and resolutions.

Draft IUU List

3. On the basis of the information received pursuant to paragraph 2, the ICCAT Executive Secretary shall draw up a Draft IUU List. This list shall be drawn up in conformity with **Annex 1**. The Secretary shall transmit it together with the current IUU List as well as all the evidence provided to CPCs, and to non-Contracting Parties whose vessels are included on these lists before at least 90 days before the annual meeting. CPCs and non-Contracting Parties, shall transmit their comments, as appropriate, including evidence showing that the listed vessels have neither fished in contravention to ICCAT conservation and management measures nor had the possibility of fishing tuna and tuna-like species in the Convention area, at least 30 days before the annual meeting of ICCAT.

The Commission shall request the flag State to notify the owner of the vessels of its inclusion in the Draft IUU List and of the consequences that may result from their inclusion being confirmed in the IUU list adopted by the Commission.

Upon receipt of the Draft IUU List, CPCs shall closely monitor these vessels included in the Draft IUU List in order to determine their activities and possible changes of name, flag and/or registered owner.

Provisional IUU List

4. On the basis of the information received pursuant to paragraph 3, the Executive Secretary shall draw up a Provisional List which he will transmit two weeks in advance to the Commission meeting to the CPCs and to the non-Contracting Parties concerned, together with all the evidence provided. This list shall be drawn up in conformity with **Annex 1**.
5. CPCs may at any time submit to the ICCAT Executive Secretary any additional information, which might be relevant for the establishment of the IUU list. The ICCAT Executive Secretary shall circulate the information, at latest before the annual meeting, to the CPCs and to the non-Contracting Parties concerned, together with all the evidence provided.
6. The Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG) shall examine, each year, the Provisional List, as well as the information referred to in paragraphs 3 and 5. The results of this examination may, if necessary, be referred to the Conservation and Management Measures Compliance Committee.

The PWG shall remove a vessel from the Provisional List if the flag State demonstrates that:

- The vessel did not take part in any IUU fishing activities described in paragraph 1, or
- Effective action has been taken in response to the IUU fishing activities in question, including, *inter alia*, prosecution and imposition of sanctions of adequate severity.

7. Following the examination referred to in paragraph 6, at each ICCAT annual meeting, the PWG shall:
 - i) Adopt a Provisional IUU Vessel List following consideration of the Draft IUU List and information and evidence circulated under paragraphs 3 and 5. The Provisional IUU Vessel List shall be submitted to the Commission for approval.
 - ii) Recommend to the Commission which, if any, vessels should be removed from the IUU Vessel List adopted at the previous ICCAT annual meeting, following consideration of that List, of the information and evidence circulated under paragraph 5 and the information received in accordance with paragraph 14.

IUU List

8. On adoption of the list, the Commission shall request non-Contracting Parties, whose vessels appear on the IUU List:
 - To notify the owner of the vessel identified on the IUU Vessels List of its inclusion on the list and the consequences which result from being included on the list, as referred to in paragraph 9.
 - To take all the necessary measures to eliminate these IUU fishing activities, including if necessary, the withdrawal of the registration or of the fishing licenses of these vessels, and to inform the Commission of the measures taken in this respect.
9. CPCs shall take all necessary measures, under their applicable legislation:
 - So that the fishing vessels, support vessels, refueling vessels, the mother-ships and the cargo vessels flying their flag do not assist in any way, engage in fishing processing operations or participate in any transshipment or joint fishing operations with vessels included on the IUU Vessels List;
 - So that IUU vessels are not authorized to land, tranship re-fuel, re-supply, or engage in other commercial transactions;
 - To prohibit the entry into their ports of vessels included on the IUU list, except in case of *force majeure*, unless vessels are allowed entry into port for the exclusive purpose of inspection and effective enforcement action;
 - To give priority to the inspection of vessels on the IUU list, if such vessels are otherwise found in their ports;
 - To prohibit the chartering of a vessel included on the IUU vessels list;
 - To refuse to grant their flag to vessels included in the IUU list, except if the vessel has changed owner and the new owner has provided sufficient evidence demonstrating the previous owner or operator has no further legal, beneficial or financial interest in, or control of, the vessel, or having taken into account all relevant facts, the flag CPC determines that granting the vessel its flag will not result in IUU fishing;
 - To prohibit the imports, or landing and/or transshipment, of tuna and tuna-like species from vessels included in the IUU list;
 - To encourage the importers, transporters and other sectors concerned, to refrain from transaction and transshipment of tuna and tuna-like species caught by vessels included in the IUU list;
 - To collect and exchange with other CPCs any appropriate information with the aim of searching for, controlling and preventing false import/export certificates regarding tunas and tuna-like species from vessels included in the IUU list.
10. The ICCAT Executive Secretary will take any necessary measure to ensure publicity of the IUU vessels list adopted by ICCAT pursuant to paragraph 7, in a manner consistent with any applicable confidentiality requirements, and through electronic means, by placing it on the ICCAT web site. Furthermore, the ICCAT Executive Secretary will transmit the IUU Vessels List to other regional fisheries organizations for the purposes of enhanced co-operation between ICCAT and these organizations in order to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.
11. Upon receipt of the final IUU vessel list established by another regional fisheries management organization (RFMO) managing tuna or tuna-like species and supporting information considered by that RFMO, and any

other information regarding the listing determination, the Executive Secretary shall circulate this information to the CPCs. Vessels that have been included on or deleted from the respective lists shall be included on or deleted from the ICCAT IUU Vessel List as appropriate, unless any Contracting Party objects to the inclusion on the final ICCAT IUU list within 30 days of the date of transmittal by the Executive Secretary on the grounds that:

- i) there is satisfactory information to establish that:
 - a) The vessel did not engage in the IUU fishing activities identified by the other RFMO, or
 - b) That effective action has been taken in response to the IUU fishing activities in question, including, *inter alia*, prosecution, and imposition of sanctions of adequate severity,or
- ii) There is insufficient supporting information and other information regarding the listing determination to establish that none of the conditions in sub-paragraph i) above have been met.

In the event of an objection to a vessel listed by another RFMO managing tuna or tuna-like species being included on the final ICCAT IUU Vessel List pursuant to this paragraph, such vessel shall be placed on the Draft IUU Vessel List and considered by the PWG pursuant to paragraph 6.

12. This recommendation shall apply to fishing vessels 12 meters or greater in length overall and, *mutatis mutandis*, fish processing vessels, tug and towing vessels, vessels engaged in transshipment, and support vessels. The Commission shall, at its annual meeting in 2013, review and, as appropriate, revise this recommendation with a view to its extension to other types of IUU fishing activities.
13. Without prejudice to the rights of flag States and coastal States to take proper action consistent with international law, CPCs shall not take any unilateral trade measures or other sanctions against vessels provisionally included in the Draft IUU List, pursuant to paragraph 3, or which have been already removed from the list, pursuant to paragraph 6, on the grounds that such vessels are involved in IUU fishing activities.

Deletion from the IUU vessels list

14. A non-Contracting Party whose vessel appears on the IUU List may request the removal of this vessel from the list during the inter-sessional period by providing the following information:
 - It has adopted measures so that this vessel conforms with ICCAT conservation measures,
 - It is and will continue to assume effectively its responsibilities with respect to this vessel in particular as regards the monitoring and control of the fishing activities executed by this vessel in the ICCAT Convention area,
 - It has taken effective action in response to the IUU fishing activities in question including prosecution and imposition of sanctions of adequate severity; and/or
 - The vessel has changed ownership and that the new owner can establish the previous owner no longer has any legal, financial or real interests in the vessel or exercises control over it and that the new owner has not participated in IUU fishing.

Inter-sessional modification of the IUU Vessels List

15. The non-Contracting Party shall send its request for the removal of a vessel from the IUU Vessels List to the ICCAT Executive Secretary accompanied by the supporting information referred to in paragraph 14.
16. On the basis of the information received in accordance with paragraph 14, the ICCAT Executive Secretary will transmit the removal request, with all the supporting information to the Contracting Parties within 15 days following the notification of the removal request.
17. The Contracting Parties will examine the request to remove the vessel and arrive at a conclusion on either the removal from, or the maintenance of the vessel on the IUU Vessels List by mail within 30 days following the notification by the Executive Secretary. The result of the examination of the request by mail

will be checked by the Executive Secretary at the end of the 30-day period following the date of the notification by the Executive Secretary referred to in paragraph 16.

18. The Executive Secretary will communicate the result of examination to all Contracting Parties.
19. If the result of the exercise indicates that there is a majority of the Contracting Parties in favor of removal of the vessel from the IUU List, the Chairperson of ICCAT, on behalf of ICCAT, will communicate the result to all the Contracting Parties and to the non-Contracting Party which requested the removal of its vessel from the IUU list. In the absence of a majority, the vessel will be maintained on the IUU List and the Executive Secretary will inform the non-Contracting Party accordingly.
20. The ICCAT Executive Secretary will take the necessary measures to remove the vessel concerned from the ICCAT IUU Vessels List, as published on the ICCAT web site. Moreover, the ICCAT Executive Secretary will forward the decision of removal of the vessel to other regional fishery organizations.

General dispositions

21. This recommendation replaces Recommendation 09-10.
22. This Recommendation shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to vessels referred to in paragraph 12 flying the flag of CPCs.

Information to be included in all IUU Lists (Draft, Provisional and Final)

The Draft IUU List, as well as the Provisional IUU List shall contain the following details, where available:

- i) Name of vessel and previous names;
- ii) Flag of vessel and previous flag;
- iii) Name and address of owner of vessel and previous owners, including beneficial owners, and owner's place of registration;
- iv) Operator of vessel and previous operators;
- v) Call sign of vessel and previous call sign;
- vi) Lloyds/IMO number;
- vii) Photographs of the vessel;
- viii) Date vessel was first included on the IUU List;
- ix) Summary of activities which justify inclusion of the vessel on the List, together with references to all relevant documents informing of and evidencing those activities

11-19

SANC

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT CONCERNING THE LIFTING OF
TRADE RESTRICTIVE MEASURES AGAINST BOLIVIA AND GEORGIA**

RECOGNIZING ICCAT's responsibility as concerns the management of tuna and tuna-like stocks in the Atlantic and adjacent seas, in an international scope;

RECALLING the decision adopted by the Commission in 2002 (*Recommendation by ICCAT Regarding Bolivia Pursuant to the 1998 Resolution Concerning the Unreported and Unregulated Catches of Tuna by Large-scale Longline Vessels in the Convention Area* [Rec. 02-17]) to prohibit the imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products from Bolivia;

FURTHER RECALLING the decision adopted by the Commission in 2003 (*Recommendation by ICCAT Regarding for Bigeye Tuna Trade Restrictive Measures on Georgia* [Rec. 03-18]) to prohibit the imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products from Georgia;

WELCOMING improvements in responsiveness of Georgia and Bolivia to correspondence from ICCAT seeking information on actions taken to control their vessels to ensure that ICCAT conservation and management measures are not undermined;

CONSIDERING actions taken by Georgia to address fishing by its vessels in the ICCAT Convention area, including the deregistration of vessels fishing without authorization in the ICCAT Convention area;

ENCOURAGED by Georgia's consideration of increased future participation in the work of the Commission;

FURTHER CONSIDERING that since 2006, Bolivia has not registered any fishing vessels to carry out fishing-related activities in the ICCAT Convention area, and that no information made available to ICCAT has indicated that fishing for ICCAT species by Bolivian vessels has occurred in recent years,

EXAMINING IN DETAIL during its 2011 meeting the actions undertaken by Bolivia and Georgia, and considering that the actions of these States help to ensure that actions of their vessels do not diminish the effectiveness of ICCAT conservation and management measures,

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF
ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities (CPCs) shall lift the import prohibitions on Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products that were imposed on Bolivia and Georgia pursuant to the *Recommendation by ICCAT Regarding Bolivia Pursuant to the 1998 Resolution Concerning the Unreported and Unregulated Catches of Tuna by Large-scale Longline Vessels in the Convention Area* [Rec. 02-17] and the *Recommendation by ICCAT Regarding for Bigeye Tuna Trade Restrictive Measures on Georgia* [Rec. 03-18].
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article VIII, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the CPCs shall implement this Recommendation as soon as possible in accordance with their regulatory procedures.
3. Recommendations [Rec. 02-17] and [Rec. 03-18] are hereby withdrawn.

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT AMENDING RECOMMENDATION 09-11 ON
AN ICCAT BLUEFIN TUNA CATCH DOCUMENTATION PROGRAM**

RECOGNIZING the situation of Atlantic bluefin tuna stocks and the impact that market factors have on the fishery;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the rebuilding plan for western Atlantic bluefin tuna and the recovery plan for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna that ICCAT has adopted, including the need for complementary market related measures;

RECOGNIZING the necessity to clarify and improve the implementation of the bluefin tuna catch documentation scheme, providing detailed instructions for the issuance, numbering, completion and the validation of the bluefin tuna catch document;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF
ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

**PART I
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. Each Contracting Party, Cooperating non-Contracting Party, Entity and Fishing Entity (hereafter referred to as CPCs) shall take the necessary steps to implement an ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation Scheme for the purpose of identifying the origin of any bluefin tuna in order to support the implementation of conservation and management measures.
2. For the purpose of this Program:
 - a) "Domestic trade" means:
 - trade of bluefin tuna harvested in the ICCAT Convention area by a vessel or trap, which is landed in the territory of the CPC where the vessel is flagged or where the trap is established, and
 - trade of farmed bluefin tuna products originating from bluefin tuna harvested in the ICCAT Convention area by a vessel which is flagged to the same CPC where the farm is established, which is supplied to any entity in this CPC, and
 - trade between the Member States of the European Union of bluefin tuna harvested in the ICCAT Convention area by vessels flagged to one Member State or by a trap established in one Member State.
 - b) "Export" means:

Any movement of bluefin tuna in its harvested or processed form (including farmed) from the territory of the CPC where the fishing vessel is flagged or where the trap or farm is established to the territory of another CPC or non-Contracting Party, or from the fishing grounds to the territory of a CPC which is not the flag CPC of the fishing vessel or to the territory of a non- Contracting Party.
 - c) "Import" means:

Any introduction of bluefin tuna in its harvested or processed form (including farmed) into the territory of a CPC, which is not the CPC where the fishing vessel is flagged or where the trap or the farm is established.
 - d) "Re-export" means: Any movement of bluefin tuna in its harvested or processed form (including farmed) from the territory of a CPC where it has been previously imported.
 - e) "flag CPC" means the CPC where the fishing vessel is flagged; "trap CPC" means the CPC where the trap is established; and "farm CPC" means the CPC where the farm is established.

3. A Bluefin Tuna Catch Document (BCD) shall be completed for each bluefin tuna in accordance with **Annex 3**.

Each consignment of bluefin tuna domestically traded, imported into or exported or re-exported from its territories shall be accompanied by a validated BCD, except in cases where paragraph 13(c) applies and, as applicable, an ICCAT transfer declaration or a validated Bluefin Tuna Reexport Certificate (BFTRC). Any such landing, transfer, delivery, harvest, domestic trade, import, export or re-export of bluefin tuna without a completed and validated BCD or a BFTRC shall be prohibited.

4. In order to support an effective BCD, CPCs shall not place bluefin tuna into a farm not authorized by the CPC or listed in the ICCAT record.
5. Farm CPCs shall ensure that bluefin tuna catches are placed in separate cages or series of cages and partitioned on the basis of flag CPC origin. By derogation, if the bluefin tuna are caught in the context of a joint fishing operation (JFO) between different CPCs, farm CPCs shall ensure that bluefin tuna are placed in separate cages or series of cages and partitioned on the basis of joint fishing operations.
6. At the time of caging, relevant BCDs may be grouped as a “Grouped BCD” with a new BCD number in the following cases, provided that caging of all the fish is conducted on the same day and all the fish is caged in the same farming cage:
- a) Multiple catches made by the same vessel
 - b) Catches made by JFO

The Grouped BCD shall replace all the related original BCDs and be accompanied by the list of all the associated BCD numbers. The copies of such associated BCDs shall be made available upon request of CPCs.

7. Farm CPCs shall ensure that bluefin tuna are harvested from farms in the same year in which they were caught, or before the beginning of the purse seiners fishing period, if harvested in the following year. In the case where harvesting operations are not completed before this date, farm CPCs shall complete and transmit an annual carry-over declaration to the ICCAT Secretariat within 15 days after this date. Such declaration shall include:
- Quantities (expressed in kg) and number of fish intended to be carried over,
 - Year of catch,
 - Average weight,
 - Flag CPC,
 - References of the BCD corresponding to the catches carried over,
 - Name and ICCAT number of the fattening facility,
 - Cage number, and
 - Information on harvested quantities (expressed in kg), when completed.
8. Quantities carried over in accordance with paragraph 7 shall be placed in separate cages or series of cages in the farm on the basis of the catch year.
9. Each CPC shall provide BCD forms only to catching vessels and traps authorized to fish bluefin tuna in the Convention area, including as by-catch. Such forms are not transferable. Each BCD form shall have a unique document identification number. Document numbers shall be specific to the flag or trap CPC and assigned to the catching vessel or trap.
10. Domestic trade, export, import and re-export of fish parts other than the meat (i.e., heads, eyes, roes, guts and tails) shall be exempted from the requirements of this Recommendation.

PART II

VALIDATION OF BCDs

11. The catching vessel master or trap operator, or its authorized representative, or the operator of farms, or the authorized representative of the flag, farm, or trap CPC, shall complete the BCD by providing the required information in appropriate sections and request validation in accordance with paragraph 13 for a BCD for catch landed, transferred to cages, harvested, transhipped, domestically traded or exported on each occasion that it lands, transfers, harvests, transships, domestically trades or exports bluefin tuna.
12. A validated BCD shall include, as appropriate, the information identified in **Annex 1** attached. A BCD format is attached as **Annex 2**. In cases where a section of the BCD format does not provide enough room to completely track movement of BFT from catch to market, the needed information section of the BCD maybe expanded as necessary and attached as an annex using the original BCD format and number. The authorized representative of the CPC shall validate the annex as soon as possible but not later than the next movement of BFT.
13.
 - a) The BCD must be validated by an authorized government official, or other authorized individual or institution, of the flag CPC of the catching vessel, the CPC of the seller/exporter, or the trap or farm CPC that caught, harvested, domestically traded or exported the bluefin tuna.
 - b) The CPCs shall validate the BCD for all bluefin tuna products only when all the information contained in the BCD has been established to be accurate as a result of the verification of the consignment, and only when the accumulated validated amounts are within their quotas or catch limits of each management year, including, where appropriate, individual quotas allocated to catching vessels or traps, and when those products comply with other relevant ICCAT provisions of the conservation and management measures.
 - c) Validation under 13(a) shall not be required in the event that all bluefin tuna available for sale are tagged by the flag CPC of the catching vessel or the trap CPC that fished the bluefin tuna.
 - d) Where the bluefin tuna quantities caught and landed are less than 1 metric ton or three fish, the logbook or the sales note may be used as a temporary BCD, pending the validation of the BCD within seven days and prior to export.

PART III

VALIDATION OF BFTRCs

14. Each CPC shall ensure that each bluefin tuna consignment which is re-exported from its territory be accompanied by a validated Bluefin Tuna Re-export Certificate (BFTRC). In cases where bluefin tuna is imported live, the BFTRC shall not apply.
15. The operator who is responsible for the re-export shall complete the BFTRC by providing the required information in its appropriate sections and request its validation for the bluefin tuna consignment to be re-exported. The completed BFTRC shall be accompanied by a copy of the validated BCD(s) relating to the bluefin tuna products previously imported.
16. The BFTRC shall be validated by an authorized government official or authority.
17. The CPC shall validate the BFTRC for all bluefin tuna product only when:
 - a) all the information contained in the BFTRC has been established to be accurate,
 - b) the validated BCD(s) submitted in support to the BFTRC had been accepted for the importation of the products declared on the BFTRC and
 - c) the products to be re-exported are wholly or partly the same product on the validated BCD(s).
 - d) a copy of the BCD(s) shall be attached to the validated BFTRC.
18. The validated BFTRC shall include the information identified in **Annex 4** and **Annex 5** attached.

**PART IV
VERIFICATION AND COMMUNICATION**

19. Each CPC shall communicate a copy of all validated BCDs or BFTRCs, except in cases where paragraph 13(c) applies, within five working days following the date of validation, or without delay where the expected duration of the transportation should not take more than five working days, to the following:
- a) the competent authorities of the country where the bluefin tuna will be domestically traded, or transferred into a cage or imported, and
 - b) the ICCAT Secretariat.
20. The ICCAT Secretariat shall extract from the validated BCDs or BFTRCs communicated under paragraph 19 above the information marked with an asterisk (*) in **Annex 1** or **Annex 4** and enter this information in a database on a password protected section of its website, as soon as practicable.

At its request, the SCRS shall have access to the catch information contained in the database, except the vessel or trap names.

**PART V
TAGGING**

21. CPCs may require their catching vessels or traps to affix a tag to each bluefin tuna preferably at the time of kill, but no later than the time of landing. Tags shall have unique country specific numbers and be tamper proof. The tag numbers shall be linked to the BCD and a summary of the implementation of the tagging program shall be submitted to the ICCAT Secretariat by the CPC. The use of such tags shall only be authorized when the accumulated catch amounts are within their quotas or catch limits of each management year, including, where appropriate, individual quotas allocated to vessels or traps.

**PART VI
VERIFICATION**

22. Each CPC shall ensure that its competent authorities, or other authorized individual or institution, take steps to identify each consignment of bluefin tuna landed in, domestically traded in, imported into or exported or re-exported from its territory and request and examine the validated BCD(s) and related documentation of each consignment of bluefin tuna. These competent authorities, or authorized individuals or institutions, may also examine the content of the consignment to verify the information contained in the BCD and in related documents and, where necessary, shall carry out verifications with the operators concerned.
23. If, as a result of examinations or verifications carried out pursuant to paragraph 22 above, a doubt arises regarding the information contained in a BCD, the final importing State/CPC and the CPC whose competent authorities validated the BCD(s) or BFTRCs shall cooperate to resolve such doubts.
24. If a CPC involved in trade of bluefin tuna identifies a consignment with no BCD, it shall notify the findings to the exporting CPC and, where known, the flag CPC.
25. Pending the examinations or verifications under paragraph 22 to confirm compliance of the bluefin tuna consignment with the requirements in the present Recommendation and any other relevant Recommendations, the CPCs shall not grant its release for domestic trade, import or export, nor, in the case of live bluefin tuna destined to farms, accept the transfer declaration.
26. Where a CPC, as a result of examination or verifications under paragraph 22 above and in cooperation with the validating authorities concerned, determines that a BCD or BFTRC is invalid, the domestic trade, import, export or re-export of the bluefin tuna concerned shall be prohibited.
27. The Commission shall request the non-Contracting Parties that are involved in domestic trade, import, export or re-export of bluefin tuna to cooperate with the implementation of the Program and to provide to the Commission data obtained from such implementation.

PART VII
NOTIFICATION AND COMMUNICATION

28. Each CPC that validates BCDs in respect of its flag catching vessels, traps or farms in accordance with paragraph 13(a), shall notify the ICCAT Secretariat of the government authorities, or other authorized individuals or institutions (name and full address of the organization(s) and, where appropriate, name and title of the validating officials who are individually empowered, sample form of document, sample impression of stamp or seal, and as appropriate tag samples) responsible for validating and verifying BCDs or BFTRCs. This notification shall indicate the date at which this entitlement comes into force. A copy of the provisions adopted in national law for the purpose of implementing the bluefin tuna catch documentation program shall be communicated with the initial notification, including procedures to authorize nongovernmental individuals or institutions. Updated details on validating authorities and national provisions shall be communicated to the ICCAT Secretariat in a timely fashion.
29. The information on validating authorities transmitted by notifications to the ICCAT Secretariat shall be placed on the password protected page of the database on validation held by the ICCAT Secretariat. The list of the CPCs having notified their validating authorities and the notified dates of entry into force of the validation shall be placed on a publicly accessible website held by the ICCAT Secretariat. CPCs are encouraged to access this information to help verify the validation of BCDs and BFTRCs.
30. Each CPC shall notify to the ICCAT Secretariat the points of contact (name and full address of the organization(s)) that should be notified when there are questions related to BCDs or BFTRCs.
31. Copies of validated BCDs and notification pursuant to paragraphs 28, 29 and 30 shall be sent by CPCs to the ICCAT Secretariat, by electronic means, whenever possible.
32. Copies of BCDs shall follow each part of split shipments or processed product, using the unique document number of the BCD to link them
33. CPCs shall keep copies of documents issued or received for at least two years.
34. CPCs shall provide to the ICCAT Secretariat a report each year by October 1 for the period from July 1 of the preceding year to June 30 of the current year to provide the information described in **Annex 6**.

The ICCAT Secretariat shall post these reports on the password protected section of the ICCAT website, as soon as practicable.

At its request, the SCRS shall have access to the reports received by the ICCAT Secretariat.

35. The *Recommendation by ICCAT Amending Recommendation 08-12 on an ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Catch Document Program* [Rec. 09-11] is repealed and replaced by this Recommendation.

Data to be Included in Bluefin Tuna Catch Document (BCD)**1. ICCAT Bluefin tuna catch document number*****2. Catch Information**

Name of the Catching Vessel or Trap name*
 Name of the Other Vessels (in case of JFO)
 Flag*
 ICCAT Record No.
 Individual Quota
 Quota used for this BCD
 Date, area of catch and gear used*
 Number of fish, total weight, and average weight*¹
 ICCAT Record number of Joint Fishing Operation (if applicable)*
 Tag No. (if applicable)
Government validation
 Name of authority and signatory, title, signature, seal and date

3. Trade Information for live fish trade

Product description
Exporter/Seller information
Transportation description
Government validation
 Name of authority and signatory, title, signature, seal and date
Importer/buyer

4. Transfer information

Towing vessel description
 ICCAT Transfer Declaration No.
 Vessel name, flag
 ICCAT Record No.
 Number of fish dead during transfer
 Total weight of dead fish (kg)
Towing cage description
 Cage number

5. Transshipment information

Carrier vessel description
 Name, Flag, ICCAT Record No., Date, Port name, Port state, position
Product description
 (F/FR; RD/GG/DR/FL/OT)
 Total weight (NET)
Government validation
 Name of authority and signatory, title, signature, seal and date

* Information to be entered by the Secretariat in the BCD database (see paragraph 20).

¹ Weight shall be reported by round weight where available. If round weight is not used, specify the type of product (e.g. GG) in the "Total Weight" and "Average Weight" section of the form.

6. Farming information

Farming facility description

Name, CPC*, ICCAT FFB No.* and location of farm
Participation in national sampling program (yes or no)

Cage description

Date of caging, cage number

Fish description

Estimates of number of fish, total weight, and average weight*¹

ICCAT Regional observer information

Name, ICCAT No., signature

Estimated size composition (<8 kg, 8-30 kg, >30 kg)

Government validation

Name of authority and signatory, title, signature, seal and date

7. Harvesting information

Harvesting description

Date of harvest*

Number of fish, total (round) weight, and average weight*

Tag numbers (if applicable)

ICCAT regional observer information

Name, ICCAT No., signature

Government validation

Name of authority and signatory, title, signature, seal and date

8. Trade information

Product description

(F/FR; RD/GG/DR/FL/OT)²

Total weight (NET)*

Exporter/Seller information

Point of export or departure*

Export company name, address, signature and date

State of destination*

Description of transportation (relevant documentation to be attached)

Government validation

Name of authority and signatory, title, signature, seal and date

Importer/buyer information

Point of import or destination*

Import company name, address, signature and date³

² When different types of products are recorded in this section, the weight shall be recorded by each product type.

³ DATE to be filled by IMPORTER/BUYER in this section is the date of signature.

Annex 2

1. ICCAT BLUEFIN TUNA CATCH DOCUMENT (BCD)		No :		1/2		
2. CATCH INFORMATION						
VESSEL / TRAP INFORMATION						
NAME OF THE CATCHING VESSEL / TRAP		FLAG / CPC	ICCAT RECORD NO	INDIVIDUAL QUOTA	CATCH	
NAME OF THE OTHER FISHING VESSELS		FLAG	ICCAT RECORD NO	INDIVIDUAL QUOTA	CATCH	
CATCH DESCRIPTION						
DATE (dd/mm/yy)		AREA		GEAR		
No. of FISH		TOTAL WEIGHT(kg)		AVG. WEIGHT(kg)		
ICCAT RECORD No. of Joint Fishing Operation						
TAG Numbers (If applicable)						
GOVERNMENT VALIDATION						
NAME OF AUTHORITY				SEAL		
TITLE						
SIGNATURE						
DATE (dd/mm/yy)						
3. TRADE INFORMATION						
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION						
LIVE WEIGHT (kg)		No. of FISH		ZONE		
EXPORTER/ SELLER						
POINT OF EXPORTATION/DEPARTURE		COMPANY		ADDRESS		
FARM OF DESTINATION		CPC		ICCAT FFB No.		
SIGNATURE						
DATE (dd/mm/yy)						
TRANSPORTATION DESCRIPTION		(Relevant documentation to be attached)				
GOVERNMENT VALIDATION						
NAME OF AUTHORITY				SEAL		
TITLE						
SIGNATURE						
DATE (dd/mm/yy)						
IMPORTER/ BUYER						
COMPANY				PT. of IMPORT/DESTINATION		
				(City, Country, State)		
ADDRESS						
DATE OF SIGNATURE (dd/mm/yy)		SIGNATURE				
ANNEX(ES): YES/NO (circle one)						
4. TRANSFER INFORMATION						
TOWING VESSEL DESCRIPTION						
ICCAT TRANSFER DECLARATION No.						
NAME		FLAG		ICCAT REC. No.		
No. Of FISH DEAD DURING TRANSFER		TOTAL WEIGHT OF DEAD FISH (kg)				
TOWING CAGE DESCRIPTION		CAGE No.				
ANNEX(ES): YES/NO (circle one)						
5. TRANSHIPMENT INFORMATION						
CARRIER VESSEL DESCRIPTION						
NAME		FLAG		ICCAT REC. No.		
DATE (dd/mm/yy)		PORT NAME		PORT STATE		
POSITION (Lat./Long.)						
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION (Indicate net weight in kg. for each type of product)						
F	RD(kg):	GG(kg):	DR(kg):	FL(kg):	OT(kg):	TOTAL WEIGHT "F" (kg)
FR	RD(kg):	GG(kg):	DR(kg):	FL(kg):	OT(kg):	TOTAL WEIGHT "FR" (kg)
GOVERNMENT VALIDATION						
NAME OF AUTHORITY				SEAL		
TITLE						
SIGNATURE						
DATE (dd/mm/yy)						
ANNEX(ES): YES/NO (circle one)						

ICCAT BLUEFIN TUNA CATCH DOCUMENT (BCD)		No :			2/2	
6. FARMING INFORMATION						
FARMING FACILITY DESCRIPTION	NAME		CPC		ICCAT FFB NO.	
	NATIONAL SAMPLING PROGRAM? YES or NO(circle one)			LOCATION		
CAGE DESCRIPTION	DATE (dd/mm/yy)		CAGE No.			
FISH DESCRIPTION	NO. of FISH :		TOTAL WT (kg) :		AVG WT (kg) :	
ICCAT REGIONAL OBSERVER INFORMATION	NAME		TITLE		SIGNATURE	
	SIZE COMPOSITION		<8 kg	8-30 kg	>30 kg	
GOVERNMENT VALIDATION						
NAME OF AUTHORITY					SEAL	
TITLE						
SIGNATURE						
DATE (dd/mm/yy)						
ANNEX(ES): YES/NO (circle one)						
7. HARVESTING INFORMATION						
HARVESTING DESCRIPTION						
DATE (dd/mm/yy)		NO. of FISH		TOTAL ROUND WT (kg)		
AVG. WEIGHT (kg)		TAG NOS. (if applicable)				
ICCAT REGIONAL OBSERVER INFORMATION	NAME		TITLE		SIGNATURE	
GOVERNMENT VALIDATION						
NAME OF AUTHORITY					SEAL	
TITLE						
SIGNATURE						
DATE (dd/mm/yy)						
8. TRADE INFORMATION						
PRODUCT DESCRIPTION (Indicate net weight in kg. for each type of product)						
F	RD(kg):	GG(kg):	DR(kg):	FL(kg):	OT(kg):	TOTAL WEIGHT "F" (kg)
FR	RD(kg):	GG(kg):	DR(kg):	FL(kg):	OT(kg):	TOTAL WEIGHT "FR" (kg)
EXPORTER/ SELLER						
PT of EXPORT/DEPARTURE		COMPANY		ADDRESS		
STATE of DESTINATION						
SIGNATURE						
DATE (dd/mm/yy)						
TRANSPORTATION DESCRIPTION			(Relevant documentation to be attached)			
GOVERNMENT VALIDATION						
NAME OF AUTHORITY					SEAL	
TITLE						
SIGNATURE						
DATE (dd/mm/yy)						
IMPORTER/ BUYER						
COMPANY				PT. of IMPORT/DESTINATION		
ADDRESS				(City, Country, State)		
DATE (dd/mm/yy)				SIGNATURE		
ANNEX(ES): YES/NO (circle one)						

**Instructions for the Issuance, Numbering, Completion and Validation
of the Bluefin Tuna Catch Document (BCD)**

1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

(1) Language

An official ICCAT language (English, French and Spanish) shall be used in completing the BCD.

(2) Numbering

CPCs shall develop unique numbering system for BCDs using their ICCAT country code or ISO code in combination with an 8-digit number, of which two digits shall indicate the year of catch.

Example: CA-09-123456 (*CA stands for Canada*)

In case of split shipments, or processed products, copies of the original BCD shall be numbered by supplementing the number of the original BCD with a 2-digit number.

Example: CA-09-123456-01, CA-09-123456-02, CA-09-123456-03.

The numbering shall be sequential and preferably printed. The serial numbers of blank BCDs issued shall be recorded by the name of the recipient.

In case of producing a “Grouped BCD”, the farm operator or his authorized representative shall request a new BCD number from the farm CPC. The number for Grouped BCDs shall contain “G” as in “CA-09-123456-G”.

2. CATCH INFORMATION

(1) Completion

(a) *General principles:*

This section is applicable to all catches of bluefin tunas.

The master of the catching vessel or the trap operator or their authorised representative or the authorised representative of the flag or trap CPC shall be responsible for the completion and the request for validation of the CATCH INFORMATION section.

CATCH INFORMATION section shall be completed no later than the end of transfer, transhipment or landing operation.

Remark: in case of JFO between different flags, one BCD for each flag shall be produced. In this case, each BCD shall indicate the same information in VESSEL/TRAP INFORMATION concerning the vessel which actually made the catch and all the other fishing vessels involved in that JFO, whereas CATCH DESCRIPTION shall indicate the catch information attributed to each flag based on the allocation key of the JFO.

In case of catches originating from one JFO comprising vessels of the same flag, the master of the catching vessel which actually made such catches, or its authorized representative or the authorized representative of the flag, shall complete the BCD form on behalf of all the vessels participating in such JFO.

(b) *Specific instructions:*

“NAME OF THE CATCHING VESSEL/TRAP”: list the name of the catching vessel which actually made the catches.

“NAME OF THE OTHER FISHING VESSELS”: only applicable to JFOs and list the other participating fishing vessels.

"FLAG": indicate the flag or trap CPC.

"ICCAT RECORD NO": indicate the ICCAT number of the catching vessel or trap authorised to fish bluefin tuna in the ICCAT Convention area. This information is not applicable to catching vessels which fish bluefin tuna as by-catch. In case of JFO, list the ICCAT Record Numbers of the vessel which actually made the catch as well as other vessels participating in that JFO.

“INDIVIDUAL QUOTA”: indicate the amount of individual quota given to each vessel.

“QUOTA USED FOR THIS BCD”: indicate the amount of catch attributed to this BCD .

"GEAR": indicate the fishing gear using the following codes:

BB	Baitboat
GILL	Gillnet
HAND	Handline
HARP	Harpoon
LL	Longline
MWT	Mid-water trawl
PS	Purse seine
RR	Rod and reel
SPHL	Sport handline
SPOR	Sport fisheries unclassified
SURF	Surface fisheries unclassified
TL	Tended line
TRAP	Trap
TROL	Troll
UNCL	Unspecified methods
OT	Other type

“ NO. OF FISH”: in case of JFO comprising vessels of the same flag, indicate the total number of fish caught in such operation. In case of JFO between different flags, indicate the number of fish attributed to each flag in accordance with the allocation key

"TOTAL WEIGHT": indicate the total round weight in kilograms. If round weight is not used at the time of catch, indicate the type of product (e.g. GG). In case of JFO between different flags, indicate the round weight attributed to that flag in accordance with the allocation key.

"AREA": indicate Mediterranean, western Atlantic, eastern Atlantic or Pacific.

"TAGS No. (if applicable)": additional lines may be added to allow the listing of each tag number by individual fish.

(2) Validation

The flag or trap CPC shall be responsible for the validation of the CATCH INFORMATION section unless bluefin tuna are tagged in accordance with Paragraph 21 of the Recommendation.

3. TRADE INFORMATION FOR LIVE FISH TRADE

(1) Completion

(a) General principles:

This section is only applicable to export of live bluefin tunas.

The master of the catching vessel or his authorised representative or the authorised representative of the flag CPC shall be responsible for the completion and the request for validation of the TRADE INFORMATION FOR LIVE FISH TRADE section.

The TRADE INFORMATION FOR LIVE FISH TRADE section shall be completed before the first transfer operation, i.e. the transfer of fish from the catching vessel net to the transport cage.

Remark: in case that a quantity of fish dies during the transfer operation and is domestically traded or exported, the original BCD (CATCH INFORMATION section completed shall be copied for the fish, and TRADE INFORMATION section of the copied BCD shall be completed by the master of the catching vessel or his authorised representative or the authorised representative of the flag CPC and transmitted to the domestic buyer/importer. Government validation of this copy shall guarantee that it is a valid copy and has been recorded by authorities of the CPC. Without the government validation, any BCD copy is null and void.

In case of JFO comprising vessels of the same CPC, the master of the catching vessel which actually made the catches, or its authorized representative or the authorized representative of the flag, shall be responsible for the completion.

(b) Specific instructions:

"ZONE": indicate the area of transfer, Mediterranean, western Atlantic, eastern Atlantic or Pacific.

"POINT OF EXPORT/DEPARTURE": indicate the CPC name of the fishery zone where the bluefin tuna were transferred or indicate "high seas" otherwise.

"TRANSPORTATION DESCRIPTION": attach any relevant document certifying the trade.

(2) Validation

The flag CPC shall not validate documents where the CATCH INFORMATION section is not completed.

4. TRANSFER INFORMATION

(1) Completion

(a) General principles:

This section is only applicable to live bluefin tunas.

The master of the catching vessel or his authorised representative or the authorised representative of the flag CPC shall be responsible for the completion of the TRANSFER INFORMATION section. In case of JFO comprising vessels of the same CPC, the master of the catching vessel which actually made the catches, or its authorized representative or the authorized representative of the flag, shall be responsible for the completion.

The TRANSFER INFORMATION section shall be completed no later than the end of the first transfer operation, i.e. the transfer of fish from the catching vessel net to the transport cage.

At the end of the transfer operation, the master of the catching vessel (or the master of the catching vessel which actually made the catches in case of JFO comprising vessels of the same CPC) shall provide the BCD

(CATCH INFORMATION, TRADE INFORMATION FOR LIVE FISH TRADE and TRANSFER INFORMATION sections completed and, where applicable, validated) to the master of the tug vessel.

The completed BCD shall accompany the transfer of fish during transport to farm, including transfer of live bluefin tuna from the transport cage to another transport cage or transfer of dead bluefin tuna from the transport cage to an auxiliary vessel.

Remark: in case that some fish die during the transfer operation, the original BCD (CATCH INFORMATION, TRADE INFORMATION FOR LIVE FISH TRADE and TRANSFER INFORMATION sections completed and, where applicable, validated) shall be copied, and TRADE INFORMATION section of the copied BCD shall be completed by the domestic seller/exporter or his authorised representative or the authorised representative of the flag CPC and transmitted to the domestic buyer/importer. Government validation of this copy shall guarantee that it is a valid copy and has been recorded by authorities of the CPC. Without the authorized government validation, any BCD copy is null and void.

(b) Specific instructions:

"No. OF FISH DEAD DURING TRANSFER" and "TOTAL WEIGHT OF DEAD FISH": information completed (if applicable) by the master of the tug vessel.

"CAGE No.": indicate each number of cages in the case of a tug vessel having more than one cage.

(2) Validation

Validation of this section is not required.

5. TRANSSHIPMENT INFORMATION

(1) Completion

(a) General principles:

This section is only applicable to dead bluefin tunas.

The master of the transshipping fishing vessel or his authorized representative or the authorized representative of the flag CPC shall be responsible for the completion and the request for validation of the TRANSSHIPMENT INFORMATION section.

The TRANSSHIPMENT INFORMATION section shall be completed at the end of the transshipment operation.

(b) Specific instructions:

"DATE": indicate the date of the transshipment.

"PORT NAME": indicate the designated port of transshipment.

"PORT STATE": indicate the CPC of the designated port of transshipment. (2)

Validation

The flag CPC shall not validate documents where the CATCH INFORMATION section is not completed and validated.

6. FARMING INFORMATION

(1) Completion

(a) General principles:

This section is only applicable to live caged tunas.

The master of the tug vessel shall provide the BCD (CATCH INFORMATION, TRADE INFORMATION FOR LIVE FISH TRADE and TRANSFER INFORMATION sections completed and, where applicable, validated) to the farm operator at the time of caging.

The farm operator or his authorized representative or an authorized representative of the farm CPC shall be responsible for the completion and the request for validation of the FARM INFORMATION section.

The FARM INFORMATION section shall be completed at the end of the caging operation.

(b) Specific instructions:

"CAGE No": indicate each number of cage.

"ICCAT Regional Observer Information": indicate name, ICCAT # and signature.

(2) Validation

The farm CPC shall be responsible for the validation of the FARM INFORMATION section.

The farm CPC shall not validate BCDs where the CATCH INFORMATION, TRADE INFORMATION FOR LIVE FISH TRADE and TRANSFER INFORMATION sections are not completed and, where applicable, validated.

7. HARVESTING INFORMATION

(1) Completion

(a) *General principles:*

This section is only applicable to dead farmed tunas.

The farm operator or his authorized representative or an authorized representative of the farm CPC shall be responsible for the completion and the request for validation of the HARVEST FROM FARM INFORMATION section.

The HARVESTING INFORMATION section shall be completed at the end of the harvesting operations.

(b) *Specific instructions:*

"TAGS No (if applicable)": additional lines may be added to allow the listing of each tag number by individual fish.

"ICCAT Regional Observer Information": indicate name, ICCAT # and signature.

(2) Validation

The farm CPC shall be responsible for the validation of the HARVESTING INFORMATION section.

The farm CPC shall not validate BCDs where the CATCH INFORMATION, TRADE INFORMATION FOR LIVE FISH TRADE, TRANSFER INFORMATION and FARMING INFORMATION sections are not completed and, where applicable, validated.

8. TRADE INFORMATION

(1) Completion

(a) General principles:

This section is applicable to dead bluefin tunas.

The domestic seller or exporter or their authorized representative or an authorized representative of the CPC of the seller/exporter shall be responsible for the completion and the request for validation of the TRADE INFORMATION section.

The TRADE INFORMATION section shall be completed prior to the fish being domestically traded or exported.

(b) Specific instructions:

(c) "TRANSPORTATION DESCRIPTION": attach any relevant document certifying the trade.

(2) Validation

The CPC of the seller/exporter shall be responsible for the validation of the TRADE INFORMATION section unless bluefin tuna are tagged in accordance with Paragraph 20 of the Recommendation.

Remark: in cases where more than one domestic trade or export results from a single BCD, a copy of the original BCD shall be validated by the CPC of the domestic seller or exporter and shall be used and accepted as an original BCD. Government validation of this copy shall guarantee that it is a valid copy and has been recorded by authorities of the concerned CPC. Without the authorized government validation, any BCD copy is null and void.

In cases of re-export, the RE-EXPORT CERTIFICATE (**Annex 5**) shall be used to track further movements, which shall be related to the catch information of the original BCD of the catch via the original BCD number.

When bluefin tuna is caught by a CPC using the tagging system, exported dead to a country, and re-exported to another country, the BCD accompanying the re-exported certificate does not have to be validated. However, the re-exported certificate shall be validated.

After import, a bluefin tuna may be divided into several pieces, which then may be subsequently exported. The re-exporting CPC shall confirm that the re-exported piece is part of the original fish accompanied by the BCD.

Annex 4**Data to be Included in the Bluefin Tuna Re-export Certificate (BFTRC)****1. Document number of the BFTRC^{*}****2. Re-export section**

Re-exporting Country/Entity/Fishing Entity
Point of re-export*

3. Description of imported bluefin tuna

Product type F/FR RD/GG/DR/FL/OT¹
Net weight (kg)*
BCD number(s) and date(s) of importation*
Flag CPC (s) of fishing vessel(s) or CPC of establishment of the trap, where appropriate

4. Description of bluefin tuna to be re-exported

Product type F/FR RD/GG/DR/FL/OT*¹
Net weight (kg)*
Corresponding BCD number(s) from section 3
State of destination

5. Statement of re-exporter

Name
Address
Signature
Date

6. Validation by governmental authorities

Name and address of the authority
Name and position of the official
Signature
Date
Government seal

7. Import section

Statement by the importer in the CPC of import of the bluefin tuna consignment
Name and address of the importer
Name and signature of the importer's representative and date
Point of import: City and CPC*

Note: Copies of the BCD(s) and Transport document(s) shall be attached.

* Information to be entered by the Secretariat in the BCD database (see paragraph 20).

¹ When different types of products are recorded in this section, the weight shall be recorded by each product type.

1. DOCUMENT NUMBER	ICCAT BLUEFIN TUNA RE-EXPORT CERTIFICATE			
2. RE-EXPORT SECTION:				
RE-EXPORTING COUNTRY/ENTITY/FISHING ENTITY				
POINT OF RE-EXPORT				
3. DESCRIPTION OF IMPORTED BLUEFIN TUNA				
Product Type <i>F/FR RD/GG/DR/FL/OT</i>	Net Weight (kg)	Flag CPC	Date of import	BCD No.
4. DESCRIPTION OF BLUEFIN TUNA FOR RE-EXPORT				
Product Type <i>F/FR RD/GG/DR/FL/OT</i>	Net Weight (kg)	Corresponding BCD number		
F=Fresh, FR=Frozen, RD=Round, GG=Gilled & Guttled, DR=Dressed, FL=Fillet, OT=Others (Describe the type of product:)				
STATE OF DESTINATION:				
5. RE-EXPORTER STATEMENT:				
I certify that the above information is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.				
Name	Address	Signature	Date	
6. GOVERNMENT VALIDATION:				
I validate that the above information is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.				
Name & Title	Signature	Date	Government Seal	
7. IMPORT SECTION				
IMPORTER STATEMENT:				
I certify that the above information is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.				
Importer Certification				
Name	Address	Signature	Date	
Final Point of Import: City				
		State/Province		CPC

NOTE: IF A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH IS USED IN COMPLETING THIS FORM, PLEASE ADD THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION ON THIS DOCUMENT.

**Report on the Implementation of the
ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation Programme**

Reporting CPC:

Period of reference: 1 July [2XXX] to 30 June [2XXX]

1. Information extracted from BCDs

- Number of BCDs validated
- Number of validated BCDs received
- Total amount of bluefin tuna products traded domestically, with breakdown by fishing areas and fishing gears
- Total amount of bluefin tuna products imported, exported, transferred to farms, re-exported with breakdown by CPC of origin, re-export or destination, fishing areas and fishing gears
- Number of verifications of BCDs requested to other CPCs and summary results
- Number of requests for verifications of BCDs received from other CPCs and summary results
- Total amount of bluefin tuna consignments subject to a prohibition decision with breakdown by products, nature of operation (domestic trade, import, export, re-export, transfer to farms), reasons for prohibition and CPCs and/or non-Contracting Parties of origin or destination

2. Information on cases under Part VI paragraph 22.

- Number of cases
- Total amount of bluefin tuna with breakdown by products, nature of operation (domestic trade, import, export, re-export, transfer to farms), CPCs or other countries referred to in Part VI paragraph 22.

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT AMENDING RECOMMENDATION 10-11
ON AN ELECTRONIC BLUEFIN TUNA CATCH DOCUMENT PROGRAMME (eBCD)**

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the multi-annual recovery plan for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna and the commitment to develop an electronic bluefin tuna catch document programme;

RECOGNIZING the developments in electronic information exchange and the benefits of rapid communication with regard to the processing and management of catch information;

NOTING the ability of electronic catch documentation systems to detect fraud and deter IUU shipments and the creation of automated links between Parties including exporting and importing authorities;

RECOGNIZING the necessity to develop and strengthen the implementation of the bluefin tuna catch documentation by the implementation of an electronic document system;

FOLLOWING the work of the eBCD Technical Working Group throughout 2011 and the system design and costs estimates presented in the feasibility study, technical options and their associated costs have been explored in terms of functionality, work loads and existing systems of the Secretariat and user simplicity, data security and cost efficiency;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF
ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. On the basis of the specifications and cost estimates provided in the feasibility report, the Secretariat shall, in collaboration with interested CPCs, formulate the Terms of Reference for an open tender for a system development before the end of January 2012, or as soon as possible thereafter.
2. Tenders shall be assessed technically and financially by an evaluation Committee comprising interested CPCs and the ICCAT Secretariat and the results shall be reported to all CPCs.
3. Following a period of initial software development estimated to be around 4 months, and in parallel with further system development over a period of up to two years, a pilot testing phase will be undertaken throughout 2012 and early 2013.

Pilot testing will be with CPCs on a voluntary basis across the range of actions required in the programme. All CPCs concerned shall submit concerned data sets in electronic formats to enhance this phase.

4. The full implementation of the eBCD system shall be foreseen before the 2013 purse seine fishing season; however, a level of flexibility will be maintained based on the results of the pilot phase.
5. All existing requirements under the BCD programme shall remain in force until the full implementation of the eBCD.
6. This eBCD Technical Working Group shall meet as and when required throughout 2012 and report the progress on the system to the Commission at its 2012 annual meeting.

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**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT TO AMEND THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE
PERMANENT WORKING GROUP FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF ICCAT STATISTICS AND
CONSERVATION MEASURES (PWG)**

RECALLING the 1992 *Resolution by ICCAT to Establish a Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures and the Terms of Reference of the Working Group* (Res. 92-02] and the 2002 *Recommendation by ICCAT to Change the Terms of Reference of the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures* [Rec.02-28];

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT calls at recent ICCAT meetings to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the Permanent Working Group and the Compliance Committee to strengthen their operation, effectiveness, and efficiency;

RECOGNIZING the importance of robust MCS and other technical measures to ensure effective implementation of ICCAT's conservation and management measures, improve ICCAT statistics, and help address IUU fishing;

MINDFUL of the need to ensure that actions taken to support ICCAT conservation and management measures are non-discriminatory and in accordance with international law;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF THE ATLANTIC TUNA (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

The Terms of Reference of the PWG be as follows:

1. Review trade and other relevant fishery information regarding species under the purview of ICCAT in order to identify deficiencies in ICCAT statistics.
2. Consider the effectiveness and practical aspects of the implementation of ICCAT's technical measures, including but not limited to:
 - a) Catch Documentation and Statistical Document Programs;
 - b) Observer programs
 - c) At-sea and in-port transshipment requirements
 - d) Rules for chartering and other fishing arrangements
 - e) At-sea vessel sighting and inspection programs
 - f) Port inspection schemes and other port State measures
 - g) Vessel listing requirements
 - h) Vessel Monitoring System requirements
 - i) Flag State responsibilities
3. Develop or modify, where needed, technical measures to ensure effective implementation of ICCAT's conservation and management measures, including measures for the collection and reporting of statistical data, and proper application of the provisions of the Convention.
4. Oversee development of ICCAT's list of vessels presumed to be engaged in illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities.
5. Recommend measures to the Commission based upon the findings of the Permanent Working Group.
6. In carrying out its responsibilities, the PWG shall cooperate closely with other ICCAT subsidiary bodies in order to remain informed on all issues that may affect its work and refer relevant matters identified during its deliberations to the appropriate subsidiary body for attention, such as issues of non-compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures.
7. This recommendation replaces the *Recommendation by ICCAT to Change the Terms of Reference of the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG)* [Rec. 02-28] and the *Resolution by ICCAT to Establish a Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG) and the Terms of Reference of the Working Group* [Res. 92-02].

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT TO AMEND THE MANDATE AND
TERMS OF REFERENCE ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION FOR THE ICCAT
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (COC)**

RECALLING the 1995 adoption by ICCAT of the “Mandate and Terms of Reference for the ICCAT Conservation and Management Measures Compliance Committee” (Compliance Committee) (95-15);

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT calls at recent ICCAT meetings to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the Permanent Working Group and the Compliance Committee to strengthen their operation, effectiveness, and efficiency;

MINDFUL of the need to ensure that actions taken to support ICCAT conservation and management measures are non-discriminatory and in accordance with international law;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS RECOMMENDS THAT:

The Mandate and Terms of Reference of the Compliance Committee be as follows:

1. The Compliance Committee shall be broadly responsible for reviewing all aspects of compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures.
2. The Compliance Committee shall report directly to the Commission on its deliberations and recommendations.
3. Compliance Committee shall:
 - a) Gather and review information relevant to the assessment of compliance by Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities, and Fishing Entities (CPCs) with ICCAT conservation and management measures, including information from ICCAT subsidiary bodies; Annual Reports submitted to the Commission; catch data compiled by the Commission and SCRS; trade information obtained through statistics of CPCs and non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities (NCPs), including from statistical and catch document programs; and other relevant information;
 - b) Pursuant to this review, assess the status of each CPC’s implementation of and compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures, including monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) measures;
 - c) Review available information to assess the cooperation of NCPs with ICCAT in the conservation and management of ICCAT species;
 - d) Review domestic measures for the implementation of the Commission’s recommendations, as reported by CPCs, and, if available, NCPs;
 - e) Review and evaluate reports on inspection and surveillance activities carried out in accordance with ICCAT measures, including reports of activities in contravention of such measures as well as follow-up actions taken to address such activities;
 - f) Develop and make recommendations to the Commission to address issues of non-compliance or lack of cooperation with ICCAT conservation and management measures,
 - g) Where needed, develop new or modify existing recommendations to the Commission designed to enhance compliance and cooperation with ICCAT conservation and management measures, such as rules on quota carryovers, or to address ambiguity with respect to the application of such measures; and
 - h) Review and make recommendations to the Commission regarding requests for cooperating status.
4. In carrying out its responsibilities, the Compliance Committee shall cooperate closely with other ICCAT subsidiary bodies in order to remain informed on all issues that may affect its work and refer relevant matters to the appropriate subsidiary body for attention, such as the development of new or revision of existing MCS or other technical measures.
5. This recommendation replaces the *Mandate and Terms of Reference Adopted by the Commission for the ICCAT Conservation and Management Measures Compliance Committee* [TOR 95-15].

11-26

MISC

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
MEETING PARTICIPATION FUND FOR DEVELOPING ICCAT CONTRACTING PARTIES**

RECOGNISING that the ICCAT Commission has noted with concern the lack of participants from developing States at its meetings and those of its subsidiary bodies;

RECALLING that these concerns have been echoed by the ICCAT Performance Review Panel in 2008;

NOTING that Article 25 paragraph 3 of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (UNFSA) identifies, *inter alia*, forms of cooperation with developing states and the need for assistance relating to collection, reporting, verification, exchange and analysis of fisheries data and related information; and stock assessment and scientific research;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNA (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. A special Meeting Participation Fund (MPF) be established for the purposes of supporting representatives from those ICCAT Contracting Parties which are developing States to attend and/or contribute to the work of the Commission and other subsidiary bodies.
2. The MPF shall be financed from an initial allocation of €60,000 from ICCAT's accumulated Working Capital Fund, and subsequently by voluntary contributions from Contracting Parties and such other sources as the Commission may identify. The Commission will identify, at its 2012 Meeting, a procedure for supplying funds to the MPF in the future.
3. The Fund will be administered by the ICCAT Secretariat, in accordance with the same financial controls as regular budget appropriations.
4. The ICCAT Executive Secretary shall establish a process for notifying Contracting Parties annually of the level of available funds in the MPF, and provide a timeline and describe the format for the submission of applications for assistance, and the details of the assistance to be made available.
5. The ICCAT Executive Secretary shall submit an annual report to the Commission on the status of the Fund, including a financial statement of contributions to and disbursements from the Fund;
6. For participation in ICCAT scientific meetings, including Species Group and other inter-sessional meetings, those eligible scientists may submit an application for assistance from the existing funds from voluntary contribution. Applicants will be selected in accordance with the protocol established by the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (Addendum 2 to Appendix 7 to the 2011 SCRS Report).
7. For participation in non-scientific meetings, funds will be allocated in order of application. Only one participant per Contracting Party will be funded for any one meeting. All applications shall be subject to the approval of the Chair of the Commission, the Chair of STACFAD and the Executive Secretary and, in the case of subsidiary bodies, the Chair of the meeting for which funding is being sought.
8. The funds in the MPF shall be disbursed in a manner that ensures a balanced distribution between non-scientific and scientific meetings.
9. All potential eligible applicants are encouraged to explore the alternative avenues of funding available to developing State Contracting Parties prior to applying to the ICCAT Fund.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY ICCAT IN 2011

11-14

GEN

RESOLUTION BY ICCAT TO STANDARDIZE THE PRESENTATION OF SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION IN THE SCRS ANNUAL REPORT AND IN WORKING GROUP DETAILED REPORTS

NOTING that the presentation of scientific information in the Standing Committee for Research and Statistics (SCRS) annual report to the Commission can vary by stock;

STRESSING the importance of standardizing the presentation of scientific information to facilitate an easier appropriation and utilization by the Commission;

RECALLING recommendations of the Kobe II Workshop of Experts to Share Best Practices on the Provision of Scientific Advice and of the Kobe III recommendations, in particular on development on research activities to better quantify the uncertainty and understand how this uncertainty is reflected in the risk assessment inherent in the Kobe II strategy matrix;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

1. In support of the SCRS scientific advice, the Executive Summaries within the SCRS annual report which present the results of the stock assessment results should include, when possible:
 - i) A statement characterizing the robustness of methods applied to assess stock status and to develop the scientific advice. This statement should focus on modeling approaches and on assumptions.
 - ii) Three Kobe matrices, in accordance with the format set out in Annex **Table 2**:
 - a) A Kobe II strategy matrix indicating the probability of $B > B_{MSY}$ for different levels of catch across multiple years.
 - b) A Kobe II strategy matrix indicating the probability of $F < F_{MSY}$ for different levels of catch across multiple years.
 - c) A Kobe II strategy matrix indicating the probability of $B > B_{MSY}$ and $F < F_{MSY}$ for different levels of catch across multiple years.
 - d) Kobe II strategy matrices to be prepared by the SCRS should highlight in a similar format as shown in Annex **Table 2** a progression of probabilities over 50 % and in the range of 50-59 %, 60-69 %, 70-79 %, 80-89 % and ≥ 90 %.
 - e) When the Commission agrees on acceptable probability levels on a stock by stock basis and communicates them to the SCRS, the SCRS should prepare and include, in the annual report, the Kobe II strategy matrices using color coding corresponding to these thresholds.
 - iii) A statement concerning the reliability of long term projections period.
 - iv) A Kobe plot chart showing:
 - a) Management reference points expressed as $F_{CURRENT}$ on F_{MSY} (or a proxy) and as $B_{CURRENT}$ on B_{MSY} (or a proxy);
 - b) The estimated uncertainty around current stock status estimates;
 - c) The stock status trajectory.
in accordance with the format set out in Annex **Figure 1**.
 - v) A pie chart summarizing the stock status showing the proportion of model outputs that are within the green quadrant of the Kobe plot chart (not overfished, no overfishing), the yellow quadrant (overfished or overfishing), and the red quadrant (overfished and overfishing), in accordance with the format set out in Annex **Figure 2**.

- vi) An indication of the modeling approaches used by the SCRS to conduct the stock assessment shall be included in the caption and in the corresponding text accompanying the introduction of the matrices and the charts.
 - vii) Statements, where needed, reflecting the different opinions expressed regarding the SCRS scientific advice during the endorsement process.
2. The Kobe plot chart described in paragraph 1 should reflect the uncertainties on the estimates of the relative Biomass (B_{CURRENT} on B_{MSY} or its proxy) and of the relative fishing mortality (F_{CURRENT} on F_{MSY} or its proxy), provided that statistical methods to do so have been agreed upon by SCRS and that sufficient data exist to do so.
 3. The SCRS should review recommendations and templates for the Kobe II strategy matrices, plot and pie charts as laid down in this resolution and should advise the Commission on possible improvements.
 4. If the Commission adopts alternative reference points, such as limit reference points associated to the precautionary approach, the SCRS should also provide in its annual report versions of the elements described in paragraphs 1 and 2 calculated with respect to these alternative reference points and following the format specified in the same paragraphs.
 5. The SCRS should indicate in its annual report those cases where the modeling approaches used during the assessment and/or data limitation did not allow for the preparation of the elements mentioned above.
 6. The Kobe II strategy matrices are intended to reflect the scientists understanding of the uncertainties associated with their model estimates. Therefore, where models and/or data are insufficient to quantify those uncertainties, the SCRS should consider alternative means of representing them in ways that are useful to the Commission.
 7. When, due to data limitations, the SCRS is unable to develop Kobe II strategy matrices and associated charts or other estimates of current status relative to benchmarks, the SCRS should develop its scientific advice on fisheries indicators in the context of Harvest Control Rules, if previously agreed upon by the Commission.
 8. The SCRS should also include in its annual report any other tables and/or graphics that it considers useful to provide advice to the Commission.
 9. The Commission encourages the SCRS to also include in the detailed reports, where possible, the following additional elements:
 - i) A scoring table addressing data completeness and quality with the format set out in Annex **Table 1**;
 - ii) Information on the by-catches of the different fleet segments and fisheries, as well as other ecosystems considerations.

Table 2. Format of a Kobe II strategy matrix indicating the probability of $B > B_{MSY}$, or $F < F_{MSY}$ or $B > B_{MSY}$ and $F < F_{MSY}$ for different levels of catch limits and years.

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
0	25%	51%	70%	78%	84%	87%	89%	91%	92%	93%
250	24%	48%	66%	76%	81%	85%	87%	89%	90%	92%
500	24%	45%	63%	73%	78%	82%	85%	87%	89%	90%
750	24%	43%	59%	69%	75%	79%	82%	84%	86%	87%
1000	24%	40%	54%	65%	71%	75%	78%	81%	82%	84%
1250	24%	37%	49%	59%	66%	70%	73%	76%	78%	80%
1500	23%	35%	45%	53%	59%	64%	67%	70%	72%	74%
1750	23%	32%	40%	46%	51%	55%	58%	61%	64%	65%
2000	23%	29%	35%	39%	43%	45%	47%	49%	51%	53%
2250	22%	26%	29%	31%	33%	34%	36%	36%	37%	38%
2500	20%	21%	22%	22%	22%	21%	21%	21%	21%	21%

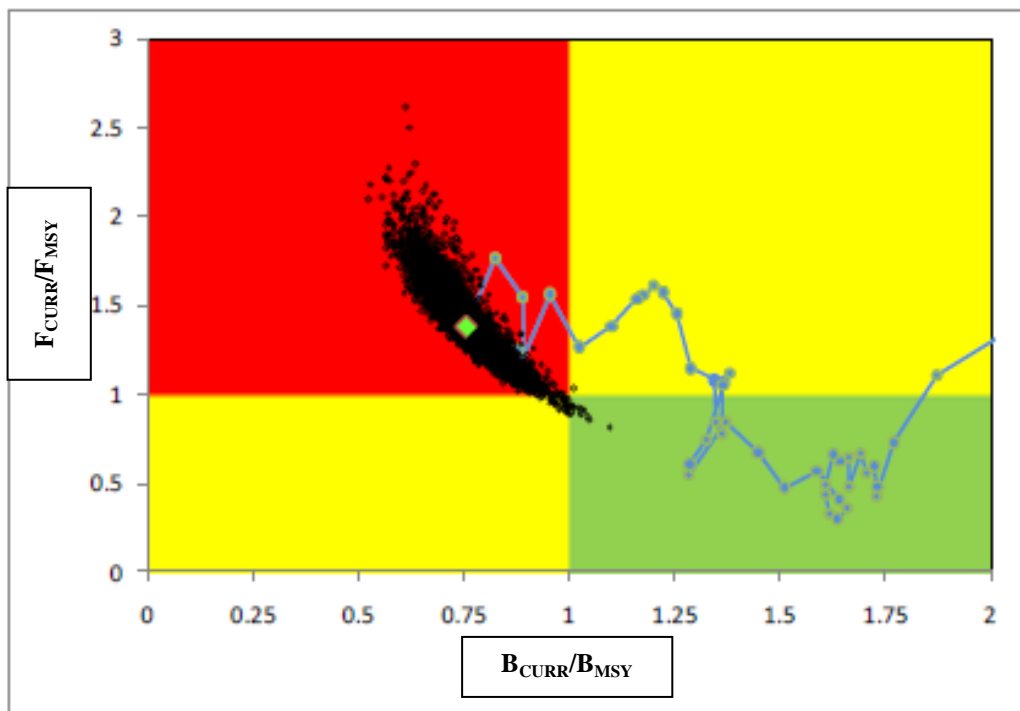


Figure 1. Example of a Kobe plot chart showing the stock status trajectory (intervals around relative biomass and relative fishing mortality will be included when available).

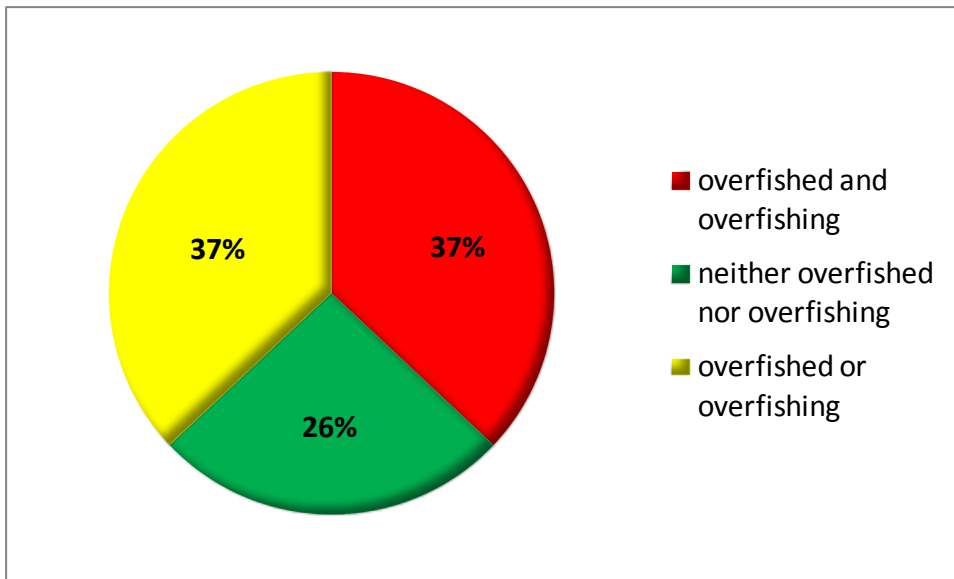


Figure 2. Example of pie chart summarizing the stock status showing the proportion of model outputs that are within each quadrant of the Kobe plot chart.

11-17

GEN

RESOLUTION BY ICCAT ON BEST AVAILABLE SCIENCE

RECOGNIZING the importance of sound scientific advice as the centerpiece for the conservation and management of tuna and tuna-like species in the Atlantic and the Mediterranean in line with international law and recommendations and Article VIII of the ICCAT Convention,

AWARE that the availability of adequate scientific information is fundamental to carrying out the objectives of the Convention laid down in Article IV of the Convention,

EMPHASIZING the importance of the effective participation of CPCs in the work of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) and its working groups,

ACKNOWLEDGING the need to strengthen the data availability and quality for scientific advice, including on by-catch and discards,

NOTING that external expert participation may advance the quality assurance of the scientific work of the SCRS,

RECOGNIZING the need for broadening and streamlining the scope of financial support for capacity building for the purpose of this resolution,

BUILDING on the recommendations of the SCRS and of the Kobe process,

NOTING the importance of regular assessments of the performance of regional fisheries management organizations, including the functioning of their scientific committees,

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RESOLVES THAT:

CPCs undertake to:

1. Take all measures which would be appropriate
 - i) To improve the communication between CPCs, the Commission and the SCRS by enabling a constant and regular dialogue;
 - ii) To improve the implementation of data collection and provision to the SCRS, including on by-catches,
 - iii) To support research programs and projects supporting the work of the SCRS;
 - iv) To facilitate participation in working groups and SCRS meetings of scientists from all CPCs, as well as other relevant scientific bodies;
 - v) To contribute to the training of scientific researchers, including young scientists;
2. Preserve and promote the independence and excellence of the SCRS and its working groups by:
 - i) Enhancing the participation of scientists to meetings of the SCRS and its Working Groups, including scientists involved in other tunas' RFMOs and other relevant scientific bodies;
 - ii) Adopting, publishing and implementing SCRS rules, including a code of conduct for scientists and for observers. For this purpose, SCRS will develop such rules to avoid conflict of interests and ensure the independence of the scientific process and, where applicable, maintain the confidentiality of the data used;
 - iii) Ensuring that independent and objective scientific input, based on the best available and peer-reviewed scientific deliverables, is presented by the SCRS to the Commission;
 - iv) Ensuring that sources and history of revisions of all documents submitted to and assessed by the SCRS and its working groups are fully documented;
 - v) Providing clear, transparent, and standardized scientific findings and advice to the Commission;
 - vi) Providing for well-defined rules for efficient decision-making to arrive at scientific advice to be endorsed, released and published by the SCRS;

- vii) Reflecting different opinions in the scientific reports and during the endorsement process of SCRS' scientific advice to foster transparency of the scientific advisory process.
3. Strengthen peer review mechanisms within the SCRS by participation of outside experts (e.g., from other RFMOs or from academia) in the SCRS activities, particularly for stock assessments.
 4. Continue to support the SCRS' initiatives to publish its scientific findings in the scientific peer-reviewed literature.
 5. With the aim of meeting the above-mentioned objectives, consider broadening financial support and mechanisms, including *inter alia*, contributing to the “Meeting Participation Fund for Developing ICCAT Contracting Parties”, for the purpose of the implementation of this Resolution, in particular to:
 - i) Contribute to the scientific capacity building of the developing CPCs and to enhance their effective participation in the work of the SCRS and its working groups;
 - ii) Provide necessary resources for the SCRS and its working groups.
 6. The next independent performance review of ICCAT should include an assessment of the functioning of the SCRS and its working groups through a total quality management process, including an evaluation of the potential role of external reviews.

11-22

SDP

RESOLUTION BY ICCAT ON TRACEABILITY OF TUNA PRODUCTS

RECALLING that ICCAT introduced a Statistical Document Program for bluefin, bigeye and swordfish to improve the reliability of catch data;

ALSO RECALLING that the Statistical Document Program for bluefin was later converted to a Catch Document Scheme to deter IUU activities in the bluefin tuna fisheries and this scheme has been working well;

CONCERNED that IUU fishing is still one of the impediments to sustainable use of tuna resources;

ALSO CONCERNED that the Statistical Document Program for bigeye does not cover fresh products and catch destined to canneries, which could be a loophole for IUU fishing;

CONSIDERING, however, that a catch documentation scheme requires a large amount of financial and human resources;

RECOGNIZING that a certain type of traceability system which would require less resource is still likely to detect IUU fishing;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RESOLVES THAT:

1. ICCAT should discuss a traceability system for all the products of bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tunas at an inter-sessional working group such as an Integrated Monitoring Measures Working Group with a view to adopting the introduction of such a system at the 2012 Commission meeting.
2. In discussing the system, ICCAT should take into account existing traceability systems for fishery products, particularly those already implemented by developing countries to cope with the requirement of major foreign markets.

**RESOLUTION BY ICCAT ON A PROGRAM OF WORK
FOR THE WORKING GROUP ON THE FUTURE OF ICCAT**

RECALLING the 2005 *Resolution by ICCAT to Strengthen ICCAT* [Res. 05-10], calling for the Commission to review its conservation and management program and develop a workplan to address the strengthening of the organization, and the 2006 *Resolution by ICCAT to Strengthen ICCAT* [Res. 06-18] establishing the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT to review the Convention and, notably, to evaluate its compatibility with developments in international law since the adoption of the Convention in 1966;

BEARING IN MIND that pursuant to the Terms of Reference of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT, annexed to Res. 06-18, the Working Group should evaluate the ICCAT Convention and other ICCAT instruments, including Recommendations and Resolutions and make recommendations in order to strengthen ICCAT;

CONSIDERING the Report of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT for its first meeting in Sapporo, Japan, August 31 to September 3, 2009 and the Report of the second meeting of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT, which took place in Madrid, Spain, May 16 to 20, 2011, and noting in particular the progress achieved at those two meetings to identify a number of priority issues that should be considered in amending ICCAT's *Basic Texts*, or updating and adopting further conservation and management measures;

RECALLING that, at the conclusion of the second meeting of the Working Group, there was no consensus to recommend that the Commission undertake an immediate exercise to draft amendments to the Convention, and that instead, the Working Group requested its Chair to prepare, with input from CPCs, an analysis paper assessing the legal, management and policy implications of the various approaches available to the Commission in addressing the priority issues previously identified, including the potential benefits, disadvantages and procedural aspects involved;

WELCOMING in this regard, the paper entitled: *Analysis of Issues for the Strengthening of ICCAT* and acknowledging the significant contribution it makes to further the discussion on improving the work of the Commission;

RECALLING that in the report of its second meeting, the Working Group requested the Commission to consider the analysis paper and comments by CPCs and decide on the next steps needed to achieve progress in improving the *Basic Texts* and recommendations of ICCAT and that the Commission also consider whether to continue this Working Group and, if so, whether any changes to its terms of reference were needed.

NOTING that three CPCs have provided input into the analysis paper from the Chair of the Working Group and one had provided additional comments before the annual meeting and acknowledging that CPCs might require additional time to consider the analysis paper and undertake consultations domestically.

RECOGNIZING the need to continue discussions within the context of the Working Group to build consensus on the priorities to be addressed to strengthen ICCAT, on the approaches to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Commission and on the desired outcomes of potential modifications to ICCAT's *Basic Texts* or decisions;

DESIRING to provide some guidance to the program of work of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT, as called for in Resolution 06-18;

REITERATING that the strengthening of ICCAT is a matter of priority;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

1. A third meeting of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT should be convened in 2012 in advance of the 18th Special Meeting of the Commission;
2. At this third meeting, the Working Group should discuss concrete proposals to address the priority issues identified during the first two meetings of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT with a view to making

recommendations to the Commission at the 18th Special Meeting to achieve progress on strengthening ICCAT.

3. The reports from the previous meetings of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT, the analysis paper from the Chair of the Working Group and proposals elaborated by the Contracting and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities (CPCs) described in **Annex 1** shall provide the basis for discussion at this third meeting of the Working Group.
4. In order to propose recommendations to 18th Special Meeting of the Commission, the Working Group should seek to build consensus among the participants on priority issues which the Commission should address to strengthen ICCAT as well as the desired mechanism for and outcomes of a proposed modification including amendments to the Convention.
5. The Commission should review the current program of work at its 18th Special Meeting.

Proposals by CPCs

In order to facilitate the work of the Working Group at its third meeting, CPCs should prepare proposals addressing a priority issue for strengthening ICCAT, as follows:

1. CPCs should indicate to the Secretariat, which issues or areas they intend to work on, by December 31, 2011. The Secretariat will combine this information into a list and circulate to all CPCs by January 15, 2012;
2. CPCs should prepare their proposals with a view of achieving consensus among CPCs on addressing the priority issues identified by the Working Group and submit them to the Secretariat for circulation to all CPCs at least 45 days in advance of the meeting of the Working Group. CPCs interested in preparing proposals on the same issues should coordinate and collaborate on joint proposals to the extent possible.
3. The proposals should address:
 - Objectives and desired outcomes of a proposed initiative to address a particular priority issue;
 - Mechanisms envisaged for the proposed initiative (modifying Basic Texts, decisions of the Commission or both), and;
 - Potential legal, management and policy implications associated with the proposal;
 - Possible drafting suggestions for eventual amendments to Basic Texts or for decisions of the Commission, as appropriate.
4. Interested parties may submit comments to authors of a proposal at least 30 days in advance of the meeting of the Working Group for their integration, as appropriate, in a revised proposal.
5. CPCs should submit revised proposals to the Secretariat for circulation to all CPCs at least 15 days in advance of the meeting of the Working Group.
6. Nothing in the above should prevent CPCs from making proposals on additional issues at any stage of the process.

OTHER DECISIONS ADOPTED BY ICCAT IN 2011

7.1 DEADLINES AND GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF DRAFT PROPOSALS

Background

Given the increasing amount of documents requiring translation for the Commission meeting arising from reports required under current Recommendations, inter-sessional meetings and from a greater number of lengthy proposals being received, it was proposed that guidelines and deadlines be established to ensure that all drafts can be circulated in the three official languages of the Commission in a timely fashion. In addition, some Contracting Parties indicated dissatisfaction with the current process as negotiations are held on the margins of the meeting before the text is available to all Parties, and hence may exclude Parties with legitimate interests in the fisheries involved.

1. Deadlines for submission of proposals

According to the current Rules of Procedure contained in the ICCAT *Basic Texts*, the deadline for receipt of draft proposals is the date of the meeting announcement, which in the case of the Regular meeting is 90 days before the meeting and in the case of a Special meeting, 30 days. In addition, an explanatory note should be circulated 60 days in advance of Regular meeting.

It was recognised that such deadlines are not currently feasible, particularly as ICCAT conservation and management measures are to be based on the best scientific advice available, which is not available until the close of the SCRS meeting, usually held one month before the Commission meeting. Notwithstanding, in recent years, new proposals, often of considerable length have been submitted very near the end of the Commission meeting which not only creates difficulty for the Secretariat in making available the three languages in a timely manner but also gives little time for Contracting Parties to study the content or to review the proposal for coherence.

In order to allow sufficient time to all delegations to fully consider draft proposals and to streamline the work of the Commission and Secretariat, the following deadlines were adopted:

- 1.1 Any proposal for which the SCRS advice is not required or for which SCRS advice was given in previous years should be submitted to the Secretariat one month before the opening of the meeting, together with a brief explanation if required. Such proposals will be translated by the Secretariat and circulated two weeks before the meeting. In the event that the Party(ies) making the proposal receive comments from other Contracting Parties and wish to amend their proposal before discussion at the meeting, the revised version should be submitted to the Secretariat as soon as possible, and not later than the first day of the meeting. The proposals can be revised as often as necessary following first discussion.
- 1.2 Any proposal which requires the most recent available scientific advice should be sent to the Secretariat, if possible, at least one week in advance of the meeting, and otherwise no later than five days before the end of the Meeting. These will be translated by the Secretariat and distributed by the first day of the annual meeting, or as soon as possible thereafter. The proposals can be revised as often as necessary following first discussion.

2. Guidelines for submission of proposals

All proposals submitted to the Secretariat should be in Word format and all changes to original documents clearly marked.

- 2.1 If the proposal submitted is an amendment to an existing Recommendation, delegates should request the Word file from the Secretariat and make clearly marked changes on the version received. The proposing Party should indicate at the time of the submission whether or not they wish the document to be distributed with marked changes or in clean copy.

- 2.2 If the proposal relates to a species for which Recommendations are already in force, any paragraphs taken from previous Recommendations should be referenced. This will ensure that there are no discrepancies in translation.
- 2.3 For new proposals, those relating to species management should follow, as far as possible, the structure contained in the Abridged Compendium. Parties making proposals are encouraged to consult the abridged compendium to ensure that there is no conflict and/or overlap between their new proposal and existing Recommendations. As far as possible, new proposals should include measures already existing, and stipulate the Recommendations to be rescinded on their entry into force.
- 2.4 For new proposals which do not relate directly to species management, Parties are also encouraged to consult the Active and Abridged Compendiums to ensure that there is no conflict/overlap between their proposal and those already in force.

7.2 GUIDELINES FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) AND THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CITES)

The Parties to CITES and the Contracting Parties to ICCAT endorse the following Guidelines for cooperation:

1. The Secretariats of ICCAT and CITES are encouraged to invite each other to participate as observers in meetings of common interest that they each may organize.
2. The Secretariats are encouraged to communicate, as necessary and appropriate, to share information on issues and species of common interest. Such information may include catch and/or trade data, including that obtained from ICCAT statistical and catch document programs and CITES annual reports, stock assessments and other scientific reports, fisheries management and compliance information, and/or other fishery or species/stock related information. Such information should be limited to that published by ICCAT or CITES, unless otherwise decided by the respective Executive Secretaries in consultation with the Parties as appropriate.
3. The CITES Secretariat is encouraged to provide the ICCAT Secretariat with information to give its members a better understanding of the goals of CITES and the implementation of its decisions.
4. The ICCAT Secretariat is encouraged to provide the CITES Secretariat with information to give CITES Parties a better understanding of ICCAT's role in the conservation and management of species under its purview.
5. The Secretariats of ICCAT and CITES are encouraged to facilitate communication, collaboration, and information exchange among national representatives to ICCAT and national CITES Authorities as feasible and appropriate.
6. The Secretariats of both organizations will report on actions taken pursuant to these Guidelines to their respective organizations.
7. These Guidelines will become operative on the date of that they have been adopted by both the ICCAT Commission and the Parties to CITES. They will remain operative unless discontinued at any time by written notice served by one upon the other, or replaced by another arrangement. The Guidelines may be modified by written mutual consent, subject to approval by the ICCAT Commission and the Parties to CITES.

7.3 ADDITIONS TO RULE 13 OF THE ICCAT RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (COC) AND PERMANENT WORKING GROUP (PWG)**New paragraph 3:**

There shall be a Conservation and Management Measures Compliance Committee on which every member country of the Commission may be represented. The Committee shall be broadly responsible for reviewing all aspects of compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures, and shall develop and recommend to the Commission such measures as may be necessary to ensure the implementation of and compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures. The Committee shall choose its own Chair.

New paragraph 4:

There shall be a Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures on which every member country of the Commission may be represented. The Permanent Working Group shall review the effectiveness and practical aspects of ICCAT's conservation and management measures as well as relevant statistical information regarding species under the purview of ICCAT, and shall develop and recommend to the Commission such technical measures as may be necessary to ensure the effective implementation of ICCAT's conservation and management measures. The Permanent Working Group shall choose its own Chair.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION (STACFAD)

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance and Administration (STACFAD) was opened on Monday, November 14, 2011, by the Committee Chair, Ms. Sylvie Lapointe (Canada).

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, was adopted, including agreement to discuss under “Other matters” the change of guidelines on procedures and mandate (**Appendix 1 to ANNEX 8**).

3. Appointment of Rapporteur

The ICCAT Secretariat was designated rapporteur.

4. Reports from the Secretariat

4.1 Administrative Report 2011

The 2011 Administrative Report was presented by the Chair, who reviewed its contents, i.e., events of an administrative nature that had occurred in the Secretariat and in the Commission in 2011: Contracting Parties to the Convention, the adoption and entry into force of the Recommendations in 2011, ICCAT inter-sessional meetings and working groups, meetings at which ICCAT was represented (see Appendix 1 to the Administrative Report), tagging lottery, letters concerning compliance with budgetary obligations, list of publications and Secretariat documents, organization and management of the ICCAT staff (organization and new hiring), and other matters, such as those relating to the new Secretariat headquarters, the management of other programs and the auditors of the accounts.

The Chair pointed out the increase in programs managed by the Secretariat and how these were resulting in additional workload for the staff. The Chair also informed on the hiring, in March, of Dr. M’Hamed Idrissi as Assistant Coordinator of the ICCAT Atlantic-wide Research Program for Bluefin Tuna (GBYP).

Regarding the new Secretariat headquarters, the Chair commented that there were no new developments. As pointed out in the Secretariat Report, during the SCRS meetings, there were complaints about the lack of space at the current offices. In this regard, the Chair explained that this is a complicated matter since the Secretariat has to adapt to the Spanish laws, particularly as concerns regulating the temperature, given that the building is owned by the Spanish State.

The delegate of Japan inquired if, besides the hiring of Dr. Idrissi in the GBYP, additional hiring would be needed due to the program’s workload.

The Executive Secretary responded that temporary hiring of technical staff had been carried out for data processing and that the management of administrative and financial matters would continue to be carried out, for the time being, by the Secretariat.

The delegate of Morocco asked what the Commission could do concerning the new headquarters and proposed that, as regards the economic and financial management of the GBYP, more staff be hired in order to lessen the workload of the Secretariat.

The Executive Secretary explained that the Spanish Government had prepared new headquarters for the Secretariat and had invested considerable financial resources in these headquarters, but that there was a dispute

with the home owners association of the building preventing the installation of the air conditioning equipment on the roof of the building.

The Chair recalled that was necessary and essential to always take into account the workload at the Secretariat when a new Research Program is recommended.

The Administrative Report was adopted.

4.2 Financial Report 2011

At the request of the Chair, the Head of Administration and Finance presented the Secretariat's Financial Report, which had been distributed in advance. He summarized the parts of the report according to the financial statements presented and pointed out the extra-budgetary expenses, those as a result of holding the Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Compliance Committee and the Second Working Group on the Future of ICCAT, which were financed by the Working Capital Fund. Regarding income, he pointed out the percentages of income received by groups, as well as the voluntary contributions from Chinese Taipei, income received from the various programs managed by the Secretariat under the concept of overhead, and financial income. He indicated that according to the estimates made to the end of the year, it is expected that the Working Capital Fund will be maintained at the same percentage with respect to the previous year's budget.

He reminded the Committee that the Report contained information up to October 21, 2011 and pointed out that since that date new contributions had been received from Croatia (€10,365.40), Ghana (€367,000.00), Panama (€156,456.62), and Brazil (€110,194.20). He also pointed out that a voluntary contribution corresponding to 80% of the contract signed with the European Union to cover the expenses of the 22nd Regular Meeting of the Commission (€333,793.60) had been received.

The delegate of Morocco thanked the Secretariat for the excellent work carried out. He also thanked all the Parties who were meeting their commitment to cancel their debts, thereby strengthening the Commission's finances. Regarding item 11 of the Report, in which the Contracting Parties that participated in the VMS Program were asked the destination of the remaining funds, he proposed that any balances be directed to the GBYP. The delegate of Morocco thanked the United States for financing the Fund to Prohibit Driftnets but suggested it could be used for other activities given that Morocco is carrying out another large-scale programme.

The delegate of Chinese Taipei pointed out that they would make a voluntary contribution to ICCAT in 2012 in the same amount as in 2011 to the GBYP and to the Enhanced Research Program for Billfish.

In response to these questions, the Executive Secretary explained that the use of the balance of the funds of the Albacore Program should be decided by the Scientific Committee. With regard to the VMS Program, which was financed by voluntary contributions made by the majority of Parties that participated in Panel 2, he explained that the regulations of some Contracting Parties did not allow the transfer of funds sent for one ICCAT activity to a different activity. He also expressed that since the Fund to Prohibit Driftnets was financed by the United States, it was up to that CPC to decide how monies from this Fund could be used. The delegate of the United States expressed that they would study the destination of their balance for the Fund to Prohibit Driftnets.

After thanking the Secretariat for the excellent management and the quality of the Report presented, the delegate of the European Union explained that their financial regulations did not allow using the funds for some programs for other programs and that the European Union had to recover their remaining funds and afterwards transfer them to a new destination.

The delegate of Ghana expressed gratitude for the voluntary contributions made to improve capacity building for developing countries and highlighted the importance of the assistance provided by ATLAFCO (COMHAFAT) to allow representatives of their members to participate in the ICCAT meeting; this was supported by various delegations.

The Chair requested the Parties with balances from the VMS Program to provide information regarding the destination of these funds and indicated that these Parties could request reimbursement, the transfer to other funds, or their application as advanced payments towards future ICCAT contributions.

The delegates of Morocco and Japan stated that their remaining funds be applied to the GBYP Program. The delegate from Algeria notified the Chair that they would also transfer their balance to the GBYP Program.

The Financial Report was adopted.

4.3 Review of progress of the payment of arrears

The Chair presented the document entitled “Detailed Information on the Accumulated Debt of the ICCAT Contracting Parties and Review of the Payment Plans of Past-due Contributions”, which showed the accumulated debt of the Contracting Parties by years. She pointed out that, as in recent years, two letters were sent in 2011 reminding the Parties concerned that they had pending payments of two years or more and that they should present a payment plan on their arrears for review at the Commission meeting. The Chair informed that none of the Contracting Parties that had been contacted had responded. After recalling that those Parties having arrears of two years or more could lose their right to vote according to Article X.8 of the ICCAT Convention, and that there were numerous past due amounts, she asked for suggestions on how to proceed.

The Delegate of Canada requested those Parties present to provide their positions.

The Delegates of Sao Tomé and Príncipe, Equatorial Guinea, Nigeria, Mauritania, Honduras and Côte d’Ivoire informed that they were carrying out the pertinent procedures for the payment of their contribution. The delegation of Panama informed that they would continue carrying out payments agreed in the action plan submitted in 2010. The Chair requested the Contracting Parties concerned to submit their commitments in writing during the following STACFAD sessions.

At the later sessions, letters were received from Mauritania, Honduras and Venezuela indicating their intentions to cancel their pending debts.

5. Consideration of financial implications of the revised structure of the Panels

The Chair broadly explained the discussion held on the restructuring of the Panels aimed at lessening the workload, particularly that of Panel 4. The Chair presented a document on the financial implications of the two possible options which were provided at the Second Meeting of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT. The first option included: Panel 1, Tropical Tunas; Panel 2, Temperate Tunas (North and South); Panel 3, Other Species (bonito, swordfish, billfish and other species); and Panel 4, sharks and shark-like species. On the other hand, the second option included; Panel 1, Tropical Tunas; Panel 2, Temperate Tunas - bluefin tuna (North and South); Panel 3, Temperate Tunas - albacore (North and South) and Panel 4, Other Species (bonito, swordfish, billfish and other species).

The delegate of Japan proposed a third option in the document “Draft Proposal on Panel Structure” in which the redistribution of the Panels was as follows: Panel 1, Tropical Tunas; Panel 2, Northern and southern bluefin tuna; Panel 3, Northern and southern albacore; and Panel 4, Sharks, northern and southern swordfish and other billfish. Thus, the Permanent Working Group (PWG) would be responsible for seabirds and turtles. The delegate explained that the difference of removing seabirds and turtles from Panel 4 and maintaining sharks was that the destination of the sharks, by-catch or not, were usable, whilst seabirds and turtles were not, noting that this should be considered as a change in the Permanent Working Group’s mandate.

The Executive Secretary noted that the difference in budgetary terms among the current composition of Panels and that presented in Options 2 and 3 (which would be the same as Option 2) was minimal and that very few countries would be affected, whilst Option 1 would have more repercussion.

Later, various possibilities were suggested, excluding or not excluding by-catches in Panel 4, or only part of the by-catches, etc. Finally, the Delegate of Brazil indicated that they could not approve any of the proposals presented and proposed that the discussion be referred once again to the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT, which was accepted.

6. Budget and Contracting Party contributions for 2011

The Chair presented the draft budget and the contributions of the Contracting Parties for 2012-2013 in the “Explanatory Note on the ICCAT Budget for Fiscal Years 2012-2013”. The Chair pointed out that the draft budget had been sent to the Parties in June and that it showed an increase in 2012 of 0.2% as compared to 2011 and 2% in 2013 as compared to 2012. After reviewing those chapters of the budget which had undergone major modifications from the previous budget and indicating that the budget included the costs related to the hiring

requested in previous years of a By-Catch Coordinator, the Chair asked the SCRS Chairman to present the requests made by the Scientific Committee with financial implications.

The SCRS Chairman presented the priorities of the Scientific Committee of a general nature and by order of priority. The Scientific Committee requested funds for capacity building of developing countries, for hiring new staff at the Secretariat (By-catch Coordinator, staff to manage data and carry out scientific analysis), for peer reviews, for the promotion of observer programs, for the development of more identification sheets and for completion of the *ICCAT Manual*, among others. As regards Panel 1, he stated the Committee requested improvements in the infrastructures for data collection and a large-scale tagging program for tropical tunas with a duration of five years and a budget of 11.4 million Euros for the first two years. For Panel 2, a four-year research Program for North Atlantic albacore and a budget of 4.3 million Euros. For Panel 4, a two-year research Program for small tunas and a budget of 95,000.00 Euros, species identification sheets for white marlin and 15,000.00 Euros for the Enhanced Research Program for Billfish.

The delegate of Japan proposed hiring one more person for Compliance, instead of a By-catch Coordinator, given the importance of improving compliance in RFMOs. The Delegate inquired if there was any gap in the Secretariat's tasks, since the budget included the position of By-catch Coordinator and that the Assistant Executive Secretary and the Head of the Statistics Department had left.

The Executive Secretary explained that following the departure of the Assistant Executive Secretary and the Head of the Statistics Department, a restructuring of the Secretariat had been carried out and Dr. Pilar Pallarés was internally promoted to occupy the position of Assistant Executive Secretary. He explained that this position had always included other tasks and recalled that the former Assistant Executive Secretary had also carried out the tasks of population dynamics expert. He explained that currently, Dr. Pallarés, besides being the Assistant Executive Secretary, continued carrying out the tasks of Head of Publications, that Dr. Laurence Kell carried out the tasks of Population Dynamics Expert, and that following the departure of the Head of the Statistics Department, Dr. Mauricio Ortiz was hired to carry out the tasks of Fishery Data Analyst, as well as being the Head of the Statistics Department.

The delegate of the United States and the European Union supported the inclusion of the By-catch Coordinator in the budget and recalled that the Scientific Committee had been requesting this position for many years.

The delegate of Brazil also supported the new hiring and suggested to the Committee that since the contributions to the budget were based on total catch and canning data without taking species into account, the problem should be dealt with whenever the Parties reported less data on small tunas and species that do not have management measures.

The Chair expressed that this matter would be dealt with in the coming years and would also be transferred to the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT.

With regard to the new hiring, the delegate of Japan stated that he did not oppose the hiring, but that the position description could include the monitoring of matters related to compliance of the ICCAT recommendations.

The Executive Secretary explained that the SCRS had already developed a description of the position and that adding compliance tasks could result in the candidate not meeting all the requirements.

The SCRS Chairman explained that the profile created for the position was scientific, and he felt it was complex to bring it into line with a compliance profile.

The delegate of Uruguay expressed that the profile should be technician that would improve data, capacity, etc., and should not be related to a compliance profile.

The delegate of the European Union stated that hiring a good scientist with knowledge on compliance could result that the candidate may not carry out both tasks very well. He suggested that the scientific profile be valued and that knowledge on compliance be added to the profile and not as a necessary requirement.

The delegate of Japan expressed that this could be a scientific profile that includes information from the CPCs and that when non-compliance was observed due to lack of information, this could be transmitted to the Compliance Department.

The delegate of Canada supported the proposal by the European Union of including scientific competence and that knowledge on compliance should also be valued.

The Chair summarized that a coordinator will be hired with scientific experience and capacity in accordance with the description of the position developed by the SCRS, valuing knowledge on compliance, and when there are matters of non-compliance these should be reported to the Compliance Department.

The document “Explanatory Note on the ICCAT Budget For Fiscal Years 2012-2013”, including the budget for 2012 and 2013 was adopted.

7. Consideration of the Programs which could require additional financing

In the Permanent Working Group and in response to the *ICCAT Recommendation on an Electronic Bluefin Catch Documentation Program (eBCD)* [Rec. 10-11], a pilot program for the implementation of an electronic Bluefin Catch Documentation System (eBCD) was presented which would include all the bluefin tuna caught, fattened, killed, and marketed, including the Re-export Certificates. In the discussions, a decision was reached that the Program would be financed proportionally by the Parties catching bluefin tuna.

The delegate of Japan explained that the Program costs would be distributed among CPCs based on the bluefin tuna catch quota and proposed that the initial starting costs should be covered by the Working Capital Fund, which would amount to approximately €400,000.00.

The delegate of the European Union supported the proposal and added that other CPCs could also make voluntary contributions, as could NGOs, the industry, etc.

Various delegations such as Turkey, Canada, and the United States supported the proposal. Morocco requested information on the additional cost this would have for each delegation.

The Executive Secretary recalled that the Working Capital Fund was very healthy but that if no invitation is received for 2012, the costs of the annual and inter-sessional meetings would have to be financed by the Operations Fund. The Executive Secretary took this occasion to thank the European Union and Turkey for covering the expenses of the 2011 meeting. He suggested that the Working Capital Fund could also be used to advance project funds and later the Contracting Parties could reimburse their project quotas to the Working Capital Fund.

The Delegate of Tunisia pointed out the Tunisia could send the eBCDs to ICCAT with the communication system it has. He added that the implementation of a communication system using internet on board each fishing vessel will lead to significant additional costs and consequently will affect their operating costs. He also proposed considering other means of financing the implementation of the e-BCD programme.

The pilot project for the implementation of the eBCD in 2012 financed by the Working Capital Fund was approved. The financing of the maintenance cost of the eBCD will be discussed at the 2012 annual meeting.

8. Establishment for mechanisms on financial support for Developing States

The Chair presented the “Draft Recommendation by ICCAT for the Establishment of a Meeting Participation Fund for Developing ICCAT Contracting Parties”, which includes a proposal to establish a special fund for the participation at meetings (MPF), aimed at supporting representatives of ICCAT developing Contracting Parties to participate and contribute to the work of the Commission and other subsidiary bodies. The Chair explained that the proposal suggested an initial contribution of €60,000.00 charged to the Working Capital Fund and that later it would be financed by voluntary contributions and such other sources as the Commission may identify. The Chair informed that the Secretariat would manage the Fund, develop request forms, and present an annual summary of the funds available and the transactions carried out during the year. Furthermore, he indicated that the financing would be for one person from each CPC for each meeting, and that the persons who request financing must show that they have explored other alternative means of financing prior to requesting funds from the MPF.

The delegates of Japan, Brazil, Canada, Mexico and the European Union expressed support for the proposal.

The delegate of the United States pointed out that, as proposed, the MPF could finance participation at Commission and scientific meetings; however, a fund already existed in ICCAT to support travel by developing State scientists to scientific meetings and the proposal should take this aspect into account. The delegate added that the requests to participate in the scientific meetings should follow the protocol already established by the SCRS.

The Chair stated that it would be ideal to establish a unique fund for travel as well as for capacity building, and that the points mentioned by the United States on the use of the MPF would be included in a revised proposal.

The Chair presented a revised proposal of the draft *Recommendation by ICCAT on the Establishment of a Meeting Participation Fund for ICCAT Developing Contracting Parties* taking on board comments received, which was adopted (see ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-26]).

9. Election of the Chair

The delegate of Brazil proposed that Ms. Lapointe be re-elected for another two-year period. This proposal was supported unanimously.

10. Other matters

The Secretariat presented a document on the “Deadlines and Guidelines for the Submission of Draft Proposals” aimed at establishing guidelines and deadlines guaranteeing that documents requiring translation into the three official ICCAT languages for the Commission meetings can be distributed on a timely basis, and that the texts be available during all the negotiations to all Contracting Parties interested in the fisheries concerned.

The delegate of the European Union indicated that item 1.2 should be changed as follows: Any proposal requiring most recent available scientific advice should be notified to the Secretariat with a weeks’ notice prior to the meeting and at least five days prior to the closure of the meeting.

The Chair included the request of the European Union within the proposal and the *Deadlines and Guidelines for the Submission of Draft Proposals* was adopted (see ANNEX 7.1).

The European Union, together with co-sponsors Canada, Norway, and the United States, presented a “Draft Resolution on Best Available Science” aimed at investing to improve the quality of scientific advice.

Various delegations, including Japan, Iceland and South Africa, expressed support for the proposal and the *Resolution by ICCAT on Best Available Science* (see ANNEX 6 [Res. 11-17]) was adopted.

The SCRS Chairman appreciated the support for the work of the Scientific Committee.

The Chair presented a document on “Suggested Additions to Rule 13 of the ICCAT Rules of Procedure for the Compliance Committee (COC) and the Permanent Working Group”, whose proposal contained a change to Rule 13 of the Commission’s *Basic Texts, Rules of Procedure* to include in this Rule the Conservation and Management Measures Compliance Committee and the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures as permanent subsidiary bodies. This proposal was adopted (see ANNEX 7.3).

11. Adoption of the Report and adjournment

The meeting of STACFAD was adjourned by the Chair, Ms. Lapointe.

The Report of STACFAD was adopted by correspondence.

Table 1. 2012-2013 Commission Budget (Euros).

Chapters	<i>2011</i>	<i>Increase</i>	<i>2012</i>	<i>Increase</i>	<i>2013</i>
1. Salaries	1,219,521.58	-0.55%	1,212,819.50	2.00%	1,237,075.89
2. Travel	31,640.40	0.00%	31,640.40	2.00%	32,273.21
3. Commission meetings (annual & inter-sessional)	137,108.40	9.40%	150,000.00	2.00%	153,000.00
4. Publications	55,339.10	0.00%	55,339.10	2.00%	56,445.88
5. Office Equipment	8,487.59	17.82%	10,000.00	2.00%	10,200.00
6. Operating Expenses	229,500.00	-12.85%	200,000.00	2.00%	204,000.00
7. Miscellaneous	6,790.08	3.09%	7,000.00	2.00%	7,140.00
8. Coordination of Research					
a) Salaries	969,863.97	-0.42%	965,836.93	2.00%	985,153.67
b) Travel to improve statistics	31,640.40	0.00%	31,640.40	2.00%	32,273.21
c) Statistics-Biology	22,440.00	0.00%	22,440.00	2.00%	22,888.80
d) Computer-related items	40,800.00	0.00%	40,800.00	2.00%	41,616.00
e) Database maintenance	30,600.00	0.00%	30,600.00	2.00%	31,212.00
f) Phone line-Internet domain	21,420.00	40.06%	30,000.00	2.00%	30,600.00
g) Scientific meetings (including SCRS)	76,500.00	30.72%	100,000.00	2.00%	102,000.00
h) Miscellaneous	6,450.57	-6.98%	6,000.00	2.00%	6,120.00
<i>Sub-total Chapter 8</i>	<i>1,199,714.94</i>	<i>2.30%</i>	<i>1,227,317.33</i>	<i>2.00%</i>	<i>1,251,863.68</i>
9. Contingencies	10,200.00	-1.96%	10,000.00	2.00%	10,200.00
10. Separation from Service Fund	31,640.40	0.00%	31,640.40	2.00%	32,273.21
11. Research Programs / Programmes de recherche / Programas de Investigación					
a) ICCAT Billfish Research Program	30,600.00	0.00%	30,600.00	2.00%	31,212.00
<i>Sub-total Chapter 11</i>	<i>30,600.00</i>	<i>0.00%</i>	<i>30,600.00</i>	<i>2.00%</i>	<i>31,212.00</i>
TOTAL BUDGET	2,960,542.49	0.20%	2,966,356.73	2.00%	3,025,683.87

Table 2. Basic information to calculate the Contracting Party contributions in 2012-2013

<i>Contracting Parties</i>	<i>Groups^a</i>	<i>GNP^b 2008</i>	<i>GNP^b 1991</i>	<i>Catch^c</i>	<i>Canning^d</i>	<i>Catch + Canning</i>	<i>Panels^e</i>				<i>Total Panels</i>	<i>Contracting Parties</i>
							1	2	3	4		
Albania	D	4,174	2,642	0	0	0	-	X	-	-	1	Albania
Algérie	C	4,959	3,139	3,694	1,549	5,242	-	X	-	X	2	Algérie
Angola	D	1,942	1,229	4,733	0	4,733	X	-	-	X	2	Angola
Barbados	C	14,422	9,128	214	0	214	-	-	-	-	0	Barbados
Belize	D	4,569	2,892	1,590	0	1,590	X	X	X	X	4	Belize
Brazil	B	8,311	5,260	37,484	15,742	53,226	X	X	X	X	4	Brazil
Canada	A	45,166	28,586	2,633	0	2,633	X	X	-	X	3	Canada
Cap-Vert	C	3,439	2,177	5,716	1,751	7,467	X	-	-	-	1	Cap-Vert
China, People's Rep. of	C	3,292	2,084	8,155	0	8,155	X	X	-	X	3	China, People's Rep. of
Côte d'Ivoire	C	1,137	720	6,758	0	6,758	X	-	-	X	2	Côte d'Ivoire
Croatia	C	15,677	9,922	760	750	1,510	-	X	-	-	1	Croatia
Egypt	D	2,031	1,285	0	0	0	-	X	-	-	1	Egypt
France (St. P. & M.)	A	44,761	28,330	56	0	56	X	X	-	X	3	France (St. P. & M.)
Gabon	C	9,888	6,258	0	0	0	X	-	-	X	2	Gabon
Ghana	C	709	449	66,944	10,300	77,244	X	-	-	-	1	Ghana
Guatemala, Rep. de	C	2,848	1,803	10,015	0	10,015	X	-	-	-	1	Guatemala, Rep. de
Guinea Ecuatorial	C	27,130	17,171	2,189	0	2,189	X	-	-	X	2	Guinea Ecuatorial
Guinea, Rep. of	D	505	320	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	0	Guinea, Rep. of
Honduras	D	1,957	1,239	0	0	0	X	-	-	-	1	Honduras
Iceland	A	52,490	33,222	29	0	29	-	X	-	-	1	Iceland
Japan	A	38,578	24,416	35,414	0	35,414	X	X	X	X	4	Japan
Korea, Rep. of	C	19,296	12,213	4,022	0	4,022	X	X	-	X	3	Korea, Rep. of
Libya	C	14,430	9,133	1,253	0	1,253	X	X	-	-	2	Libya
Maroc	C	2,740	1,734	13,311	992	14,303	X	X	-	X	3	Maroc
Mauritania	D	1,017	644	0	0	0	X	-	-	-	1	Mauritania
Mexico	B	9,964	6,306	10,194	819	11,014	X	X	X	X	4	Mexico
Namibia	C	4,143	2,622	5,548	0	5,548	X	-	X	X	3	Namibia
Nicaragua, Rep. de	D	1,228	777	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	0	Nicaragua, Rep. de
Nigeria	D	1,450	918	0	0	0	X	-	-	X	2	Nigeria
Norway	A	94,791	59,994	11	0	11	-	X	-	X	2	Norway
Panama	B	6,793	4,299	24,284	0	24,284	X	X	-	-	2	Panama
Philippines, Rep. of	D	1,866	1,181	2,387	0	2,387	X	-	X	-	2	Philippines, Rep. of
Russia	C	11,858	7,505	1,022	0	1,022	X	-	-	-	1	Russia
Saint Vincent and Grenadines	D	5,515	3,491	3,612	0	3,612	X	X	-	X	3	Saint Vincent and Grenadines
São Tomé e Príncipe	D	1,108	701	0	0	0	X	-	-	X	2	São Tomé e Príncipe
Senegal	C	1,088	689	10,920	5,161	16,080	X	-	-	X	2	Senegal
Sierra Leone	D	418	265	0	0	0	X	-	-	-	1	Sierra Leone
South Africa	C	5,566	3,523	5,358	0	5,358	X	-	X	X	3	South Africa
Syrian Arab Republic	D	2,572	1,628	409	0	409	-	X	-	-	1	Syrian Arab Republic
Trinidad & Tobago	C	18,153	11,489	3,849	0	3,849	X	-	-	X	2	Trinidad & Tobago
Tunisie	C	3,876	2,453	4,219	2,459	6,679	-	X	-	X	2	Tunisie
Turkey	B	10,031	6,349	10,692	3,675	14,367	X	X	X	X	4	Turkey
Union Européenne	A	37,877	23,973	189,138	253,148	442,286	X	X	X	X	4	Union Européenne
United Kingdom (O.T.)	A	43,381	27,456	455	0	455	-	-	-	X	1	United Kingdom (O.T.)
United States	A	44,955	28,453	18,234	10,829	29,063	X	X	X	X	4	United States
Uruguay	C	9,610	6,082	1,537	0	1,537	X	-	X	X	3	Uruguay
Vanuatu	D	2,388	1,511	1,910	0	1,910	-	-	-	-	0	Vanuatu
Venezuela	B	11,376	7,200	6,408	1,313	7,721	X	-	-	X	2	Venezuela

a), b), c), d), e): See the legends in the Annex

Table 3. Contracting Party Contributions 2012 (Euros)

Contracting Party		Catch +	% Catch +	% Member +	Membership	Panel	Variable fees	Variables fees	Total	Contracting Party
		Canning ^a	Canning ^b	Panels ^c	fee ^d	Membership ^e	for Member ^f	Catch-Canning ^g	fees ^h	
		Group ^a								
Albania	D	0	0.00%	5.56%	731.00	731.00	1,572.64	0.00	3,034.64	Albania
Algérie	C	5,242	2.94%	5.08%	731.00	1,462.00	9,324.45	10,774.63	22,292.08	Algérie
Angola	D	4,733	32.32%	8.33%	731.00	1,462.00	2,358.95	18,300.61	22,852.57	Angola
Barbados	C	214	0.12%	1.69%	731.00	0.00	3,108.15	440.52	4,279.67	Barbados
Belize	D	1,590	10.86%	13.89%	731.00	2,924.00	3,931.59	6,149.83	13,736.42	Belize
Brazil	B	53,226	48.12%	23.81%	731.00	2,924.00	34,095.44	137,815.17	175,565.61	Brazil
Canada	A	2,633	0.52%	13.33%	731.00	2,193.00	79,776.16	6,177.82	88,877.97	Canada
Cap-Vert	C	7,467	4.18%	3.39%	731.00	731.00	6,216.30	15,346.33	23,024.63	Cap-Vert
China, People's Rep. of	C	8,155	4.57%	6.78%	731.00	2,193.00	12,432.60	16,761.07	32,117.67	China, People's Rep. of
Côte d'Ivoire	C	6,758	3.79%	5.08%	731.00	1,462.00	9,324.45	13,889.80	25,407.25	Côte d'Ivoire
Croatia	C	1,510	0.85%	3.39%	731.00	731.00	6,216.30	3,104.21	10,782.50	Croatia
Egypt	D	0	0.00%	5.56%	731.00	731.00	1,572.64	0.00	3,034.64	Egypt
France (St. P. & M.)	A	56	0.01%	13.33%	731.00	2,193.00	79,776.16	132.19	82,832.35	France (St. P. & M.)
Gabon	C	0	0.00%	5.08%	731.00	1,462.00	9,324.45	0.00	11,517.45	Gabon
Ghana	C	77,244	43.29%	3.39%	731.00	731.00	6,216.30	158,760.54	166,438.84	Ghana
Guatemala, Rep. de	C	10,015	5.61%	3.39%	731.00	731.00	6,216.30	20,583.95	28,262.25	Guatemala, Rep. de
Guinea Ecuatorial	C	2,189	1.23%	5.08%	731.00	1,462.00	9,324.45	4,499.08	16,016.53	Guinea Ecuatorial
Guinea, Rep. of	D	0	0.00%	2.78%	731.00	0.00	786.32	0.00	1,517.32	Guinea, Rep. of
Honduras	D	0	0.00%	5.56%	731.00	731.00	1,572.64	0.00	3,034.64	Honduras
Iceland	A	29	0.01%	6.67%	731.00	731.00	39,888.08	67.27	41,417.35	Iceland
Japan	A	35,414	6.94%	16.67%	731.00	2,924.00	99,720.19	83,102.53	186,477.72	Japan
Korea, Rep. of	C	4,022	2.25%	6.78%	731.00	2,193.00	12,432.60	8,267.15	23,623.75	Korea, Rep. of
Libya	C	1,253	0.70%	5.08%	731.00	1,462.00	9,324.45	2,574.62	14,092.07	Libya
Maroc	C	14,303	8.02%	6.78%	731.00	2,193.00	12,432.60	29,396.45	44,753.04	Maroc
Mauritania	D	0	0.00%	5.56%	731.00	731.00	1,572.64	0.00	3,034.64	Mauritania
Mexico	B	11,014	9.96%	23.81%	731.00	2,924.00	34,095.44	28,517.26	66,267.70	Mexico
Namibia	C	5,548	3.11%	6.78%	731.00	2,193.00	12,432.60	11,402.87	26,759.47	Namibia
Nicaragua, Rep. de	D	0	0.00%	2.78%	731.00	0.00	786.32	0.00	1,517.32	Nicaragua, Rep. de
Nigeria	D	0	0.00%	8.33%	731.00	1,462.00	2,358.95	0.00	4,551.95	Nigeria
Norway	A	11	0.00%	10.00%	731.00	1,462.00	59,832.12	25.81	62,050.93	Norway
Panama	B	24,284	21.95%	14.29%	731.00	1,462.00	20,457.26	62,876.76	85,527.03	Panama
Philippines, Rep. of	D	2,387	16.30%	8.33%	731.00	1,462.00	2,358.95	9,230.55	13,782.50	Philippines, Rep. of
Russia	C	1,022	0.57%	3.39%	731.00	731.00	6,216.30	2,099.84	9,778.14	Russia
Saint Vincent and Grenadines	D	3,612	24.67%	11.11%	731.00	2,193.00	3,145.27	13,967.63	20,036.90	Saint Vincent and Grenadines
São Tomé e Príncipe	D	0	0.00%	8.33%	731.00	1,462.00	2,358.95	0.00	4,551.95	São Tomé e Príncipe
Senegal	C	16,080	9.01%	5.08%	731.00	1,462.00	9,324.45	33,050.11	44,567.55	Senegal
Sierra Leone	D	0	0.00%	5.56%	731.00	731.00	1,572.64	0.00	3,034.64	Sierra Leone
South Africa	C	5,358	3.00%	6.78%	731.00	2,193.00	12,432.60	11,013.05	26,369.64	South Africa
Syrian Arab Republic	D	409	2.79%	5.56%	731.00	731.00	1,572.64	1,581.61	4,616.24	Syrian Arab Republic
Trinidad & Tobago	C	3,849	2.16%	5.08%	731.00	1,462.00	9,324.45	7,911.58	19,429.03	Trinidad & Tobago
Tunisie	C	6,679	3.74%	5.08%	731.00	1,462.00	9,324.45	13,726.75	25,244.19	Tunisie
Turkey	B	14,367	12.99%	23.81%	731.00	2,924.00	34,095.44	37,200.78	74,951.22	Turkey
Union Européenne	A	442,286	86.73%	16.67%	731.00	2,924.00	99,720.19	1,037,869.74	1,141,244.93	Union Européenne
United Kingdom (O. T.)	A	455	0.09%	6.67%	731.00	731.00	39,888.08	1,067.70	42,417.78	United Kingdom (O. T.)
United States	A	29,063	5.70%	16.67%	731.00	2,924.00	99,720.19	68,199.27	171,574.46	United States
Uruguay	C	1,537	0.86%	6.78%	731.00	2,193.00	12,432.60	3,159.01	18,515.61	Uruguay
Vanuatu	D	1,910	13.04%	2.78%	731.00	0.00	786.32	7,384.69	8,902.01	Vanuatu
Venezuela	B	7,721	6.98%	14.29%	731.00	1,462.00	20,457.26	19,991.69	42,641.95	Venezuela

a), b), c), d), e), f), g), h): See the legends in the Annex

Table 4. Contributions by group 2012. Fees Expressed in Euros.

<i>Groups</i>	<i>Parties^a</i>	<i>Panels^b</i>	<i>Catch + Canning^c</i>	<i>% of each Party^d</i>	<i>% of the Budget^e</i>	<i>Fees^f</i>	<i>Panels fees^g</i>	<i>Other fees^h</i>	<i>Total feesⁱ</i>
A	8	22	509,947.07	---	61.25%	5,848.00	16,082.00	1,794,963.50	1,816,893.50
B	5	16	110,611.33	3.00%	15.00%	3,655.00	11,696.00	429,602.51	444,953.51
C	20	39	178,445.67	1.00%	20.00%	14,620.00	28,509.00	550,142.35	593,271.35
D	15	21	14,640.50	0.25%	3.75%	10,965.00	15,351.00	84,922.38	111,238.38
TOTAL	48	98	813,644.57		100.00%	35,088.00	71,638.00	2,859,630.73	2,966,356.73

a), b), c), d), e), f), g), h), i): See the legends in the **Annex**

Table 5. Contracting Party Contributions 2013 (Euros)

Contracting Party		Catch +		% Catch +	% Member +	Membership	Exchange rate: 1 €= 1.368 US\$ (11/2011)			Total	Contracting Party
Party	Group ^a	Canning ^a	Panels ^a	Canning ^b	Panels ^c	fee ^d	Panel Membership ^e	Variable fees for Member ^f	Variables fees Catch-Canning ^g	fees ^h	
Albania	D	0	1	0.00%	5.56%	731.00	731.00	1,613.84	0.00	3,075.84	Albania
Algérie	C	5,242	2	2.94%	5.08%	731.00	1,462.00	9,525.56	11,007.02	22,725.57	Algérie
Angola	D	4,733	2	32.32%	8.33%	731.00	1,462.00	2,420.75	18,780.04	23,393.80	Angola
Barbados	C	214	0	0.12%	1.69%	731.00	0.00	3,175.19	450.02	4,356.21	Barbados
Belize	D	1,590	4	10.86%	13.89%	731.00	2,924.00	4,034.59	6,310.94	14,000.53	Belize
Brazil	B	53,226	4	48.12%	23.81%	731.00	2,924.00	34,801.71	140,669.97	179,126.68	Brazil
Canada	A	2,633	3	0.52%	13.33%	731.00	2,193.00	81,391.17	6,302.88	90,618.06	Canada
Cap-Vert	C	7,467	1	4.18%	3.39%	731.00	731.00	6,350.37	15,677.32	23,489.69	Cap-Vert
China, People's Rep. of	C	8,155	3	4.57%	6.78%	731.00	2,193.00	12,700.74	17,122.57	32,747.31	China, People's Rep. of
Côte d'Ivoire	C	6,758	2	3.79%	5.08%	731.00	1,462.00	9,525.56	14,189.37	25,907.93	Côte d'Ivoire
Croatia	C	1,510	1	0.85%	3.39%	731.00	731.00	6,350.37	3,171.16	10,983.53	Croatia
Egypt	D	0	1	0.00%	5.56%	731.00	731.00	1,613.84	0.00	3,075.84	Egypt
France (St. P. & M.)	A	56	3	0.01%	13.33%	731.00	2,193.00	81,391.17	134.87	84,450.04	France (St. P. & M.)
Gabon	C	0	2	0.00%	5.08%	731.00	1,462.00	9,525.56	0.00	11,718.56	Gabon
Ghana	C	77,244	1	43.29%	3.39%	731.00	731.00	6,350.37	162,184.67	169,997.04	Ghana
Guatemala, Rep. de	C	10,015	1	5.61%	3.39%	731.00	731.00	6,350.37	21,027.91	28,840.28	Guatemala, Rep. de
Guinea Ecuatorial	C	2,189	2	1.23%	5.08%	731.00	1,462.00	9,525.56	4,596.11	16,314.67	Guinea Ecuatorial
Guinea, Rep. of	D	0	0	0.00%	2.78%	731.00	0.00	806.92	0.00	1,537.92	Guinea, Rep. of
Honduras	D	0	1	0.00%	5.56%	731.00	731.00	1,613.84	0.00	3,075.84	Honduras
Iceland	A	29	1	0.01%	6.67%	731.00	731.00	40,695.59	68.63	42,226.22	Iceland
Japan	A	35,414	4	6.94%	16.67%	731.00	2,924.00	101,738.96	84,784.89	190,178.85	Japan
Korea, Rep. of	C	4,022	3	2.25%	6.78%	731.00	2,193.00	12,700.74	8,445.46	24,070.20	Korea, Rep. of
Libya	C	1,253	2	0.70%	5.08%	731.00	1,462.00	9,525.56	2,630.15	14,348.71	Libya
Maroc	C	14,303	3	8.02%	6.78%	731.00	2,193.00	12,700.74	30,030.47	45,655.21	Maroc
Mauritania	D	0	1	0.00%	5.56%	731.00	731.00	1,613.84	0.00	3,075.84	Mauritania
Mexico	B	11,014	4	9.96%	23.81%	731.00	2,924.00	34,801.71	29,107.99	67,564.70	Mexico
Namibia	C	5,548	3	3.11%	6.78%	731.00	2,193.00	12,700.74	11,648.81	27,273.55	Namibia
Nicaragua, Rep. de	D	0	0	0.00%	2.78%	731.00	0.00	806.92	0.00	1,537.92	Nicaragua, Rep. de
Nigeria	D	0	2	0.00%	8.33%	731.00	1,462.00	2,420.75	0.00	4,613.75	Nigeria
Norway	A	11	2	0.00%	10.00%	731.00	1,462.00	61,043.38	26.34	63,262.71	Norway
Panama	B	24,284	2	21.95%	14.29%	731.00	1,462.00	20,881.03	64,179.24	87,253.26	Panama
Philippines, Rep. of	D	2,387	2	16.30%	8.33%	731.00	1,462.00	2,420.75	9,472.36	14,086.12	Philippines, Rep. of
Russia	C	1,022	1	0.57%	3.39%	731.00	731.00	6,350.37	2,145.13	9,957.50	Russia
Saint Vincent and Grenadines	D	3,612	3	24.67%	11.11%	731.00	2,193.00	3,227.67	14,333.55	20,485.22	Saint Vincent and Grenadines
São Tomé e Príncipe	D	0	2	0.00%	8.33%	731.00	1,462.00	2,420.75	0.00	4,613.75	São Tomé e Príncipe
Senegal	C	16,080	2	9.01%	5.08%	731.00	1,462.00	9,525.56	33,762.93	45,481.48	Senegal
Sierra Leone	D	0	1	0.00%	5.56%	731.00	731.00	1,613.84	0.00	3,075.84	Sierra Leone
South Africa	C	5,358	3	3.00%	6.78%	731.00	2,193.00	12,700.74	11,250.58	26,875.32	South Africa
Syrian Arab Republic	D	409	1	2.79%	5.56%	731.00	731.00	1,613.84	1,623.04	4,698.88	Syrian Arab Republic
Trinidad & Tobago	C	3,849	2	2.16%	5.08%	731.00	1,462.00	9,525.56	8,082.22	19,800.77	Trinidad & Tobago
Tunisie	C	6,679	2	3.74%	5.08%	731.00	1,462.00	9,525.56	14,022.80	25,741.36	Tunisie
Turkey	B	14,367	4	12.99%	23.81%	731.00	2,924.00	34,801.71	37,971.39	76,428.10	Turkey
Union Européenne	A	442,286	4	86.73%	16.67%	731.00	2,924.00	101,738.96	1,058,880.74	1,164,274.70	Union Européenne
United Kingdom (O.T.)	A	455	1	0.09%	6.67%	731.00	731.00	40,695.59	1,089.32	43,246.90	United Kingdom (O.T.)
United States	A	29,063	4	5.70%	16.67%	731.00	2,924.00	101,738.96	69,579.92	174,973.88	United States
Uruguay	C	1,537	3	0.86%	6.78%	731.00	2,193.00	12,700.74	3,227.15	18,851.89	Uruguay
Vanuatu	D	1,910	0	13.04%	2.78%	731.00	0.00	806.92	7,578.16	9,116.07	Vanuatu
Venezuela	B	7,721	2	6.98%	14.29%	731.00	1,462.00	20,881.03	20,405.81	43,479.84	Venezuela

a), b), c), d), e), f), g), h): See the legends in the Annex

Table 6. Contributions by group 2013. Fees Expressed in Euros.

<i>Groups</i>	<i>Parties^a</i>	<i>Panels^b</i>	<i>Catch + Canning^c</i>	<i>% of each Party^d</i>	<i>% of the Budget^e</i>	<i>Fees^f</i>	<i>Panels fees^g</i>	<i>Other fees^h</i>	<i>Total feesⁱ</i>
A	8	22	509,947.07	---	61.25%	5,848.00	16,082.00	1,831,301.37	1,853,231.37
B	5	16	110,611.33	3.00%	15.00%	3,655.00	11,696.00	438,501.58	453,852.58
C	20	39	178,445.67	1.00%	20.00%	14,620.00	28,509.00	562,007.77	605,136.77
D	15	21	14,640.50	0.25%	3.75%	10,965.00	15,351.00	87,147.14	113,463.14
TOTAL	48	98	813,644.57		100.00%	35,088.00	71,638.00	2,918,957.87	3,025,683.87

a), b), c), d), e), f), g), h), i): See the legends in the **Annex**.

Table 7. Catch and canning figures (in t) of the Contracting Parties.

<i>Parties</i>	2007			2008			2009			<i>Parties</i>
	<i>Catch</i>	<i>Canning</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Catch</i>	<i>Canning</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Catch</i>	<i>Canning</i>	<i>Total</i>	
Albania			0			0			0	Albania
Algérie	3,595 t	1,695 coo	5,290	4,432	1,256	5,688	3,054	1,695	4,749	Algérie
Angola	5,796 t		5,796				3,669 t		3,669	Angola
Barbados	250 t		250	258 t		258	135 t		135	Barbados
Belize	1,676 t		1,676	1,431		1,431	1,664		1,664	Belize
Brazil	42,445 t	15,742 coo	58,187	34,504 t	15,742 coo	50,246	35,502 t	15,742 coo	51,244	Brazil
Canada	3,365 t		3,365	2,411		2,411	2,122		2,122	Canada
Cap-Vert	12,229 t	2,217 coo	14,446	2,024	819	2,843	2,894	2,217	5,111	Cap-Vert
China, People's Rep. of	10,845 t		10,845	7,262 co		7,262	6,358 t		6,358	China, People's Rep. of
Côte d'Ivoire	2,869 t		2,869	16,300 t		16,300	1,105 t		1,105	Côte d'Ivoire
Croatia	825 t	750 coo	1,575	834 co	750 co	1,584	622 t	750 coo	1,372	Croatia
Egypt			0			0			0	Egypt
France (St. P. & M.)	93 t		93	56 co		56	20 t		20	France (St. P. & M.)
Gabon			0			0			0	Gabon
Ghana	68,919 t	10,300 coo	79,219	64,808 t	10,300 coo	75,108	67,105 t	10,300 coo	77,405	Ghana
Guatemala, Rep. de	9,941 t		9,941	12,472 co		12,472	7,632 t		7,632	Guatemala, Rep. de
Guinea Ecuatorial			0			0	2,189 t		2,189	Guinea Ecuatorial
Guinea, Rep. of			0			0			0	Guinea, Rep. of
Honduras			0			0			0	Honduras
Iceland	36 t	0	36	50	0	50	0	0	0	Iceland
Japan	37,674 t		37,674	37,094 t		37,094	31,474 t		31,474	Japan
Korea, Rep. of	3,678 t		3,678	4,870 t		4,870	3,519 t		3,519	Korea, Rep. of
Libya	1,358 t		1,358	1,318 t		1,318	1,082 t		1,082	Libya
Maroc	12,585 t	1,122 co	13,707	13,391 co	927 co	14,318	13,956 t	927 coo	14,883	Maroc
Mauritania			0			0			0	Mauritania
Mexico	9,790 t	852 co	10,642	10,847 co	803 co	11,650	9,946 t	803 coo	10,749	Mexico
Namibia	7,030 t		7,030	4,016	0	4,016	5,598	0	5,598	Namibia
Nicaragua, Rep. de			0			0			0	Nicaragua, Rep. de
Nigeria			0			0			0	Nigeria
Norway			12	12		12	10		10	Norway
Panama	34,259 t		34,259	19,362 co		19,362	19,230 t		19,230	Panama
Philippines, Rep. of	2,685 t		2,685	2,261		2,261	2,215		2,215	Philippines, Rep. of
Russia	1,632 t		1,632	570		570	863		863	Russia
Saint Vincent and Grenadines	4,491 t		4,491	3,224 t		3,224	3,121 t		3,121	Saint Vincent and Grenadines
São Tomé e Príncipe			0			0			0	São Tomé e Príncipe
Senegal	15,754 t	4,498 co	20,252	4,193 co	5,492 co	9,685	12,812 t	5,492 coo	18,304	Senegal
Sierra Leone			0			0			0	Sierra Leone
South Africa	5,538 t	0	5,538	4,635 co		4,635	5,902 t		5,902	South Africa
Syrian Arab Republic	435 t	0	435	383 co		383				Syrian Arab Republic
Trinidad & Tobago	4,142 t	0 co	4,142	3,791	0	3,791	3,615	0	3,615	Trinidad & Tobago
Tunisie	3,646 t	2,392 co	6,038	7,080 co	2,493 co	9,573	1,932 t	2,493 coo	4,425	Tunisie
Turkey	10,432 t	4,356 coo	14,788	9,829	2,314	12,143	11,815	4,356	16,171	Turkey
Union Européenne	211,715 t	251,394 co	463,109	170,278	251,687	421,965	185,421	256,364	441,785	Union Européenne
United Kingdom (O.T.)	531 t		531	424 t		424	410 t		410	United Kingdom (O.T.)
United States	29,475 t	12,314 co	41,789	14,359 t	10,087 co	24,446	10,867 t	10,087 coo	20,954	United States
Uruguay	988 t		988	1,036 t		1,036	2,587 t		2,587	Uruguay
Vanuatu	2,266 t		2,266	2,078 t		2,078	1,385 t		1,385	Vanuatu
Venezuela	7,095 t	1,313 coo	8,408	5,050 t	1,313 coo	6,363	7,079 t	1,313 coo	8,392	Venezuela
TOTAL	570,083	308,945	879,028	466,943	303,983	770,926	468,910	312,539	781,449	TOTAL

co = Transfer of the data received (Circular I50-AF/2009).

coo = Transfer of the latest data received.

t = Obtained from the database, because there was no official communication.

(Data updated as of 8 June 2011.)

ANNEX: Legends**Table 2**

a	Group A: Members with developed market economy, as defined by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) / Group B: Members whose GNP per capita exceeds US\$ 4,000 and whose combined catches and canning of tuna exceeds 5,000 t / Group C: Members whose GNP per capita exceeds US\$ 4,000 or whose combined catches and canning of tuna exceeds 5,000 t / Group D: Members whose GNP per capita does not exceed US\$ 4,000, and whose combined catches and canning of tuna does not exceed 5,000 t.
b	GNP: Gross National Product per capita in US\$. Source: UNCTAD / GNP with values adjusted to 1991 using a multiplier of 1.58 (Source: CPI Inflation/Bureau of Labor Statistics/United States Department of Labor)
c	Average 2007-2008-2009 Catches (t).
d	Average 2007-2008-2009 Canning (t).
e	Panel membership: Panel 1 = Tropical tunas; Panel 2 = Temperate tunas-North; Panel 3 = Temperate tunas-South; and Panel 4 = Other

Table 3 and 5

a	Table 2
b	Percentage of catch and canning within the group in which the member is a part.
c	Percentage for Commission membership and Panel membership within the group in which the member is a part
d	US\$ 1,000 annual contribution for Commission membership.
e	US\$ 1,000 annual contribution for each Panel membership in which the member belongs
f	Variable fee in proportion to the percentage as a member of the Commission and Panels.
g	Variable fee in proportion to the percentage according to catch and canning.
h	Total contribution

Table 4 and 6

a	Number of Contracting Parties per Group (Table 2).
b	Number of Panels within each Group.
c	Total catch and canning, in t, of each Group
d	Percentage of the budget financed by each member of each Group according to the Madrid Protocol.
e	Percentage of the budget financed for each Group
f	Commission membership fees within each Group.
g	Panel membership within each Group.
h	Other fees: 1/3 for Commission and Panel membership and 2/3 for catch and canning.
i	Total contribution.

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Appointment of the Rapporteur
4. Reports from the Secretariat
 - 4.1 2011 Administrative Report
 - 4.2 2011 Financial Report
 - 4.3 Review of progress of the payment of arrears and voting rights
5. Consideration of financial implications of revised Panel structure
6. Budget and Contracting Party contributions for 2012-2013
7. Consideration of Programs which may require additional funding
8. Determination of a mechanism for financial assistance to developing States
9. Election of Chair
10. Other matters
11. Adoption of the report and adjournment

REPORTS OF THE MEETINGS OF PANELS 1 TO 4

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF PANEL 1

1. Opening of the meeting

Mr. Helguilé Shep (Côte d'Ivoire) chaired the meeting of Panel 1.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda was adopted without changes (attached as **Appendix 1 to ANNEX 9**).

3. Election of Rapporteur

Mr. Juan Ignacio de Leiva (European Union) was appointed Rapporteur.

4. Review of Panel membership

Mr. Driss Meski, Executive Secretary, presented the list of members of Panel 1.

Panel 1 is currently comprised of the following 35 members: Angola, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, China, European Union, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, France (Saint-Pierre and Miquelon), Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Japan, Korea (Rep.), Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Panama, Philippines, Russia, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

5. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)

Dr. Josu Santiago, SCRS Chair, presented the Executive Reports on the three tropical tunas: bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack. A yellowfin tuna stock assessment was carried out in 2011, while assessments on bigeye tuna and skipjack tunas were conducted in 2010 and 2008, respectively.

The assessment on skipjack in the East and West Atlantic indicates the state of the stock as being in accordance with the Commission's objectives.

With regard to bigeye tuna, SCRS noted, as it did in previous assessments, that there is considerable uncertainty in the assessment of stock status and productivity for bigeye tuna. 52% of the outcomes indicate the stock is consistent with the Convention. Total catches of 85,000 t or less would result in considerable possibilities of rebuilding to or maintaining the stock at levels consistent with the objectives of the Commission. The SCRS reiterated its concern about the uncertainty of unreported catches. IUU longline catches have been estimated from Japanese import statistics; however, these estimates are considered uncertain. Significant catches of small bigeye tuna continue to be channeled to local West African markets and sold as "faux poisons". Monitoring of such catches has progressed in some countries, but there is still a need for a coordinated approach that will allow ICCAT to properly account for these catches. Also, unreported catches of some purse seiners are increasing since 2006 and now may exceed 20,000 tons for the three main species of tropical tunas. These catches were not incorporated into the assessments and are not included in the catch estimates presented in the 2011 SCRS Report; if incorporated in the future, they are likely to influence the stock status assessment not only of bigeye but of other tropical tuna as well.

As concerns yellowfin tuna, this species was estimated to be overfished in 2010. The assessment indicates that the levels of biomass and fishing mortality are close to the Commission's objectives (fishing mortality rate less than the level needed to achieve MSY and biomass close to this level). However, there is considerable uncertainty in the assessment of stock status and productivity for yellowfin tuna. 26% of the outcomes indicate

the stock is consistent with the Convention objective. As was mentioned above, unreported catches of some purse seiners have not been included in the stock assessment. If the provisional estimates of these catches are considered, estimates of current stock status and projections would be more pessimistic. Main issues identified by the SCRS were the increase of purse seine fishing effort since 2006 (due to piracy problems in the Indian Ocean and the presence of other fleets) and that FAD based fishing has accelerated more rapidly than free school fishing (although both have substantially increased), with the number of sets on FADs reaching levels not seen since the mid-1990s. The relative contribution of purse seiners to the total catch has increased by about 20% since 2006. Continuation of current catch levels (110,000 t) is expected to lead to a biomass somewhat above B_{MSY} by 2016 with a 60% probability. Catches approaching 140,000 t or more would reduce the chances of meeting Convention objectives below 50%, even after 15 years (2025).

Finally, the Chair presented the results of the 2011 Tropical Tunas Species Group inter-sessional meeting on the Ghanaian tuna statistics (Phase II). The Chair commended the work conducted by Ghanaian scientists. However, improvements in data collection infrastructure and procedures are needed to fully address data reporting obligations. The Working Group elaborated some technical recommendations, such as the development of a permanent structure, adequately equipped, with the necessary human resources. As well, it would be important to harmonize the Ghanaian and European sampling programs. The Group was concerned that a fraction of the Ghanaian fleet behaves in ways that could be considered in contravention of the objectives of the ICCAT Convention; hence, obligatory data collection and reporting from these vessels are not available for the assessments.

The difficulties to enhance data collection were mentioned by several CPCs and assistance was requested. CPCs acknowledged that this was a collective issue and that only collective efforts could lead to a solution. Several CPCs expressed their intention to continue the collaboration with developing countries in terms of data collection programmes and capacity building. Some parties noted the potential necessity of expanding current traceability systems to other species, and/or gear and product types. Trade data can be a promising source of information to better estimate catches from IUU activities and has served in the past to supplement longline catches. However, these systems do not cover all fisheries; therefore, some CPCs felt it might be worthwhile to expand traceability systems to purse seine catches. In this regard, Japan noted its intention to table a resolution on traceability of tuna products during the PWG meeting.

In response to a question concerning whether there were problems with underreported catches in other fishing fleets apart from purse seine, the Chair referred to catches of IUU longliners. These catches have been partially quantified, they were important in past years but they have likely decreased since 2008. As well, he indicated that there is still room to improve reporting from artisanal fisheries. However, he insisted that purse seiners accounted for most of these underreported catches. The concern about catches of bigeye and yellowfin juveniles was mentioned. The SCRS Chair pointed out that, in addition to the purse seine fleet, juveniles from both species are also fished by the baitboat fishery. According to the Chair, spatio-temporal closures are the most effective management measure to protect juveniles. In response to a question by the United States regarding whether the current time/area closure was adequate to protect juvenile tropical tunas, the SCRS Chair observed that a larger closure of longer duration would be better to achieve this objective. However, he indicated that the SCRS has no elements to determine which should be the optimum time/area closure.

With regards to data collection problems, the SCRS Chair informed that, in addition to a segment of the Ghanaian fleet, during the SCRS some information was provided during the SCRS meeting about the presence of 2-3 purse seiners from other flag States who may have been operating in the Gulf of Guinea area without reporting, but it was not possible to confirm this information. In this regard, it should be mentioned the willingness expressed by Ghana and Korea to fully cooperate to rectify the situation and to improve data collection from Ghanaian purse seiners.

The Pew Environment Programme expressed its concern about the extensive use of FADs and requested ICCAT to implement a strict management regime.

Finally, several CPCs expressed their concern about the increase of purse seine fishing effort and the shift to the Atlantic Ocean of purse seiners from other oceans.

6. Measures for the conservation of stocks and implementation of the *ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities*

The Chair pointed out the current management measures for the three stocks of tropical tunas and opened the discussions on perspectives envisaged for the future. He mentioned that management measures dated back to 2004, when a Recommendation by ICCAT on a multi-year conservation and management program for bigeye tuna was adopted. Since then, the measure has been amended several times. He also reminded that for two years new recommendations have been tabled to address in a comprehensive manner the concerns over both bigeye and yellowfin stocks but so far no consensus has been obtained.

The Parties expressed their concern on the status of bigeye and yellowfin tunas. They agreed on the need to adopt supplementary measures based on the SCRS advice and they look forward to discussing a comprehensive multi-year conservation and management program.

As regards possible management measures, the Parties considered that priority should be given to: catch limits for bigeye and yellowfin, reduction in catches of juvenile bigeye and yellowfin tunas through spatio-temporal closures, an enhanced data collection scheme which will facilitate the compilation of reliable information and address the issue of unreported and IUU catches and, a limitation on the overall fishing capacity including FAD management plans. It was stressed that these measures should include efficient control mechanisms to guarantee their effective implementation.

The European Union and Japan presented a joint proposal entitled “Draft Recommendation by ICCAT on a Multi-annual Conservation and Management Program for Bigeye and Yellowfin Tunas” aimed at responding to the advice of the SCRS and the viewpoints expressed by different Parties on the following issues:

- Capacity limitation: The proposal introduces a limit on fishing capacity for the major fleets, guaranteeing the preservation of interests of developing States.
- Establishment of an ICCAT record of authorized bigeye and yellowfin vessels.
- Annual total allowable catch (TAC) for bigeye and yellowfin tuna for 2012 and subsequent years of the multi-annual program.
- A pilot time/area closure in the zone of the Gulf of Guinea in relation with the protection of juveniles. The time/area closure is larger both in terms of surface and period than the one that has been in place since 2004.
- FAD Management Plans for CPCs with purse seine and baitboat vessels fishing for tropical tunas in association with objects that could affect fish aggregation, including FADs.
- Adequate control and monitoring mechanisms to guarantee its effective implementation and to facilitate the compilation of appropriate data and information to allow the SCRS to improve its scientific advice, such as the establishment of an ICCAT Regional Observer Program, VMS, identification of IUU activity and port sampling plans.

South Africa considered the time/area closure too small to be effective. In this regard, the United States stated that it would have preferred to have a more precautionary proposal and requested the time/area closure to be enlarged, both in terms of duration and surface. The Delegate of Mexico indicated his preference to include the month of December within the time closure. However, these CPCs recognized that this proposal was an important step forward and indicated that they would not block consensus.

While fully agreeing with the draft proposal and recognizing the right for the development of fisheries in coastal developing States, Korea indicated that it would have preferred to have retained the same the same number of vessels allowed to operate in the fishery that it had in 2010. Korea reminded the Panel that Korea’s capacity was already largely decreased during the 17th Special Meeting of the Commission in 2010.

Greenpeace and Pew, while appreciating several of the components of the multi-annual program, indicated its concern that the plan does not satisfactorily address some important issues such as the uncontrolled proliferation of FADs and the protection of catches of undersized fish in equatorial surface fisheries. Both organizations would have preferred a larger and more precautionary time/area closure.

After incorporating changes introduced on the floor, the Panel forwarded the *Recommendation by ICCAT on a Multi-annual Conservation and Management Program for Bigeye and Yellowfin Tunas* to the Commission for adoption (see ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-01]).

The Executive Secretary raised a concern about the implications in terms of work load and budget that the establishment of a Regional Observers Program could have for the Secretariat. The Secretariat indicated that an increase of the budget will be needed to effectively manage such an ambitious observer program.

7. Research

The SCRS Chair presented the recommendations of the SCRS to address the issue of unreported catches of tropical tunas. According to SCRS, given the importance of Ghanaian tuna fisheries in the Atlantic, a substantial improvement in capacity for meeting data collection and reporting obligations of the Ghanaian fleet is needed. To achieve this objective, financial contributions from industry and inter-governmental arrangements might be required. The SCRS encouraged the continuation of the cooperation with Ghanaian scientists and in this regard, a proposal for collaboration between Ghanaian and the *Institut de Recherche pour le Développement* (IRD) scientists was presented during the SCRS Meeting.

The SCRS Chair also presented a recommendation regarding the establishment of a large-scale tagging program on tropical tunas. This program, which was already proposed during the 2010 annual meeting, would last for a period of five years with a provisional cost of 11.4 million Euros. A similar program, funded by the EU, has been implemented in the Indian Ocean with very successful results. The SCRS considers that a tagging program like the one proposed is the only option to reduce uncertainty in some key parameters used in stock assessment and to gauge the effectiveness of spatio-temporal regulations. It will allow improving the estimation of the basic parameters of population dynamics, decrease the uncertainties in the stock assessments and measure the effectiveness of the various options for management of the fisheries. From a technical viewpoint, this program would include the tagging of fish taken from the three major tropical tuna species using conventional and archival tags.

Several delegations supported implementation of this program in principle, but noted the high financial cost. The Chair invited all the CPCs to find ways to contribute towards its financing. The United States noted that in kind activities could contribute to the goals of the proposed research program and reported that it had already undertaken compatible electronic tagging studies in the Gulf of Mexico and that the results will be made available for future yellowfin tuna stock assessments. The EU reminded that the Indian Ocean tuna tagging program was funded through the regional indicative programs of the European Development Fund (EDF), intended to support regional and inter-regional cooperation. In this regard, ICCAT CPCs were encouraged to coordinate their efforts with EU delegations in their countries to try to mobilize the necessary funds to implement this program.

8. Election of Chair

The Parties re-elected Côte d'Ivoire as Chair of Panel 1 for the next biennial period. Mr. Helguilé Shep stated that he appreciated the confidence placed in his country and accepted to continue as Chair.

9. Other matters

No other matters were discussed.

The two statements made by the Observer from Greenpeace and, as well as the statement made by the Observer from PEW are attached as **Appendices 4, 5 and 6 to ANNEX 9**.

10. Adoption of the report and adjournment

Once the Agenda concluded, the Panel 1 Chair expressed his gratitude to the Panel members for their active participation.

The meeting of Panel 1 was adjourned.

The Report of Panel 1 was adopted by correspondence.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF PANEL 2

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by the Chair of Panel 2, Mr. Andrew Carroll (European Union).

2. Adoption of Agenda

The Agenda was adopted and is attached at **Appendix 1 to ANNEX 9**.

3. Appointment of Rapporteur

Mr. Colin MacIsaac (Canada) was designated Rapporteur of Panel 2.

4. Review of Panel 2 membership

Panel 2 comprises 23 members of which 2 were absent: Albania (absent), Algeria, Belize, Brazil, Canada, China, Croatia, Egypt, European Union, France (St. Pierre and Miquelon), Iceland, Japan, Korea (Rep.), Libya, Mexico, Morocco, Norway, Panama, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Syria(absent), Tunisia, Turkey, and United States of America.

5. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)

Dr. Josu Santiago, Chair of the SCRS, presented the Executive Summaries on the North Atlantic and Mediterranean stocks of albacore tuna and the western Atlantic and eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna stocks.

These summaries can be consulted in Sections 8.4 (Albacore) and 8.5 (East-West Bluefin Tuna) of the 2011 Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS).

5.1 Albacore (North Atlantic and Mediterranean)

North Atlantic albacore was last assessed in 2009. According to that assessment, the stock continues to show signs of overfishing with recent catches being below established TACs.

The Mediterranean albacore stock was assessed for the first time in 2011, and the SCRS, looking at historical data, concluded that much of the data, (1965-2010 series) were highly variable and incomplete. This led to the application of data-poor modeling techniques.

A brief summary concluded that, based on available data, there is a relatively stable pattern for albacore biomass in recent years. Projections could not be done and the outlook for the albacore stock is unknown. Due to little quantitative information during the assessment there is a need to recover more historical data. Recent fishing mortality levels appear to have been reduced from those of the early 2000s, which were likely in excess of F_{MSY} , and might now be at about or lower than that level.

5.2 Bluefin tuna

The Chair of the SCRS noted that relevant aspects of information had been reviewed following the 2010 assessment. This data included work done to support new information on the biology of the stocks citing progress with respect to aerial surveys, tagging projects, data mining exercises, biological sampling and stock mixing, based on various pilot studies and the ICCAT Atlantic-wide Research Program for Bluefin Tuna (GBYP). This work is summarized in SCRS/2011/203.

5.2.1 East Atlantic and Mediterranean

Since 2008 there has been a strong decrease in the reported catch on this stock which reflects improved monitoring, control, and surveillance, and a reduced TAC; however, there is still a potential for IUU activities. Some updated CPUE indices on this stock showed positive signals from both the Japanese and Spanish trap fisheries. Overall, the SSB would equal or exceed $F_{0.1}$ by 2022 if catches are less than 13,500 metric tons (t). It appears this stock status is improving but the trends need to be confirmed.

With respect to projections for this stock, in view of the limitations noted, the overall objective of rebuilding the stock to SSB $F_{0.1}$ with a probability of at least 60% could be achieved by 2019 with 0 catch and by 2022 with a catch equal to the current TAC of 13,500 t. In order to achieve the management objective, no changes to the current plan are indicated although it was noted as well that there should be a more precautionary approach to the management of this stock if the Commission wants to have a higher probability of achieving that objective.

5.2.2 West Atlantic

This stock was last assessed in 2010 with slight increases being noted in the stock.

With respect to the U.S. rod and reel fishery, it was noted as well that there were slight increases in 2010 for the appearance of juveniles in that fishery. The catch rates of adults in the U.S. rod and reel fishery remain low, but increased in 2010. The U.S. longline fishery in the Gulf of Mexico showed a gradual increasing trend through 2009. The Gulf of Mexico larval survey continues to fluctuate around the low levels observed since the 1980s. The 2010 catch rate in the Gulf of St. Lawrence was the highest in the time series while southwest Nova Scotia's was among the highest since the early 1990s.

As concerns the effects of current regulations on this stock, the SCRS Chair suggested more time is needed to see results but the spawning stock appears to be slowly rebuilding. With respect to management recommendations, it was noted that the strong 2003 year class should continue to be conserved and the established TAC for 2012 should be maintained.

5.2.3 Other matters

The SCRS Chair then elaborated on the creation and history of the GBYP, with emphasis on the report of the aerial surveys, Phase 1 and Phase 2, and on the specific challenges linked to these because of problems with the preliminary data due to the geo-political influences in the studies. He recommended an extension to the survey areas and studies, as well as funding to complete them and guarantees on flight permits. In the absence of this, he recommended that the survey should be suspended. The SCRS Chair also noted good success in the tagging campaign and data recovery exercises which now need to be processed, as well he recognized that specific biological sampling has commenced and needs processing as well as genetic studies from eight participating countries. There then followed an explanation of the budget and the objectives linked to the GBYP and all elements leading up to the implementation of Phase 3 of this plan. A brief review of surveyed areas in 2010 and 2011 was provided. Noted problem areas were highlighted with respect to geo-political influences, as well as work done on data recovery. The SCRS Chair stressed that significant new financing is required to move to Phase 3 of the GBYP, as well as fundamental requirements on contracts and permits. There is also an expected increase in costs in order to expand the aerial and tagging studies.

The Chair then addressed the SCRS responses to the Commissions requests under Rec. 10-04, namely to explore the use of technologies to look at 'size at capture' information, and to report on the scientific aspects of the national observer program.

Four documents were cited that specifically deal with work that is in progress on board Mediterranean cages in 2011 (SCRS/2011/173, 189, 190, and 191). Initial feedback from these studies suggests that estimates of fork lengths are incomplete and a few technical issues need to be resolved. The SCRS encourages the CPCs to complete the studies in 2012 so stereoscopic cameras can become operational as soon as possible. Also, any existing information on 2011 trials needs to be transmitted to the SCRS as soon as possible

Comments from the floor on the SCRS presentation varied with requests from Japan on established technology on capturing better data on the size of fish on stocking into the cages, and from the United States on expected improvements and results from the GBYP studies. Tunisia questioned the results of the purse seine fishing capacity in past reports. The SCRS Chair, citing background information found in the report filed, addressed

these in sequence. Canada commented on the noted strength of the 2003 year class. Canada also recalled recent studies that suggest a substantial fraction of some size classes of bluefin tuna found in the western Atlantic came from the eastern stock. The SCRS Chair acknowledged this and recognized the importance of mixing and supported the use of this data in future assessments. Morocco questioned the SCRS Chair on the impact of predators and work done in this field, and the response from the Chair was that no studies are underway; the SCRS is aware of the historical problem but can't quantify any impact. The EU and Turkey voiced their support for the work done and all contributions that went into the report. The EU also stressed the need for compliance issues to be prioritized. Turkey elaborated on their specific data collection program and possible future use of this information

6. Measures for the conservation of stocks and implementation of the *ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities*

6.1 East Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna

The Chair advised that the main issue for the meeting was to review and, if appropriate, endorse fishing, capacity and inspection plans for the 2012 fishing season.

Japan raised an issue with uncertainties related to paragraph 87 of Recommendation 10-04, specifically how that was to be implemented. In noting that only the EU submitted results, Japan requested other CPCs to clarify their implementation methods. Japan also raised a concern about how specific obligations to the sampling program during harvest were being met, and requested all CPCs to provide results. The EU acknowledged this issue and stated they would cooperate to find acceptable solutions. This was then handled under item 8 "Other matters".

In advance of considering endorsement of the eastern bluefin tuna fishing plans, the Chair of Panel 2 requested views on using the checklists discussed at the inter-sessional meeting of the Compliance Committee held in Barcelona in February 2011 (see Appendix 6 of the inter-sessional report (**ANNEX 4.2**)) as a means of guiding the discussion. The EU recognized the usefulness of this approach but cautioned that the Panel should not be too rigid in its adherence to these. Hearing no further comments, this approach was adopted and the Panel was advised that, following the model established at the Barcelona Compliance Committee, there were four possible outcomes of review:

- 1) Endorsement
- 2) Endorsement by correspondence
- 3) Not endorsed
- 4) Not applicable

In considering the situation of Algeria, that country recalled that its allocation key in 2010 had been changed which in effect cut its quota. It considered that this was unfair and identified steps in place to seek restitution in accordance with ICCAT and Panel 2 resolutions. In support of this effort, Algeria had lodged a formal objection to Recommendation 1-04. The Chair of Panel 2 recognized these efforts and concerns and stated that quotas would be looked at in the context of the review of the management plan in 2012. Japan recognized the plight of Algeria, understood its concerns, but felt that the process was being worked out and hoped that resolution would be found in 2012.

The Chairman of ICCAT that the Commission could only acknowledge receipt of the fishing plan and neither endorse nor reject it given Algeria's objection. Algeria responded that it did not want to go against the Commission and/or Panel 2 regulations, but felt obliged to seek restitution on its existing quota allocation. During the final session for Panel 2, Algeria submitted an addendum to its fishing plan. Although it was acknowledged that formal endorsement of Algeria's plan was not required under the circumstances, the Panel agreed that the revised plan met the spirit of Recommendation 10-04, and congratulated Algeria on its cooperation and flexibility.

In considering the situation of Libya, the Panel discussed a request by that country to carry forward uncaught 2011 allocations into the 2012 and 2013 harvesting plans due to special circumstances which occurred in Libya during 2011. Some Contracting Parties noted recognition of these special circumstances. Others questioned historical enforcement and compliance issues, as well as discrepancies in quota levels based on their history of quota allocations. The SCRS Chair commented that from a scientific perspective this situation would go beyond the current SCRS recommendation for the TAC and would be over recommended thresholds. During the final session for Panel 2, Libya presented an addendum to its 2012 fishing plan and spoke of its planned adjustments

for the 2012 season. Some CPCs voiced support for Libya’s case, others felt it constituted a reopening of a previously agreed upon fishing plan. There was no consensus in Panel 2 for support, and it was referred to Plenary.

The Panel discussed the perceived contradiction between paragraphs 11 and 56 of Recommendation 10-04, (first raised at the 2011 Compliance Committee inter-sessional meeting) with respect to the timing of providing information on vessels that would be operating in the eastern bluefin tuna fishery as well as on individual quotas for those vessels. Consistent with the decision reached by the Compliance Committee at its 2011 inter-sessional meeting, the Panel concluded that the requirement to submit vessel lists and individual vessel quotas as part of the fishing plans would not be contravened so long as vessel lists and allocations were submitted at least 1 month in advance of a fishing season.

The results of the assessment of fishing, inspection and capacity management plans were as follows:

<i>Contracting Parties</i>		
Albania	Not present at Panel	Referred to Plenary
Algeria	Deferred	Approved
China	No comments stated	Not applicable
Croatia	Vessel listing issue	Approved
Egypt	No comments stated	Approved
European Union	No comments stated	Approved [EU]
Iceland	Seasonal issue addressed	Approved
Japan	Seasonal issue addressed	Approved
Korea	No comments stated	Approved
Morocco	No comments stated	Approved
Tunisia	No comments stated	Approved
Turkey	No comments stated	Approved
Libya	Requested carry forward	Referred to Plenary
Norway	No plan submitted; not fishing	Not applicable
Syria	Not present at Panel	Referred to Plenary
<i>Cooperating Non-Contracting Party/Entity/Fishing Entity</i>		
Chinese Taipei	No plan submitted; not fishing	Not applicable

The Secretariat presented the “Report on the Implementation of the ICCAT Regional Observer Programme for East Atlantic and Mediterranean Bluefin Tuna” and it was considered together with the “ROP-BFT Budget Estimates for the 2012/13 BFT Season”. Various issues were raised concerning the fresh harvest of fish, deployment of observers for less than three days, transfer declaration numbers being available, correction of errors, the availability of video records, consortium training, the use of national observers programs, different cost sharing arrangements, and the trans-shipment of fish for crew consumption.

CPCs had various opinions on different aspects of the Regional Observer Program, such as the use and rotation of regional and national observers, the opinion that corrections on submitted BCDs should not be accepted, misunderstandings on the availability of video records and interpretations of transshipments versus food consumption. Further issues of costs, per diem, purchase of equipment, accounting, mobilization and training were raised by the members and addressed by the Secretariat as well as insurance costs. A specific issue on communication and the need for reports in the ICCAT language of the CPC was also raised. For the most part the cost of the program was a concern for all who spoke. The EU submitted a written response to the report. It became clear that more specific instruction may be needed to guide the observers in the course of their duties in the future due to the technologies used. It was clarified that national observers of the same nationality of the farm could be deployed for fresh harvests only if they also operate under the Regional Observer Programme.

The Chair recalled that a proposal to unify reporting requirements on caging and farming was submitted at the 2010 annual meeting and deferred for discussion to 2011. It was agreed that the Secretariat would continue to work inter-sessionally with the parties concerned, and that the form would be used on a trial basis in 2012.

Turkey presented a proposal, amended on the basis of discussions. This proposal sought to amend Articles 79 and 86 (concerning the use of video cameras to monitor transfer activity) of Recommendation 10-04, the multi-annual recovery plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean. Although some support was voiced, there was also concern about reopening it prior to its full review in 2012. Having no consensus from the floor, this proposal was withdrawn.

6.2 Western blue fin tuna

No discussions were held with regard to this stock.

6.3 Northern albacore

The Chair tabled a proposal which would represent a rollover of Recommendation 09-05. This allowed for a Total Allowable catch of 28,000 t with transfers from Chinese Taipei to Belize and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. It also asked the SCRS to develop a limit reference point for this stock in advance of the next stock assessment due in 2013. This proposal for a *Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the North Atlantic Albacore Rebuilding Program* was adopted (see ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-04]).

6.4 Mediterranean albacore

There was no discussion on this stock.

7. Research

The Chair of the SCRS addressed a few points under this section:

- He reminded the Panel of specific uncertainties on the albacore stocks in speaking about the four-year program for northern Albacore, citing the objectives and budget.
- On bluefin tuna, the SCRS recommends that the Commission and all CPCs concerned reaffirm their commitments to the GBYP.
- The development of a fisheries-independent survey requires continuous effort and so it's important to have finances and long-term commitments in place. Equally important is the establishment of scientific quotas in the range of 2.5% of a given TAC.
- The SCRS promotes the funding, implementation and use of stereoscopic cameras with the hope of making them operational as soon as possible.

A draft recommendation by the ICCAT Secretariat concerning the GBYP was presented by Dr. Pallares. Following Panel discussion, comments from various CPCs on proposed revisions to bring clarity to this recommendation without infringing on the intent were suggested. During the final session of Panel 2, the ICCAT Secretariat presented and explained the draft Recommendation as a new document to take comments into account. Specific reference was made to paragraphs 1, 3, and 4.

Following this explanation there were no further comments and the *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Atlantic-Wide Research Programme for Bluefin Tuna (GBYP)* was adopted (see ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-06]).

8. Other matters

Following Japan's tabling of a document on sampling programs, responses were tabled by Croatia and the EU. The EU advised it would be holding a workshop in this issue to investigate future methodologies.

The Secretariat had requested clarifications on elements of Recommendation 10-04, particularly regarding the deadline for submission of vessel lists and the criteria for accepting or rejecting changes to lists. It was clarified that the deadline for the submission of carrier and processing vessels involved in bluefin tuna harvesting and transport was 1 March.

The statement made by Algeria and the joint statement by the Observers of WWF and Greenpeace are attached as **Appendices 7 and 8 to ANNEX 9**.

9. Election of Chair

With no more business to be addressed, the Chair of Panel 2 called for nominations from the floor for the next Panel 2 Chair. Mexico nominated the EU, and this was seconded by Japan and supported by Brazil, Egypt, Panama, Morocco, Turkey, Croatia, Algeria, France (St. Pierre & Miquelon), Tunisia, Norway and Canada. With no further nominations and consensus on this issue, the EU was re-elected Chair of Panel 2 for the next biennial period.

10. Adoption of the Report

The meeting of Panel 2 was adjourned.

The Report of Panel 2 was adopted by correspondence.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF PANEL 3

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by the Panel 3 Chair, Mr. Mario Aguilar (Mexico).

2. Adoption of Agenda

The Agenda was adopted and is attached as **Appendix 1 to ANNEX 9**.

3. Appointment of Rapporteur

The Secretariat agreed to serve as Rapporteur for Panel 3.

4. Review of Panel 3 membership

Panel 3 currently comprises 10 members as follows: Belize, Brazil, European Union, Japan, Mexico, Namibia, South Africa, Turkey, United States of America and Uruguay, all of which were present.

Philippines requested membership in Panel 3 and the participation was welcome.

5. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)

Recalling that for southern albacore stocks, the *Recommendation by ICCAT on the Southern Albacore Catch Limits for 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011* [Rec. 07-03] established catch limits for 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011, Dr. J. Santiago, SCRS Chair, reviewed the current state of the stocks covered by this Panel, based on the last meeting of the SCRS held in October 2011.

5.1 South Atlantic albacore

The SCRS Chair informed the Panel that a stock assessment of South Atlantic albacore had been conducted in 2011. Dr. Santiago reported that most scenarios indicate that the South Atlantic albacore stock is both overfished and suffering overfishing. Projections showed that harvesting at the current TAC level (29,900 t) would further reduce the stock, although current catches are below the TAC. However, if catches continue at the level of those experienced in the last few years, there is more than 50% probability to recover the stock in 5 years, and more than a 60% probability to do so in 10 years. Thus, it is recommended not to increase catches beyond 20,000 t. Further reductions in catches would increase the probability of recovery in those timeframes. The participation of scientists in the assessment meeting for this stock was limited, with only a few scientists from the countries mostly concerned by the fishery present.

The delegate of South Africa requested clarifications about the two different outlooks from the assessment in 2007 and 2011 and asked if under-reporting was occurring. He proposed to improve size data collection and biological studies. The SCRS Chair responded that it was possible to explore more scenarios in 2011 compared to 2007, even though uncertainty was considerable. The SCRS did not find that under-reporting was occurring.

The Panel Chair underscored the need to improve the participation of scientists at the assessment meetings, possibly with financial support from the Secretariat.

The delegate of the European Union requested to better quantify uncertainties and supported the need to increase participation of scientists in SCRS meetings. The SCRS Chair clarified that most of the uncertainties in the southern albacore stock assessment were caused by the high number of substitutions in size frequencies, while trajectories of abundance indices are different because some reflect very specific areas. The Working Group on Stock Assessment Methods in 2012 will define protocols for the inclusion or use of CPUE series in the assessment models.

The delegate of Chinese Taipei pointed out the different outlooks from the assessments in 2007 and 2011, while Chinese Taipei longline data are showing a good stability over the last years. The SCRS Chair confirmed this stability in this specific data series, but other series are showing different trends. The Panel Chair noted that recent catch levels were always below the TAC.

5.2 Southern bluefin tuna

Dr. Santiago indicated that this stock is currently managed by the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), and referred delegates to the report of that organization for more information.

6. Measures for the conservation of stocks and implementation of the *ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities*

After extensive informal consultation, the delegate of South Africa, together with co-sponsors Namibia, Uruguay, Brazil and Chinese Taipei, presented a draft “Recommendation by ICCAT on the Southern Albacore Catch Limits for 2012 and 2013”, that set the TAC at 24,000 t for 2012 and 2013. The recommendation was also supported by the delegate of Japan and was approved by consensus by the members of Panel 3 and transmitted to the Commission for adoption (see **ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-05]**).

7. Research

The need for complete and accurate Task I and Task II data from the main fisheries catching southern albacore was recognised, in order for the SCRS to be able to give adequate management advice. It was also stressed that all CPCs should make an effort to revise the available information and submit it to ICCAT, following the ICCAT standards, before the next assessment. The importance of countries with significant albacore fisheries sending a representative at stock assessment meetings was also stressed.

8. Election of Chair

The delegate of Uruguay proposed Mr. Johann Augustyn (South Africa) as Chair for Panel 3. The nomination was supported by the delegates of Brazil, European Union, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Japan, Namibia, Nigeria, Philippines, Senegal and United States of America. Mr. Johann Augustyn was elected as Chair for Panel 3.

All delegates also acknowledged the very good work done by the past Chair, Mr. Mario Aguilar (Mexico), during his mandate.

9. Other matters

No other matters were discussed by the Panel.

10. Adoption of the report and adjournment

The meeting of Panel 3 was adjourned.

The Report of Panel 3 was adopted by correspondence.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF PANEL 4

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by the Chair of Panel 4, Mr. Masanori Miyahara (Japan).

2. Adoption of Agenda

The Agenda was adopted without change (attached as **Appendix 1 to ANNEX 9**).

3. Appointment of the Rapporteur

Ms. Pamela Toschik (United States) was appointed as the Rapporteur for Panel 4.

4. Review of Panel Membership

Panel 4 is comprised of the following 29 members: Algeria, Angola, Belize, Brazil, Canada, China (People's Republic.), Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, European Union, France (St. Pierre & Miquelon), Gabon, Japan, Korea (Rep.), Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Norway, Sao Tome & Principe, Senegal, South Africa, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United States of America, United Kingdom (Overseas Territories), Uruguay and Venezuela.

Guatemala and Egypt noted their intent to join Panel 4 in 2012.

5. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)

The SCRS conducted a stock assessment in 2011 for blue marlin (see Section 5.2.1).

5.1 *Swordfish*

5.1.1 North Atlantic swordfish

The SCRS conducted an assessment of North Atlantic swordfish in 2009 and indicated that there is a greater than 50% probability that the stock is at or above B_{MSY} and fishing mortality is below F_{MSY} , and that the rebuilding objective has been achieved. Reported catch in 2010 was 12,154 t. The SCRS expressed concern that the allowable levels of catch in Recommendations 06-02 and 08-02 exceeded the SCRS advice, and that if actual catches had been higher, the recovery of the stock could have been compromised. The SCRS noted that no specific responses were received to the request for data in paragraph 12 of Recommendation 10-02. Although there was an improving trend in the availability of catch and effort information, the quality or completeness of the available data has not been evaluated; dead discards have only been reported by the some parties. As requested in Recommendation 10-02, the SCRS is working to establish a limit reference point in advance of the 2013 assessment.

5.1.2 South Atlantic swordfish

The SCRS conducted an assessment of South Atlantic swordfish in 2009 and advised that while there is a 78% probability that the stock is not overfished and not undergoing overfishing, there is considerable uncertainty in the SCRS predictions regarding this stock. The SCRS noted that the reported catch in 2010 was 12,566 t, significantly below the agreed TAC. The SCRS reported that a TAC of 17,000 t would have a 67% chance of maintaining the stock above B_{MSY} in ten years. However, the SCRS recommended that the Commission limit catches to the recent average level (~15,000 t) to accommodate the uncertainties in the stock assessment.

5.1.3 Mediterranean swordfish

The SCRS conducted an assessment of Mediterranean swordfish in 2010. The Mediterranean swordfish fishery is mostly a longline and gillnet fishery, with a provisional yield of 13,429 t in 2010. The SCRS noted the large

catches of small swordfish, and advised that a reduction of the volume of juvenile catches would improve yield per recruit and spawning biomass per recruit levels. The SCRS reported that the stock biomass is currently about 50% of the level that can support MSY, that fishing mortality slightly exceeds F_{MSY} , and that the current stock status is inconsistent with Commission objectives. The SCRS noted that there was an unknown level of uncertainty in the assessment. The SCRS evaluated a number of scenarios based on seasonal closures, capacity reduction and quota reduction. The SCRS recommended adopting management measures consistent with the Convention objectives, which could be achieved by seasonal closures. The SCRS also recommended consideration of technical gear modifications and capacity reductions in the framework of a management plan. The SCRS was unable to assess the effect of the current seasonal closure on the stock because of incomplete data from 2009.

5.2 Blue marlin and white marlin

5.2.1 Blue marlin

The SCRS conducted an assessment of Atlantic blue marlin in 2011. The SCRS reported that the stock is overfished ($B/B_{MSY} = 0.67$) and overfishing is occurring ($F/F_{MSY} = 1.63$). Reported catch in 2010 was 3,150 t, compared to 3,420 t in 2009. The SCRS noted with concern that few CPCs reported data on live releases, and that insufficient information about post-release survival precluded incorporation of potential mortality into the live release data. Since the previous assessment, more information has become available on gear modifications to reduce by-catch mortality. The SCRS advised that circle hooks can increase the survival of marlins hooked on longlines and in recreational fisheries. The SCRS advised that unless catch levels are substantially reduced, the stock will continue to decline and there is no potential for recovery. A TAC of 2,000 t or less would allow the stock to increase. The SCRS recommended that the Commission should revise the rebuilding plan to include measures such as: total prohibition of landings of blue marlins from pelagic longlines and purse seines, encouraging gear configurations to reduce deep hooking (circle hooks) and catchability (reduce shallow sets), time-area closures, and a reduction in fishing mortality from non-industrial fisheries.

Japan inquired about the value of the steepness parameter used by the SCRS in the blue marlin assessment which they considered to be too low. The Chair of SCRS explained that the value of the steepness parameter was estimated through the assessment model based on the input data instead of being chosen *a priori* without using the available information.

The European Union asked about the relative impact of industrial, recreational and artisanal fisheries on marlin stocks. The SCRS Chair noted that there is not a great deal of information on artisanal fisheries for marlins, and that more information is needed on artisanal fleets in general. The SCRS Chair further noted that there is scarce information on recreational fisheries, although some CPCs provide detailed information.

The United States inquired about the benefit of prohibiting retention of billfish versus the current requirement to release all live fish. The SCRS Chair noted that the benefit of the requirement to release all live fish is dependent on effective monitoring measures.

5.2.2 White marlin

The SCRS last assessed white marlin in 2006 and held a data preparatory meeting in 2011 for the upcoming 2012 assessment. The SCRS noted that catches seem to be stabilizing, with a preliminary catch of 299 t reported in 2010. The SCRS noted with concern that few CPCs report data on live releases. The SCRS explained that historical reported catches of white marlin include a mixture of species including longbill spearfish and roundscale spearfish, and recommended that the stock assessment for white marlin in 2012 be considered a mixed stock assessment for these species. The SCRS emphasized that relative abundance indices are needed from all CPCs, and these need to take into account in consideration of the effect of the current regulations in the standardization process.

5.3 Sailfish

The SCRS conducted an assessment of sailfish in 2009. The SCRS estimated that the biomass of both the eastern and western stocks is likely below B_{MSY} and fishing mortality is above F_{MSY} . Although the status of both stocks is highly uncertain, the eastern stock is more likely overfished and subject to more overfishing than the western stock. The SCRS recommended a reduced catch level in the eastern sailfish stock and maintaining current catch levels in the western stock, although the SCRS noted that a reduction in the catch levels for the western stock

would reduce the likelihood of the stock being overfished. Sailfish are largely harvested by artisanal fisheries, especially in the eastern Atlantic. The SCRS expressed concern about lack of data reporting and asked all CPCs to report data.

5.4 Small tunas

The SCRS noted that catches of small tunas are very high, and that the SCRS has no information on status of the stocks and that ICCAT has no regulations on these stocks. The SCRS further noted that knowledge of the biology and the fishery is fragmented and encouraged cooperation to understand the biology associated with small tunas and the fishery. The SCRS recommended that ICCAT support a special research program on small tunas.

5.5 Sharks

There were no new stock assessments of sharks this year. Porbeagle sharks were assessed in 2009; blue sharks and shortfin mako sharks were assessed in 2008. In addition, the SCRS conducted an Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA) in 2008 for 11 priority species of sharks caught in ICCAT fisheries and in 2011 new information indicated that silky sharks were now ranked as the species with the highest degree of vulnerability of the shark species examined. In 2011, a data preparatory meeting was held in response to the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Atlantic Shortfin Mako Sharks Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries* [Rec. 10-06] and to define the steps to follow in carrying out the ERA in 2012. The SCRS recommended an assessment of shortfin mako in 2012. It is likely that the North Atlantic shortfin mako stock is below B_{MSY} . A lack of data seriously hampered the SCRS's ability to assess the South Atlantic shortfin mako stock. The SCRS reported that both the North and South Atlantic stocks of blue sharks are believed to be at or above the biomass that would support MSY and current harvest levels are believed to be below F_{MSY} , but cautioned that these estimates were highly uncertain. The SCRS noted that the statistics on shark catches in the ICCAT database have improved, but CPCs should make additional efforts to report species-specific data for sharks.

The SCRS advised that northwestern and northeastern Atlantic stocks of porbeagle are overfished and that the northeastern stock is being overfished. The SCRS Chair explained that the main source of mortality is non-ICCAT fisheries being managed by Contracting Parties. The SCRS recommended that catches of porbeagle should not exceed current levels, all CPCs should report data, and joint work with the ICES Working Group on Elasmobranchs should continue.

The SCRS made a number of recommendations regarding the Commission's management of shark species, including: taking a precautionary approach with highly vulnerable species and species for which data are deficient; making species-specific measures where possible; prohibiting retention for species of high concern with high survivorship after release; considering minimum landing sizes or maximum lengths to protect juveniles and breeding stock; adopting technical mitigation measures (gear modifications) to reduce bycatch of sharks; keeping mortality levels for porbeagle shark at or below current levels; conducting research and collecting data to address the problem of look-alike species; and collecting and reporting additional data on sharks so that their biology and the fisheries are better understood. The SCRS welcomed recommendations adopted in the last two years for the most vulnerable species for which almost no data have been submitted (bigeye thresher, oceanic whitetip, and hammerhead), and recommended similar measures be adopted for silky shark. The SCRS also recommended that scientific observers be allowed to collect biological samples from species whose retention is prohibited.

Japan asked about the proportion of silky sharks caught in purse seines versus longlines, noting that in the Indian Ocean most silky sharks are caught in purse seines and they are dead when brought on board. The SCRS Chair cited a 2010 publication reporting data from the European Union purse seine fleet. This data set showed that sharks accounted for only 1% of the purse seine catch by weight; of this 1%, silky sharks were 53% of the sharks caught by weight and 72% by number.

The Pew Environment Group noted their appreciation for ICCAT's progress in recent years to address unregulated fishing of sharks in the Convention Area and the hard work of SCRS on sharks. In their view, the Commission should take immediate action to protect silky and porbeagle sharks.

5.6 Sea birds

In 2009, the SCRS completed the three-year process to assess the impact of ICCAT fisheries on seabird populations. The assessment concluded that ICCAT fisheries have some measurable impacts on seabird populations, that there is no single measure that can reduce bycatch, and that a suite of measures must be applied simultaneously. The SCRS recommended that ICCAT require tori lines plus at least one other mitigation measure, until it can be concluded that seabird by-catch levels are insignificant. The SCRS noted that other effective mitigation measures include branch line weighting and night setting.

The European Union recalled that the Advisory Committee to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) had advised that the only effective seabird by-catch mitigation was the use of tori lines in combination with night setting and line weighting, and asked the SCRS Chair whether the SCRS agreed with ACAP. The SCRS Chair noted that the SCRS does not have many seabird experts, so has to get outside expert advice, and the SCRS has had extensive and successful cooperation with ACAP. The SCRS Chair further noted that the best opinion SCRS could come up with is that ICCAT should require at the very least tori lines in conjunction with at least one other effective measure (weighted lines or night setting). ACAP highlighted the substantial increase in knowledge and understanding of how to address seabird by-catch in pelagic longline fisheries. ACAP explained that research in the South African exclusive economic zone (EEZ) conducted jointly by Japan and the United States showed conclusively in that fishery that it is essential to use all three the mitigation measures together to effectively reduce by-catch.

5.7 Sea turtles

In response to a Commission request in Recommendation 10-09, the SCRS is making progress towards developing data submission requirements, and considering factors that contribute to the number of encounters, considering effective mitigation measures, considering training fishermen in the use of de-hooking gear. The SCRS noted that the Secretariat has temporarily contracted a sea turtle expert to assist in this work.

6. Measures for the conservation of stocks and implementation of the ICCAT *Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities*

6.1 Swordfish

6.1.1 North Atlantic swordfish

The Chair of Panel 4 introduced a proposal, “Draft Recommendation by ICCAT for the Conservation of North Atlantic Swordfish.”

Morocco and the United States reported that they have taken actions to identify and require the use of fishing gear and techniques which reduce the bycatch of protected species. The United States has committed to transfer 150 t of its North Atlantic swordfish allocation for each of the next two years (2012-2013). This tonnage will facilitate collaborative research between Morocco and the United States on fishery gear technologies and techniques that advance ecosystem approaches to fisheries management and will also help support Morocco’s efforts to eliminate the use of driftnets. These two countries intend to work together over the coming months to develop research projects to be carried out in Morocco’s commercial fishery. Any swordfish harvested during the course of this research will be taken in accordance with ICCAT’s conservation and management measures and may be retained for commercial sale. A report on the outcomes of this joint research will be provided to the Commission.

Morocco highlighted their considerable efforts in collaboration with other CPCs to eliminate driftnets in their fisheries. They explained the social impact this decision has had on Morocco, and that Morocco is committed to a sustainable fishery taking an ecosystem approach. Morocco viewed the quota transfers they received as an encouragement for all of the progress they have made in eliminating driftnets, and noted that, as of 1 January 2012, they will strictly enforce the ban on driftnets.

Canada offered their support for the Recommendation, but emphasized their concern with continued allocations in excess of the TAC. While they recognized that provisions in this Recommendation dealt with catches exceeding the overall TAC, they emphasized that this is an issue ICCAT will have to continue to work on.

Korea explained that they will be able to complete their payback of North Atlantic swordfish by the end of this year with this Recommendation and will be able to resume normal fishing operations in 2013.

The amended proposal was agreed upon by consensus and the *Recommendation by ICCAT for the Conservation of North Atlantic Swordfish* was forwarded to the Plenary for adoption (see **ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-02]**).

6.1.2 Mediterranean swordfish

The European Union and Turkey tabled a “Draft Recommendation for Management Measures for Mediterranean Swordfish in the Framework of ICCAT.” They recalled that ICCAT adopted a management framework for Mediterranean swordfish in 2009, and that in 2010 the SCRS highlighted the need for ICCAT to reduce overcapacity, reduce overfishing and reduce stress on juvenile fishes, as well as highlighting the need for better data.

Some delegations sought additional information on the size and opening of the hooks. The European Union noted the need to ask the SCRS for advice on the length, width, and opening of the hooks. The European Union explained that the number of hooks is based on the number of hooks allowed by European legislation, with a reduction of 20% based on the advice of the SCRS to reduce the effort.

The United States noted for the record that there were aspects of this Recommendation that would be problematic if they were applied to North Atlantic swordfish or other fisheries and that, if adopted, the provisions of the Mediterranean swordfish measure should not be viewed as a precedent for other fisheries.

Canada asked if the SCRS provided advice to indicate optimal closure period for conservation. The SCRS Chair noted that they had considered closures but that the SCRS had only evaluated a 4 to 6 month closure during a different part of the year.

While some CPCs noted that monitoring and enforcement of this Recommendation will be difficult, they did not oppose its adoption. The amended proposal was agreed upon by consensus and the *Recommendation by ICCAT for Management Measures for Mediterranean Swordfish in the Framework of ICCAT* was forwarded to the Plenary for adoption (see **ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-03]**).

The Chair highlighted that the authorized vessel list in this Recommendation does not limit the list to vessels of a specific size, which means all sizes of vessels must be in ICCAT record. He emphasized the Secretariat’s request for CPCs to send their authorized vessel information to the Secretariat electronically.

6.1.3 Swordfish history & swordfish development/management plans

In accordance with paragraph 5 of the *Recommendation by ICCAT for the Conservation of North Atlantic Swordfish* [Rec. 10-02], the CPCs were required to submit, by September 15, 2011, a report on the history of their swordfish fish and a development/management plan of their swordfish fishery. These reports are attached as **Appendix 3 to ANNEX 9**.

6.2 Blue marlin and white marlin

Brazil introduced a proposal, “Draft Recommendation by ICCAT to Further Strengthen the Plan to Rebuild Blue Marlin and White Marlin Populations.” Brazil noted that the current process of marlin reference years has been cumbersome and should be changed. Brazil explained that their proposal reduced the total catch of blue marlins to slightly under 2,000 t, in conformity with scientific advice, and called for CPCs to do a full accounting of mortality and report data, including for artisanal fisheries. Brazil hoped that ICCAT could undertake a full exercise on allocation of catch limits next year.

The United States noted that the SCRS strongly advised that Recommendation 06-09 will not rebuild the marlin stock and that the TAC needs to be reduced below 2000 t. The United States wanted a comprehensive multi-year measure to support rebuilding. The United States further noted that, given the status of the resource, they do not support any carry forward of marlin under-harvests. As the proposed carryover was very limited and given that the Recommendation itself was for only one year, the United States indicated that it could go along with the proposal. The United States stressed that ICCAT should adopt a comprehensive rebuilding program next year for marlins, following the 2012 white marlin assessment.

The EU noted that this proposal addresses only in part the concerns raised by SCRS in its advice; notably, the need to manage the impact on the resource from all sectors of the fleet. On the contrary, the measure proposed puts the burden of recovery exclusively on one sector of the fishery and disregards the need to tackle the issue of mortality linked to non-industrial fisheries. The EU also pointed out that this absence should have not been ignored as it weakens the overall ability of this measure to properly respond to the current concerns and, therefore, to promote an effective rebuilding of the stock. However, considering that a broad consensus towards supporting this measure was found, in a spirit of compromise, and bearing in mind that this is a transitional measure, the EU decided not to oppose its adoption.

Mexico noted that this was one of the most difficult proposals for them and that they had had longstanding difficulty with the allocations. Mexico explained that they were not in agreement with the underlying philosophy and the catch limits in this Recommendation and that they hoped this would be corrected next year, but that they would not block consensus.

Trinidad and Tobago noted that the Recommendation did not fully address their situation, which was similar to Mexico's with respect to setting catch limits, but that they would not block consensus.

The amended proposal was agreed upon by consensus and the *Recommendation by ICCAT to Further Strengthen the Plan to Rebuild Blue Marlin and White Marlin Populations* was forwarded to the Plenary for adoption (see ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-07]).

6.3 Sharks

6.3.1 Shark conservation

Belize, with co-sponsors Brazil and the United States, tabled the "Draft Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Conservation of Sharks Caught in Association with Fisheries Managed by ICCAT". This proposal was also tabled at the 2009 and 2010 Commission meetings. Belize explained that the proposal would require CPCs to land sharks with their fins naturally attached, as a means of improving enforcement of ICCAT's prohibition on finning. Belize noted it had made a policy decision to completely ban finning at sea for its high seas fisheries, requiring landing of sharks with fins naturally attached or partially cut and folded.

Some CPCs noted their preference for species-specific shark measures. China recommended that ICCAT request through FAO to the international customs organizations to put important shark species in the customs code, so a traceability system can be established to obtain information through international trade. The United States recalled ICCAT's existing requirements for data reporting and explained that a finning ban will facilitate shark identification and the collection of species-specific data. Several CPCs indicated that they were not ready to adopt this measure, and needed more time to consider how to implement a fins attached requirement. Consensus on this proposal could not be reached.

6.3.2 Porbeagle sharks

Canada introduced a proposal, "Draft Recommendation by ICCAT on the Conservation of the Northwest Atlantic Stock of Porbeagle Shark". Canada stated that their proposal was intended to contribute to the long-term conservation and sustainable use of porbeagle sharks through strengthened management measures, in line with the assessment by the SCRS, and in support of the current management and recovery plan in place for this stock.

Some CPCs asked about the logic for excepting harvests occurring in Canadian and U.S. coastal waters. The United States noted that they continue to support action at ICCAT to address porbeagle conservation and asked to have language referring to the United States removed from paragraph 1 of Canada's proposal. Some CPCs, including Japan, noted that their fishermen expressed concern about releasing large sharks live because it could be dangerous. Canada noted that ICCAT already requires live release of some shark species, and Chinese Taipei recommended seeking SCRS advice on how to safely release live sharks.

The European Union and the United Kingdom introduced a proposal, "Draft Recommendation by ICCAT on Porbeagle Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries".

At the Chair's urging, the European Union and Canada explored opportunities for compromise but were not able to reach a solution. They committed to continue working intersessionally and hoped to be successful at the next ICCAT annual meeting. The European Union noted their intention to continue with a 0 TAC policy to contribute

to the recovery of the Northeast stock. Canada noted that their porbeagle conservation plan will continue to be implemented.

Many CPCs expressed disappointment at the lack of consensus on a Recommendation to protect porbeagle sharks, noting that the Commission had been discussing this issue for the past three years. The United Kingdom recalled that the porbeagle's life history characteristics render the species vulnerable to exploitation and strongly recommended that CPCs put in place protective measures for porbeagle.

6.3.3 Silky sharks

The European Union, with co-sponsors the United States and Brazil, introduced a proposal, "Recommendation by ICCAT on the Conservation of Silky Shark Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries." The proposal prohibited retention, landing or transshipping of silky sharks and required live release where practicable; the proponents noted they were working on language to address the case of countries with discard bans. Brazil recalled that the silky shark had been identified by the SCRS as the most vulnerable shark species to ICCAT fisheries.

Japan recalled that they had supported past species-specific shark recommendations based on three criteria: high vulnerability, easily identified, and probability of survival after release is very high. While noting the silky shark clearly met their first criteria, Japan sought additional information on identification of silky sharks in coastal areas and on post-release mortality of silky sharks when caught in purse seines. Japan noted that management of purse seine and FAD fisheries could have benefits for silky sharks.

The SCRS Chair referenced recent research on survival and post-release mortality of silky sharks caught in purse seines, in which the immediate survival rate of silky sharks captured in a purse seine net was 38% and 9 of 20 tagged and released sharks survived for a long period of time post-release. Some CPCs agreed that mortality in purse seines was important to consider, and they were pleased to see significant survivability of silky sharks. Japan noted that specific guidance may need to be given to purse seiners to ensure practices that would maximize survival of silky sharks. The European Union noted that the identification issues could be addressed, especially given that the SCRS had recently prepared a shark identification guide.

Japan and Mexico asked for additional information on the distribution of silky shark catches between coastal and ocean areas and between purse seines and longlines. The SCRS Chair explained that there is a significant lack of data, and while ICCAT has some data by fishing gear, they do not have spatially distributed data.

Trinidad and Tobago and Côte d'Ivoire expressed concerns about the implications of the proposed prohibition on retention of silky sharks for their artisanal fisheries.

China explained that it would be reporting data on silky sharks next year, but that they would have difficulty reporting data if there were a ban on retention.

The observer from Pew noted that the CITES meeting is just after the next ICCAT meeting, and recalled that IUCN also lists the silky shark as near-threatened globally. Pew advised that ICCAT take a precautionary approach to managing this highly vulnerable species. The observer from Oceana also recommended prohibiting retention of particularly vulnerable species, such as silky sharks.

Japan proposed a change to the first paragraph of the proposal that would require all silky sharks to be released whether alive or dead but eliminating the additional prohibitions on retention on board, transshipment, landing storing, or selling, arguing that a complete release requirement made the additional elements unnecessary. China accepted this proposal as amended by Japan. The Chair confirmed that no objection existed on this amended proposal and concluded the discussion by forwarding the proposal as amended for the *Recommendation by ICCAT on the Conservation of Silky Sharks Caught in Association with ICCT Fisheries* to the Commission for adoption (see ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-08]).

After this Chair's ruling, a Party indicated that it was unclear about the amendment agreed upon and expressed its intent to come back to this issue during the Plenary session.

6.4 Seabirds

The European Union, Brazil, Uruguay, South Africa, and the United Kingdom (on behalf of its overseas territories) proposed the “Draft Recommendation by ICCAT on Reducing Incidental By-catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries.”

Some CPCs expressed technical concerns about their ability to implement the line weighting regimes in the Recommendation and requested additional time to conduct their own line weighting experiments before the Recommendation entered into force. Other CPCs expressed concerns about rapid decline of seabirds and the urgency of adopting mitigation measures, and noted that the fleets that already used these measures had been able to implement them quickly and had overcome obstacles very efficiently.

Japan noted their commitment to mitigate impacts of bycatch on seabirds, recalling that their fishermen had invented tori lines for this purpose and had been experimenting with new weighted branch lines in cooperation with the University of Washington in the EEZ of South Africa. Japan recalled that their initial preference was to focus on mitigation measures on two hotspots where seabird bycatch is relatively high, based on data from fleets of Chinese Taipei and Japan. Recognizing the majority of ICCAT countries were gravely concerned about bycatch of seabirds outside these hotspots, Japan agreed to expand the scope of coverage from the hotspots to the entire area south of 25 degrees south. Japan noted that this type of change will require a great amount of effort from fishermen. Japan also announced that a new type of weighted branch line developed by Japanese fishermen had received the grand prize in the WWF Smartgear competition this year.

Many CPCs welcomed the significant efforts made by CPCs, fishermen, and other researchers to develop seabird by-catch mitigation techniques.

The United Kingdom noted that the South Atlantic is highly important for threatened albatrosses and petrels, and that one third of the world’s albatrosses breed in the United Kingdom’s overseas territories in the South Atlantic. This measure will present a significant step forward for the birds in the South Atlantic. The United Kingdom agreed that a stepwise approach was necessary. They welcome the 2015 assessment by the SCRS, and noted their willingness to work with industry to ensure CPCs can implement this Recommendation.

The amended proposal was agreed upon by consensus and the *Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT on Reducing Incidental By-Catch of Seabirds in ICCAT Longline Fisheries* was forwarded to the Plenary for adoption (see ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-09]).

7. Research

The SCRS Chair presented a number of research programs, all of which received support from the Contracting Parties.

7.1 General research recommendations

The SCRS noted that the By-catch Coordinator position remains unfilled and strongly recommends that this position be recruited promptly.

7.2 Billfish

Noting the misidentification problems between white marlin, roundscale and longbill spearfishes, the SCRS recommended conducting an Atlantic-wide survey of WHM-RSP-SPF distribution and abundance with the collaboration of CPCs with fleets covering the entire Atlantic, particularly in the eastern and southwestern Atlantic fishing areas. The SCRS strongly recommended that the Commission provide additional funding (15K Euros) to the Enhanced Billfish Research Program for a genetic study in order to accelerate the data acquisition and analysis for separating white marlin from spearfishes, to be undertaken in the immediate future.

The SCRS further recommended a study on age and growth of blue marlin. The SCRS noted that that white marlin stock assessment to be conducted in 2012 should be considered as mixed species stock assessment. The SCRS also recommended that the surplus production models conducted in the 2000 white marlin stock assessment be updated in the 2012 stock assessment meeting.

The SCRS implored all CPCs, and especially those that have important catches of white marlin, to provide updated relative abundance indices obtained from such high resolution CPUE data and also to take into consideration the effect of current regulations in the standardization process.

7.3 Small tunas

The SCRS recommended the establishment of an ICCAT Year Research Program for small tuna species (SMTYP). The SCRS advised that the initial objective should be collection of statistics and biological data as well as the recovery of all the historical available data in the main fishing areas. The initial duration would be 2012-2013 at a cost of 95,000 €.

7.4 Sharks

The SCRS recommended incorporating the description of the six shark species that have been included in recent Recommendations in the *ICCAT Manual* in the by-catch species section.

The SCRS also recommended that observers be allowed to collect biological samples from those species whose retention is prohibited by current regulations.

The SCRS recommended that CPCs explore methods to estimate the catches of sharks in the purse seine and artisanal fisheries.

8. Election of the Chair

Brazil was unanimously elected Chair of Panel 4.

9. Other matters

The statement made by the Observer from CARICOM and the statement by the Observer from Oceana are attached as **Appendices 9 and 10 to ANNEX 9**.

10. Adoption of the report and adjournment

The 2011 Meeting of Panel 4 was adjourned.

The Report of Panel 4 was adopted by correspondence.

Panel Agendas

Panel 1

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Appointment of Rapporteur
4. Review of Panel membership
5. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)
6. Measures for the conservation of stocks and implementation of the *ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities*
7. Research
8. Election of Chair
9. Other matters
10. Adoption of the report and adjournment

Panel 2

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Appointment of Rapporteur
4. Review of Panel membership
5. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)
6. Measures for the conservation of stocks and implementation of the *ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities*
7. Research
8. Election of Chair
9. Other matters
10. Adoption of the report and adjournment

Panel 3

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Appointment of Rapporteur
4. Review of Panel membership
5. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)
6. Measures for the conservation of stocks and implementation of the *ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities*
7. Research
8. Election of Chair
9. Other matters
10. Adoption of the report and adjournment

Panel 4

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Appointment of Rapporteur
4. Review of Panel membership
5. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)
6. Measures for the conservation of stocks and implementation of the *ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities*
7. Research
8. Election of Chair
9. Other matters
10. Adoption of the report and adjournment

Appendix 2 to ANNEX 9**Fishing, Inspection and Capacity Reduction Plans for 2012^{*}****ALGERIA**

The Fishing, Inspection and Capacity Management Plans for 2012 related to the exploitation of bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*) in waters under Algerian jurisdiction are provided herein.

These fishing, inspection and capacity management plans for the 2012 season, whose structure takes into account the guidelines proposed by the Chairman of the Compliance Committee at the inter-sessional meeting that took place in February 2011 in Barcelona, in no case constitute Algeria's acceptance of the provisions of Recommendation 10-04, and to which Algeria presented a formal objection in accordance with Article VIII of the ICCAT Convention.

In effect, due to the legitimate objection to Recommendation 10-04, Algeria only has to comply with the pertinent prior recommendations, i.e., 08-05 and 09-06.

Also, based on the requirements of ICCAT Recommendation 08-05 amended by Recommendation 09-06 concerning a rebuilding plan of the East Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna fishery, a ministerial decree enacted on 19 April 2010 instituted the bluefin tuna fishing quotas for the national flag vessels operating in waters under national jurisdiction and established the procedures for their distribution and their implementation.

This regulatory text includes the essential elements for the management and control of the bluefin tuna fishing campaigns.

It should also be noted that due to the objection presented by Algeria, the bluefin tuna possibilities of 654 t were decreed for 2012, based on Algeria's historical allocation key, that is, 5.073% of the last TAC of 12,900 t decided by ICCAT.

However, the fishing plan presented foresees a two-stage approach, in order for ICCAT to decide on the fishing season for 2012.

1. Fishing plan**1.1 TAC and quotas**

The catching vessels that will be authorized to carry out bluefin tuna fishing in 2012 in waters under Algerian jurisdiction will be designated in accordance with the provisions of the ministerial decree of 19 April 2010 establishing the bluefin tuna fishing quotas for the national flag vessels fishing in waters under national jurisdiction and establishing the procedures for their distribution and their implementation.

These vessels must be included in the ICCAT registry.

Furthermore, the number of vessels is decreed based on Algeria's quota taking into account the SCRS estimates of the potential catches by type of vessel.

For 2012, five tuna vessels will participate in the fishing season to exploit a quota of 138 tons.

Also, 10 additional tuna vessels could potentially participate in the fishing season to exploit the additional quota, which is the subject of an objection by Algeria, of 516 metric tons. It should be noted that the intervention of these vessels, which will be under the same control measures as the vessels using the 138 t quota, cannot be confirmed at this stage.

* Fishing, Inspection and Capacity Reduction Plans received after the established deadline are not translated and are provided in the original language only.

The individual quotas will be allocated based on the minimum estimates of the SCRS. For information purposes, the list of vessels as well as some individual quotas shown in **Table 1**.

Lastly, it should be noted that bluefin tuna is not the target species of the national fleet of tuna vessels, the bluefin tuna sport fishery does not exist in Algeria, and the recreational fishery does not target this species.

1.2 Trade agreements and joint fishing

Private commercial trade agreements and/or the transfer of quotas/catch limits with other CPCs are not authorized by the Algerian regulations.

Joint fishing operations involving five or more purse seiners are prohibited.

1.3 Closed seasons

The closed seasons are those established by ICCAT and the national regulations. Therefore, and in accordance with Article 23 of the decree of 19 April 2010, the closed seasons for vessels targeting bluefin tuna fishing will be:

- For longliners over 24 meters, from 1 June to 31 December;
- For purse seiners, from 15 June to 15 May.

1.4 Use of planes to search for bluefin tuna

The use of planes/helicopters for the detection of tuna schools is not authorized by the national regulations.

1.5 Transshipment

According to Article 58 of Law 01-11 on fishing and aquaculture, transshipment at sea is prohibited.

1.6 Minimum size

In accordance with the provisions of Executive Decree No. 08-118 of 9 April 2008 which amends and supplements the Executive Decree of 18 March 2004 establishing the minimum sizes of the biological resources, the minimum size of bluefin tuna will be set at 30 kg (115 cm).

1.7 Incidental catch/by-catch

Only a proportion not exceeding 8% of the incidental catch having a size less than 115 cm or 30 kg and this in accordance with Article 2bis of the Executive Decree No. 08-118 of 9 April 2008, which amends and supplements the Executive Decree of 18 March 2004, which establishes the minimum size of the biological resources.

2. Capacity Management Plan

2.1 Fishing and farming capacity

The current fishing capacity is on the order of 596.4_t, which corresponds to a fleet of 15 tuna vessels, which adapts perfectly to Algeria's catch limit, that is, a quota of 654 t.

Thus, Algeria is not affected by over capacity or reduction levels decided by ICCAT.

Besides, Algeria does not have any farming facilities or traps.

3. Inspection Scheme

3.1 Notification

Only the vessels included on the ICCAT registry are authorized to fish bluefin tuna in the 2010 fishing season.

3.2 Consignment and transmittal of information

According to Articles 11 and 13 of the decree cited above, all masters of bluefin tuna fishing vessels masters must:

- Transmit by electronic means or any other means a weekly catch report to the Fisheries Administration that has territorial competence and to the National Coast Guard, with information on the catches, and including the reports of null catches, the date and fishing areas, latitude and longitude.
- Maintain a bluefin tuna fishing logbook on board.

In addition, and in accordance with Article 12 of the same decree, the masters of a tuna vessels over 24 meters must transmit a daily catch report, including, in particular, information on catches, date and fishing areas to the Fisheries Administration that has territorial competence and to the National Coast Guard.

The tuna vessels authorized to participate in the fishing campaign should be equipped with a detection beacon, in accordance with Article 7 of the decree of 19 April 2010. The transmission of VMS data is mandatory for all the vessels.

Also and in accordance with paragraph 71 of the ICCAT Recommendation, the provisional monthly catches will be transmitted to the ICCAT Secretariat within the time frames established.

Cross verifications of the data (reports, VMS, inspections, etc.) will be carried out.

3.3 Transfer operations

In accordance with Article 17 of the aforementioned decree, the transfer operations from a fishing vessel to a towing vessel will be monitored by underwater video cameras. The recording will show the date and the time of the transfer.

The controllers and observers on board the vessels must have access to the transfer operation, in every way possible, particularly the video recordings.

3.4 Caging operations

Currently, there is no bluefin tuna farming facility in Algerian jurisdictional waters.

3.5 Estimate of catches

Currently, no estimate of catches is foreseen. However, if necessary, a sampling procedure can easily be established.

3.6 National Observers Program

The fishing operations will be monitored during the entire fishing campaign by controller observers (Fisheries Administration and Coast Guard) who will be embarked on board each tuna vessel.

The mission of these controllers observers will be to monitor the fishing operations and to collect information and data on all the fishing operations.

3.7 Regional Observers Program

The owners of tuna purse seiners over 24 m will be required to embark an ICCAT observer on board each tuna vessel (Article 9 of the aforementioned decree).

3.8 Measures for implementing

National regulations, particularly all the provisions of Law No. 01-11 of 3 July 2001 on fishing and aquaculture foresees sanctions and penalties for non compliance of the regulatory provisions related to fishing activities.

Concerning non compliance with the close fishing seasons, Article 89 of the above-mentioned law provides for sentences of imprisonment and/or a fine.

As concerns the non compliance with the minimum sizes and the by-catch tolerances, the same law in its Articles 90, 92, 93 also provide for prison sentences and/or fines.

3.9 Joint international inspection

Algeria, having only 15 vessels fishing bluefin tuna, does not envisage participating in the international joint inspection scheme.

Table 1. Algeria's Fishing Plan for 2012 - Tentative List of Vessels and Individual Quota Allocations.

<i>Type of vessel</i>	<i>Length (LOA) (m)</i>	<i>Tentative individual quota (t) According to the reference catch rates from SCRS</i>
PS	31.25	49.78
PS	31.25	49.78
PS	30	49.78
PS	30	49.78
PS	26.3	49.78
PS	26	49.78
PS	25.2	49.78
PS	25.2	49.78
PS	25	49.78
PS	25	49.78
PS	25	49.78
PS	23.5	33.68
LL	25.62	5.68
LL	22	5
LL	15.8	5

CHINA

Considering it was unsafe for one vessel to harvest bluefin tuna in that fishing ground where the sea conditions are so severe, we will authorize two vessels, *Jin Feng No.1* and *Jin Feng No. 3*, from the same fishing company for the bluefin tuna fishing in 2012, as the same as it will implemented in 2011. During the whole season, VMS tracking, tagging, logsheet, weekly and monthly report, observer and other measures on bluefin tuna fishing will be implemented, which will also be served to monitor and control their fishing effort. The vessels are required to proceed immediately to a port designated when the total quotas are deemed to be exhausted.

The individual quotas allocated to each vessel authorized for bluefin tuna fishing in 2012 are:

Jin Feng No.1: half of bluefin tuna quota allocated to China

Jin Feng No.3: half of bluefin tuna quota allocated to China

Methodology used for Individual Quota Allocation

Individual Quota has been allocated in an equal share to each of the fishing vessel. Since the two vessels belong to one owner and their fishing season begins at the end of September each year, there will be a flexible carry over among the two vessels, provided the total catch by the two vessel does not exceed the Chinese bluefin tuna quota and that a prior notification to the Bureau of Fisheries is made and is so authorized, and the Bureau of Fisheries will communicate such authorization to the Secretariat.

Due to the small quota allocated to China, the number of fishing vessels has been reduced from four to two, to limit our catch under the quota. Taking into account the serious sea conditions during that season and for the safety of the vessels, we had to maintain the two vessels fishing in a group manner and no further reduction could be made for the season.

CROATIA

1. Bluefin tuna inspection plan for 2012

1.1 Basic framework

Control and monitoring of fisheries activities in the Republic of Croatia are governed by several different acts and implementing regulations. The core legal document in this segment is the Marine Fisheries Act, which defines activities and actions that are considered to be infringements of the fisheries policy and state administration bodies and public servants who are entitled to perform inspection activities.

1.2 Human and technical resources

Fishing inspection is performed by the fishing inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development (MAFRD), the officials of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), inspectors of the Ministry of Sea, Transport and Infrastructure (MSTI) as well as Coast Guard.

Coast Guard Act (OG 109/07) provided the legal basis for the setting up of the Coast Guard of the Republic of Croatia. According to this act, the Coast Guard cooperates with all other state administration bodies in charge for specific elements of surveillance and control at sea. All joint activities linked with fisheries inspection are planned and coordinated with the consent of the MAFRD. Central coordination is taking place every three months at ministerial level and every 15 days at local level. Priorities for the coming period are decided there, plus the training scheme for inspectors and the operational cooperation between the different services. All activities of different bodies are coordinated at the level of Central Coordination.

Implementation of actions agreed at the level of Central Coordination is further secured and agreed in detail at the local level (Regional Coordination). Regional Coordinations are headed by chief officers of the Port Authority, and a representative of the MAFRD DoF is an obligatory member. Joint actions directed at fisheries control are undertaken in direct agreement with MAFRD representative. At this level, technical people discuss and agree actions that need to be undertaken in coordination of different bodies. This system was set up to make the best use of resources available.

Specific fisheries inspection tasks are planned on an annual basis, with revisions and modifications every 3 months. Recent activities of the DoF involve the development of electronic reports after each control, which are then integrated in a data base, with a possibility to consult the summary in this base. The report forms may be used by all authorized inspection (maritime police, coast guard, port authorities), enabling hence a centralized system to follow-up the infringements and keep a good record of number of controls and infringements recorded. The database is linked with the fleet and licence register, register of first buyers and database on catch and landing data, as well as with the VMS, which then assures the quality of the cross-checks. The database is currently being created and structured, and its initial test phase envisages test for dedicated fisheries inspection services.

In order to secure uniform approach of all bodies engaged in fisheries inspection, the DoF is currently drafting the manual for fisheries inspection, including list of species and relevant provisions of the national and international regulations governing management of resources. It also contains description of behaviour and procedures that need to be followed in fisheries inspection.

Since Croatia has already implemented the VMS, and given that the maritime police, Coast Guard and fisheries inspection covers the maritime waters by patrol vessels, it is expected that this setup shall secure efficient monitoring, surveillance and control. In terms of controls at landing, Croatia has designated the ports for bluefin tuna.

The provisions of the Marine Fisheries Act, covering conservation and management measures as well as issues of surveillance, monitoring and control of all elements pertaining to this segment of fishery policy, apply both territorially and nationally. Its area of application is the maritime waters of Croatia, but it also applies to all Croatian citizens and vessels flying its flag regardless of the area of activity. Croatia has implemented the VMS obligation in terms of all vessels involved in the bluefin operations. The VMS is controlled at all times in the FMC, allowing the operators to check and verify points of operation, landing or transfer that will secure full coverage of activities. VMS data are accessible by relevant services authorized to perform inspection and control under strict confidentiality protocols. Memorandums of Understanding have been signed between the services involved.

1.3 Resources to be used in bluefin tuna control in 2012

A total of 20 dedicated fisheries inspectors aided with 4 patrol vessels shall be operational in 2012. Furthermore, a total of 4 Coast Guard vessels with their crews (a total of 97 crew members out of which 22 authorized for fisheries inspection) shall be operational in 2011, as well as Maritime police patrol vessels with their crews. A total of 7 vessels belonging to the maritime police shall be operational, involving a total crew of 42. A total of 18 port authority inspectors shall participate in the bluefin control, and 4 vessels from the MSTI.

List of vessels – Fisheries inspection MAFRD

<i>Name</i>	<i>Registration</i>	<i>Area of deployment</i>
Jastog	RH-100-ST	Adriatic
Inćun	RH-99-ZD	Adriatic
Periska	RH-20-PU	Adriatic
Srdela	RH-900-ST	Adriatic

List of vessels – Maritime police

<i>Vessel name</i>	<i>Total crew</i>	<i>Area of deployment</i>
p/b "Pazin", P-201	7	Adriatic
p/b "Trsat", P206, RH 26 RK	7	Adriatic
p/b "Škabrnja", P-204, 202 ZD	7	Adriatic
p/b "Sveti Nikola Tavelić", P-102	7	Adriatic
p/b "Sveti Mihovil", P-101	7	Adriatic
p/b "Sveti Rok", P-205	7	Adriatic

*p/b = patrol boat.

List of vessels – Coast Guard

<i>Vessel name</i>	<i>MMSI</i>	<i>ICS</i>	<i>Area of deployment</i>
ŠB-72 "Andrija Mohorovičić"	238319840	9AA3731	Adriatic
OB-01 "Novigrad"	238319940	9AA3732	Adriatic
OB-02 "Šolta"	238320040	9AA3733	Adriatic
OB-03 "Cavtat"	238320140	9AA3734	Adriatic

MMSI: Maritime Mobile Service Identities.

List of vessels – Ministry of Sea, Transport and Infrastructure (Port authorities)

<i>Vessel name</i>	<i>Area of deployment</i>
Pojišan	Adriatic
Vid	Adriatic
Danče	Adriatic
Šibenik	Adriatic

1.4 Budgetary means allocated for fisheries control (in HRK), number of personnel involved in fisheries control and their distribution among different authorities

Budget for all inspection activities and services authorized to perform inspection is allocated within different elements of the State Budget adopted by the Croatian Parliament. Particular budget line for equipment and technical support to the fisheries inspection of the MAFRD was introduced, with the total amount of 4,250,000.00 HRK. In addition to this amount, the budget allocated to wages of civil servants in fisheries inspection of the MAFRD in 2012 amounts to 2,800,000 HRK. Further funds are allocated by other state administration bodies in charge of inspection. Total funds in other state administration bodies are higher, given that their responsibilities involve other activities in addition to fisheries. However, based on percentage allocated it is estimated that an overall budgetary allocation amounts to ca 30 million HRK (ca 3.5 million Euros).

In order to be a dedicated fisheries inspector, in accordance with the Marine Fisheries Law, it is obligatory to have a high-level (university) degree in fishery sciences or related sciences, and to have a minimum of 1 years of working experience. Additionally, a state exam for fisheries inspectors has to be taken in order to become an independent fisheries inspector. It is foreseen that in the framework of cooperation with other state

administration bodies, all personnel participating in fisheries inspection shall undergo the same training programme. Training programme for dedicated fisheries inspectors is being drafted by the MAFRD DoF, but it is envisaged that the same programme is applicable to other state administration bodies authorized to perform fisheries inspection. The program includes basic provisions on legal elements governing fisheries, training in VMS application and its usages, training in electronic database for inspection and training on relevant provisions of the *acquis*. It is planned that a roster of attendance shall include representatives of all state administration bodies, and each training course shall have 2 or 3 repetitions in order to secure best coverage.

1.5 Designated ports

The list of designated ports for bluefin tuna landings has been communicated to the Commission. The ports shall be covered in full by relevant inspectors from port authorities and in addition by directed controls by fisheries inspectors.

1.6 Farms

All farm activities (caging, harvesting) shall be covered at all farms. These are:

- AT001HRV0000 “Kali tuna“ d.o.o.
- AT001HRV00006 “Sardina“ d.o.o.
- AT001HRV00008 “Jadran tuna“ d.o.o.

Control of PS catches

<i>Area of control</i>	<i>Control objective</i>	<i>Control targets</i>
CRO territorial waters	Documentation and catches, stowage areas, mortality rates	20
Outside CRO territorial waters	Documentation and catches, stowage areas, mortality rates	20

Towing

<i>Control objective</i>	<i>Target no. of controls</i>
Size in towing cage	20
Mortality in towing	20
Documentation	30

Farms

<i>Control objective</i>	<i>Target no. of controls</i>
Transfer to cage	50
Origin of fish	50
Quantity and size	50
BCD and other documentation	50

Sport and recreational fishery

<i>Control objective</i>	<i>Target no. of controls</i>
Competition events	10
ICCAT requirements	50
Licence controls	50
controls of catches	50

Catch control – hook and line gears

<i>Control objective</i>	<i>Target no. of controls</i>
ICCAT requirements	50
Licences and authorizations	50
Catches	50

Markets

<i>Control objective</i>	<i>Target no. of controls</i>
Catch documentation	100
Other (size, origin)	100

2. Capacity Management Plan for 2012

The number of vessels which may participate in the bluefin tuna fishery in 2012, in accordance with the capacity reduction plan is provided below.

<i>Category</i>	<i>SCRS catch rates</i>	<i>2012</i>
PS over 40 m	70,66	2
PS 24 to 40 m	49,78	4
PS less than 24 m	33,68	3
HL	5	14

Croatia has allocated the fishing opportunities among its vessels in 2011, and since the transfer of opportunities is allowed, Croatia endeavours to align the quotas allocated to the ones provided by the SCRS, within the possibilities and the nature of its fishery. In order to meet the requirement of the Commission, Croatia shall submit the list of vessels and its quotas one month before the season, as stipulated by the Rec. 10-04. Croatia shall endeavour to assure that the vessels to be actively fishing in 2012 are allocated the quota as close to the SCRS criteria as possible.

Croatia has initiated different scientific activities in order to contribute to the overall stock assessment and to assess the catch possibilities of its vessels, given the nature of the fishery. However, it should be noted that, as indicated in previous communications, Croatian fishery is limited in area of operation, has specific elements and individual catches and hauls of the vessels are rather small. Having this in mind, it is rather difficult for Croatian vessels to reach the figures as have been adopted by the SCRS in terms of probable catch quantities.

EGYPT *

1. Fishing Plan for the 2012 Fishing Season

1.1 Bluefin tuna fishing vessel and operations

According to the ICCAT quota allocation scheme for 2012, Egypt has an annual quota of 64.58 tons of bluefin tuna from the Mediterranean Sea catch during 2012 season. Egypt adopted the following plan:

- The quota of 64.58 ton will be caught by one fishing vessel; this vessel is “Seven Seas” that is listed with ICCAT list number AT000EG00003
- The fishing gear that will be used is purse seine
- The authorized period for fishing, from May 16 to June 14, 2012

1.2 Quota management

- The entire quota of 64.58 t allocated to one fishing vessel “Seven Seas”
- No Joint Fishing Operations will be allowed.
- The fishing area along the Egyptian territorial and EZZ water, Mediterranean Sea (26°-32° E).

1.3 Authorized ports

Two ports will be authorized to be used for bluefin tuna, these are:

- EL MeAdia fishing port, for bluefin tuna landing during the fishing season only.
- Alexandria commercial port, for exportation.

* Received after deadline.

1.4 Control measures

Five national observers representing the concerned Egyptian authority and the scientific institute will be attending the fishing activities on board and landing in port, as follow:

- The fishing operation of the Egyptian purse seiner shall be conducted in compliance with ICCAT Rec.10-04.
- Transshipment at sea is prohibited as stated in paragraph 62 of Rec. 10-04.
- The vessel will be equipped with VMS and transmission of the VMS messages to the ICCAT Secretariat shall be provided as stated in paragraph 89.
- The authorized ports (El MeAdia and Alexandria) are designated ports for landing dead tuna under control of the Egyptian Fisheries Agency.
- In the case of transfer of a live fish caught by the Egyptian authorized purse seiner to a towing cage for farming purpose in other CPCs, a certain percent of live fish caught shall be killed for sampling as stated in paragraph 87 of ICCAT Rec. 10-04, where randomly selected samples of fish shall be killed, sized and weighted. The size of the sampling percentage that intend to be killed at time of capture for representative sampling will be the same as the percentage used by the CPCs in the Mediterranean in the pilot studies for better estimation and sampling program at time of caging.
- There are still no facilities to farm bluefin tuna in Egyptian waters.
- The Recommendation on the regional observer program, as this program is only required for the fishing vessels more than 24 m (paragraph 91, Rec. 10-04), and the Egyptian authorized vessel for bluefin tuna fishing is 23.5 LOA, therefore, the national observers on boats will be used according to paragraph 90 of Rec. 10-04, where:
 - Three observers of fisheries specialists will be on board during the fishing operations for monitoring the catch, recording the required data and insuring the compliance of the fishing vessel with ICCAT recommendations.
 - Two observers will be at the ports to follow up the landed catch and reviewing the on board observer's reports.
 - In case of non-compliance with this plan or any of ICCAT recommendations by the fishing vessels, the penal code will be applied, where the vessel will not be allowed to work in tuna fishing for the next seasons and if non-compliance is repeated, this vessel will not be authorized to work in tuna fisheries completely.

1.5 Authorized persons for BCD validations and documentations

- Madani Ali Madani
- Atif Salah Megahed

1.6 Authorized E-mails for communication

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EUROPEAN UNION**1. Capacity Management Plan 2012**

<i>Catch rate</i>		<i>No. of vessels and traps</i>		<i>Capacity (t)</i>	
<i>Category</i>	<i>Catch rate</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2012*</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2012</i>
PS large (>40 m)	70.7	35	20	2,473	1,413
PS med. (24-49 m)	49.8	61	18	3,037	896
PS small (?24 m)	33.7	81		2,728	
<i>PS total</i>		<i>177</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>8,238</i>	<i>2,309</i>
LL med. (24-40 m)	5.7	7	8	40	45
LL small (?24 m)	5.0	329	90	1,645	450
<i>LL total</i>		<i>336</i>	<i>98</i>	<i>1,685</i>	<i>495</i>
Baitboat	19.8	64	68	1,264	1,343
Handline	5.0	85	31	425	155
Trawler	10.0	160	60	1,600	600
Other artisanal	5.0	253	154	1,265	770
Total		1,075	449	14,477	5,673
Trap	130.0	15	12	1,950	1,560
Total		1,090	461	16,427	7,233

*Two medium sized purse seiners may be replaced by line vessels (as many as needed to achieve corresponding capacity).

2. Annual Fishing Plan 2012**2.1. Background**

The European Union (EU) adopted Council Regulation (EC) No. 302/2009* on 6 April 2009 transposing into Community Law ICCAT Recommendation [08-05] to establish a Multiannual Recovery Plan for Bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean.

Following ICCAT Recommendation [10-04] amending ICCAT Recommendation [08-05] adopted at the 2010 ICCAT Annual Meeting in Paris, the EU has amended Council Regulation (EC) 302/2009 transposing ICCAT Recommendation [10-04] into EU law. In accordance with Recommendation [10-04], the quota for the EU in 2012 will be 7.266,41 t, which will be subject to the pay-back decision as defined in paragraph 14.

2.2 Details

In accordance with ICCAT Recommendations [08-05], [09-06] and [10-04] the EU has:

- Drawn up an annual fishing plan identifying catching vessels over 24 metres and their associated individual quotas Individual quotas are still being allocated by EU Member States authorities however will be applicable to all purse-seiners irrespective of their length.
- All purse seine vessels over 24 metres will be allocated an individual vessel quota more than the SRCS catch rates as adopted by the Commission for estimating fleet capacity.
- Allocated a quota to the following sectors:
 - Traps,
 - Artisanal vessels (<24m),
 - Longliners (<24m),
 - Baitboats (<24m); and,
 - Trawlers (<24m).
- Will authorise 'catching vessels' and 'other' vessels' in accordance with paragraph 55 of ICCAT Recommendation [10-04],
- Allocate a quota for the purpose of recreational and sport fisheries,
- Allocate specific quota for bycatch of E-BFT,

* OJ L 96,15.04.2009, p.1.

- Have submitted a complementary inspection plan covering all BFT fisheries capable of addressing the control requirements of the fishery.

The EU undertakes a real-time monitoring of the bluefin tuna fishery and is committed to take the necessary measures to ensure full respect of ICCAT Recommendation [10-04] and other Recommendation concerning the management of E-BFT fisheries including Recommendation [06-07] and [09-11].

3. Inspection Plan 2012

3.1 Introduction

The European Union actively fishes eastern bluefin tuna (E-BFT) with a range of fishing gears with the majority of the quotas being attributed to the purse seine and trap sectors.

The EU contains 7 Member States which actively fish BFT across a number of sectors. The authorities for control and inspection fall on different actors across Member State and in many cases involve a combination of competent authorities.

ICCAT introduced a comprehensive set of conservation and management measures for E-BFT under the 2006 multi-annual recovery plan. Amendments in 2008 and 2010 have significantly reinforced the recovery plan which operates in parallel with an extensive traceability system introduced in 2007.

The European Commission coordinates with the Member States to ensure that the provisions laid down by ICCAT are reflected in EU and Member State law and fully enforced.

3.2 Overview of Inspection measures adopted in 2012 by the EU

Specific control and inspection programme

Working under the framework of the ICCAT Scheme of Joint International Inspection and building on experiences from recent years, the EU has established a Specific Control and Inspection Programme in covering 2011 and 2012 to monitor and enforce the implementation of the bluefin tuna recovery plan. This programme is a joint initiative bringing together the resources of the European Commission, the Community Fisheries Control Agency (CFCA) and the Member States involved in the fishery.

Joint Deployment Plan (JDP) for bluefin tuna

The resources of the European Commission are complemented by the CFCA who will adopt their 2012 Joint Deployment Plan for bluefin tuna (JDP-BFT) in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bringing the Specific Control and Inspection Programme into effect. It covers all stages of the market chain as well as controls at sea, on land and traps and farms and as in previous years the 2012 plan brings together the European Commission, Member States and the CFCA and draws on the resources of the seven EU Member States involved in the fishery.

Operationally the EU will coordinate joint inspection and control activities in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean involving a number of fishery patrol vessels and aircraft. Whilst the operational strategies and precise areas of operation remain confidential, the general areas covered by the 2012 JDP-BFT will be the eastern Atlantic (ICES Areas VII, VIII, IX X and COPACE 34.1.1, 34.1.2 and 34.2.0) and the Mediterranean (Western, Central and Eastern).

The Steering Group, composed by representatives of the CFCA, European Commission and Member States provides advice on the overall strategy of inspection activities and supervises the JDP implementation.

The joint control, inspection and surveillance activities carried out under the JDP are coordinated by the Technical Joint Deployment Group (TJDG) whose headquarters are based in the CFCA in Vigo in Spain. The TJDG is composed of national coordinators designated by the Member States and supported by the CFCA's own coordinators.

All cases of potential non-compliance will be forwarded to the flag state of the vessel / operator concerned and to the ICCAT Secretariat where required under Recommendation [10-04].

Member States National Control Action Programmes

Under the Specific Control and Inspection Programme, EU Member States have developed and submitted a National Control Action Programme for 2012. This is an extensive programme containing the resources and inspection strategy they intend to implement within their jurisdiction. These programmes as required under the Specific Control and Inspection Programme (Commission Decision No.207/2011) contain a series of inspection 'benchmarks', which include in particular:

- a) the full monitoring of caging operations taking place in Community waters;
- b) the full monitoring of transfer operations;
- c) the full monitoring of joint fishing operations;
- d) the control of all documents required by the legislation applicable to bluefin tuna, in particular verifying the reliability of the information recorded.

The full list of inspection benchmarks as laid down in Commission Decision No.207/2011 are given in section 4.

European Commission inspections

Under the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), the primary responsibility for control and enforcement lays with the Member State Authorities and specifically their fisheries inspectors. Whilst different in their powers and mandate, the European Commission also has their own permanent team of inspectors whose role is to monitor and evaluate Member States fulfillment of their duties and obligations, including those under the bluefin tuna recovery plan and associated ICCAT recommendations concerning bluefin tuna.

Although the inspection plan is still subject to change in response to the particularities of the 2012 fishing seasons, European Commission Inspectors will once again to be very active in 2012.

Vessel monitoring system and operations team

The team responsible within the European Commission for catch reporting and satellite Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) will monitor submissions on an hourly basis and undertake extensive cross-checks to avoid any potential quota overshoot.

All vessels will be continually monitored by VMS and any interruption in the transmission of VMS data be immediately followed up with the Member State concerned.

Inspections of farming operations and the live fish trade

Alongside the increased use of observers which now cover all purse seiners and tugs as well as new video recording requirements and procedures for treating products deemed to be illegal, specific strategies are being putting in place for 2012 based on those implemented throughout 2011 to monitor the catching, transferring, caging and harvesting operations of E-BFT, these include:

Catching and transferring

- EU Member States will facilitate the full deployment of Regional Observers on all applicable purse seine vessels and national observers on all towing vessels authorised to operate in 2012.
- Pre-authorisation to transfer will be sent to the flag state authorities of the catching vessel.
- Authorisation will only be granted once a series of conformations have been carried out including:
 - The vessel is authorised, has been transmitting by VMS and has sufficient individual quota (or group in the case of a JFO),
 - Confirmation that the receiving towing vessel is authorised and been reporting VMS and has an observer onboard.
- A series of 'spot check' inspections inside the towing cages will also be undertaken by EU / Member State diving inspectors who will check that the number and estimated weight caught and transferred corresponds with that in the ICCAT transfer declaration on board of the tug boats.
- Any indication received by the flag state authorities of the catching vessels, by either the regional observer, national observer, that the fish in question, including those that have died in the transfer operation, is more than 10% of the amount referenced in the authorizations, or 5% in the case of fish less than 30kg*, will result

* Or above 8kgs for those vessels fishing under the derogation as provided for under paragraph 29 of Recommendation [10-04].

in the bluefin tuna being placed 'under investigation'. Such investigation will need to be initiated and concluded in collaboration with the farm CPC/Member State authorities. Any 'open investigation' will prevent the associated bluefin tuna being caged in an EU farm and the farming section of the BCD validated.

Caging

- EU farms will facilitate the full deployment of Regional Observers for 100% of caging operations.
- Pre-authorisation to cage will need to be sent to the EU farm authorities in accordance with the requirements under Recommendation [10-04].
- Video records of transfer will be submitted as a condition prior to the actual caging.
- Caging of bluefin tuna where the quantity by number and/or weight above that authorized to be caged by the flag State will not be accepted by the Farming State.
- Inspectors of the EU farming authorities will view video records in collaboration with farm operators and regional observer as many times as necessary to agree on the number and weight of bluefin tuna caged. For this purpose Member State inspectors will receive training in video counting techniques.
- A series of 'spot check' inspections in the farm cages will be undertaken by Member State diving inspectors to confirm the quantities of caged fish. This would be conducted by divers which and in some cases in one Member State would also use a stereoscopic camera.
- In accordance with Recommendation [10-04], pilot projects for the use of 100% stereoscopic camera systems at the time of caging were initiated by the EU in 2011 in collaboration with the CFCA. A number of Member States had already embarked on the use of systems however this global EU initiative is working towards a consolidation and harmonization of these systems based on experiences in other fisheries.
- Any transfer of blue fin tuna from one farm to another or within the same farm will require the presence of an inspector and a regional observer. Such transfers shall be video recorded.
- Experimental sampling programme at the time of caging will be established either using stereoscopic method to define the length composition of the bluefin tuna caged, or by harvesting a significant number of specimens to obtain the average weight.

Harvesting and export

- EU farms will facilitate the full deployment of Regional Observers for 100% of harvesting operations.
- Inspectors of the EU farming authorities will be present for a proportion of harvesting operations.
- Farm authorities shall not authorize the export of bluefin tuna which are in excess of the number caged.
- If authorizations and / or documents are to be lacking or the number and weight of bluefin tuna in excess of that previously recorded, the EU farm State will be obliged to authorize the release of the fish in accordance with the procedures provided under Recommendation [10-04].

3.3 Cooperation with other CPCs

As in previous years, the EU in 2012 will once again seek to establish and further promote cooperation and coordination with other Contracting parties (CPCs) in the Mediterranean concerning the exchange of monitoring, control and surveillance information.

4. Benchmarks for National Control Programmes

Caging activities (including harvest)

- All caging operation into a farm must have been authorized by the flag Member State of the catching vessel within 48 hours following the submission of the information required for the caging operation;
- All caging for farming or fattening bluefin tuna shall be accompanied by accurate, complete and validated documentation as required by ICCAT (as provided for by paragraph 84 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04);
- Each caging operation and harvesting process shall be inspected, including by the relevant authorities of the port;
- All caging operations shall be monitored by video camera in the water (as provided for by paragraph 86 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04);

- Fish shall be caged before 31st July unless valid reason as per Rec. 10-04 (as provided for by paragraph 83 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04).

Inspection at sea

- Benchmark, to be set after a detailed analysis of the fishing activity in each area;
- Benchmarks at sea shall refer to the number of patrol days at sea in the bluefin tuna recovery specific area and shall refer as well to the number of patrol days identifying the fishing season and the type of fishing activity targeted.

Transfer operations

- All transfer operations must have been authorized previously by the flag States on the basis of a prior transfer notification;
- An authorization number shall be assigned to each transfer operation (as provided for by paragraph 76 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04)
- A transfer shall be authorized within 48 hours following the submission of the prior transfer notification (as provided for by paragraph 76 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04);
- An ICCAT transfer declaration shall be sent to the flag State at the end of the transfer operation (as provided for by paragraph 77 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04);
- All transfer operations must be monitored by video camera in the water (as provided for by paragraph 79 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04).

Transshipments

- All vessels shall be inspected on arrival before the transshipment operations start, as well as before departure after the transshipment operations. Random checks shall be made in non designated ports;
- A transshipment declaration shall be transmitted to the flag States no later than 48 hours after the date of transshipment in port (as provided for by paragraph 69 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04).

Joint fishing operations

- All joint fishing operations must have been authorized previously by the flag States;
- Member States shall then establish and maintain a record of all joint fishing operations authorized by them.

Aerial surveillance

- Flexible benchmark, to be set after a detailed analysis of the fishing activity conducted in each area and taking into consideration the available resources at the Member State's disposal.

Landings

- All vessels entering a designated port for the purpose of landing bluefin tuna shall be inspected;
- Random checks shall be made in non designated ports;
- The relevant authority shall send a record of the landings to the flag State authority of the fishing vessel, within 48 hours after the landing has ended (as provided for by paragraph 68 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04).

Marketing

- Flexible benchmark, to be set after a detailed analysis of the marketing activity conducted.

Sport and recreational fisheries

- Flexible benchmark, to be set after a detailed analysis of the sport and recreational fisheries activities conducted.

Traps

- All trap operations, including transfer and harvesting, shall be inspected.

ICELAND

There is no designated bluefin tuna fishing fleet in Iceland.

Each year the Icelandic Ministry of Fisheries opens for applications to fish the Icelandic bluefin quota. The quota is then allocated to individual vessel(s). When the individual quota is fished the bluefin tuna fishing licence of the vessel expires.

In 2012 the Icelandic fisheries authorities will only issue a fishing licence for directed bluefin tuna to one Icelandic fishing vessel.

The vessel shall use longline and the fishing area is south of Iceland. All catches shall be landed in Icelandic designated ports, no transshipments will be allowed.

Inspectors from the Directorate of Fisheries in Iceland shall be present onboard for at least 20% of the fishing operations.

The Marine Research Institute in Iceland supplies the Directorate with relevant information for the inspectors. All landings will be monitored by the Directorate.

The fishing season will start on 1. August 2012. The vessel shall have a general fishing licence and a quota for other species in the Icelandic EEZ. When the vessel intends to utilize the bluefin tuna quota it should notify the Directorate of Fisheries in Iceland and thereby undergo the management regime of ICCAT. As soon as the individual quota is fished the bluefin tuna fishing licence expires.

The vessel can therefore not be regarded as a tuna fleet as it has a quota for other fish species in Icelandic waters and only engages in bluefin tuna fisheries part of the year.

All discards are banned on the Icelandic fleet, all by-catches are to be landed and recorded. Shark finning is prohibited. Should the bluefin tuna vessel catch shark species that are under special provisions by ICCAT, stipulating that retaining, storing, landing and selling are prohibited, these catches are to be submitted to the Icelandic Marine Research Institute for scientific research. The Marine Research Institute will then report relevant information to the ICCAT Scientific Committee.

JAPAN**1. Fishing Plan*****1.1 Fishing vessel type***

All Japanese fishing vessels catching bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic Mediterranean are large scale tuna longline fishing vessels (LSTSVs).

1.2 Management period

The Fisheries Agency of Japan (FAJ) will continue to manage its allocation based on the Japanese fishing season, which is, in the case of the 2012 allocated quota, from August 1st 2012 to July 31st 2013 (the closed fishing season described in 2 d) below excluded).

1.3 Quota and number of authorized fishing vessels

Japan's quota for the 2012 fishing season is 1097.03 t. The Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, having been entrusted competence by the Fisheries Law, has amended ministerial ordinance to introduce a legally binding individual quota system. The Minister will continue to assign an enough individual quota to each LSTSV so as to ensure that such quota will be well above its fishing capacity (25 t) that SCRS has estimated. This means that Japan will not have any over-capacity of LSTSV against its allocation.

The Minister will license 22 fishing vessels to catch bluefin tuna as described 3 below. The FAJ will, upon Minister's licensing, inform the names, amount of individual quotas and other necessary information to the ICCAT Secretariat (paragraph 10 of Rec. 10-04).

2. Enforcement Plan

2.1 Catch report

The Minister will continue to require fishing operators to affix tags which have been authorized and distributed beforehand to each bluefin tuna, and to report daily bluefin tuna catch (including zero catch report) by the end of next day of their catch in accordance with the ordinance. Such report has to contain the date, area of catch, number of catch, individual bluefin tuna weight and tag numbers (paragraph 70 of Rec. 10-04).

2.2 Transshipment

The Minister will continue to prohibit transshipping of bluefin tuna at sea and allow transshipment only at ports registered to ICCAT by the ordinance and conditions on the licences (paragraph 70 of Rec. 10-04).

2.3 Landing

The Minister will continue to prohibit overseas landing of bluefin tuna, and allow landing only in eight domestic ports which the Minister has designated by the ordinance for enforcement purpose. The FAJ will continue to have its enforcement officers inspect all bluefin tuna landings at the designated ports (paragraph 67 of Rec. 10-04).

2.4 Closed fishing season

The Minister will continue to prohibit the operators from bluefin tuna fishing in the area delimited by West of 10°W and North 42°N during the period from 1 February to 31 July, and in other areas during the period from 1 of June to 31 December by the ordinance (paragraph 21 of Rec. 10-04). The FAJ will continue to ensure the compliance by monitoring VMS data (paragraph 89 of Rec. 10-04).

2.5 Observers

The FAJ will place some observers on board fishing vessels that is necessary for compliance with paragraph 90 of Rec. 10-04 in 2012.

2.6 Inspection vessel

In February 2011 the FAJ planned to continue to dispatch one control ship to the Atlantic Ocean in 2011, but the FAJ could not. Because of control ships of Japan were affected by the great east Japan earthquake on March 11 this year. The FAJ will dispatch one control ship to the Atlantic Ocean in 2012 (paragraph 101 of Rec. 10-04).

2.7 Imposition of sanctions

In the case that violation is discovered, the Minister will penalize the fishing operator, which could include both port confinement and five year suspension to allocate bluefin tuna individual quota.

3. Capacity Management Plan

3.1 Reduction of fishing capacity

The number of Japanese LSTLVs and the corresponding gross registered tonnage (GRT) during the period from January 2007 to July 2008 were 49 and 21,587 tons.

Japan reduced its fishing capacity by buy-back schemes in 2009. The number of vessels and the GRT in the 2009 fishing year were 33 and 14,427 (33% reduction from 2008 fishing year).

Japan further reduced its fishing capacity to 22 vessels and 9,476 GRT in 2010 (55% and 56% reduction from year 2008) and will license 22 vessels in 2012 so that its fishing capacity will continue to be commensurate with its allocated quota.

3.2 Demonstration that the current capacity is commensurate with allocated quota

The Minister will continue to allocate each LSTLV a quota more than its capacity (25 t per LSTLV) estimated for a LSTLV by SCRS. Thus, Japan, having accomplished the obligation on capacity reduction provided in

paragraph 47 of Rec. 10-04, will continue to ensure that its fishing capacity will be commensurate with its allocated quota in accordance with paragraph 49 of Rec. 10-04.

	2010	2011	2012
Allocated quota (ton)	1148.05	1097.03	1097.03
Number of large scale longline vessel (Total GRT)	22 (9,476)	22 (9,940)	22 (9,831)
Amount of quota per vessel per year allocated by the Government of Japan (ton)	52.1	49.8	49.8

KOREA

With regard to the paragraph 9 of the Recommendation 10-04, the Korean government would like to submit its fishing, inspection and capacity reduction plans for 2012 for endorsement in the upcoming annual meeting in Istanbul, Turkey. Only one Korean purse seine vessel (*Sajomelita*) which has been placed on ICCAT Record of Bluefin Tuna Fishing Vessels will fish bluefin with its authorized quota for 2012 to be determined. This bluefin tuna fishing vessel will be with a designated ICCAT Observer which shall be required in the Recommendation of the ICCAT.

No further reduction of fishing capacity could be done.

LIBYA *

1. E-BFT Fishing Plan for the 2012 season

Considering that for the period of February-October 2011, there was a ferocious civil war that forced the Libyan bluefin tuna fishing industry to forfeit the 2011 season causing great hardship to the various social sectors concerned and the many families involved who not only lost all form of income during 2011, but had to face the hardships of war and presently cannot expect any other source of income until the 2012 season,

Considering that the rebuilding of the country and, in particular, the infrastructure of the Libyan fishing industry is expected to take at least a couple of years,

Considering that the Libyan tuna fishing sector is the major contributor to the funding required for the local management structures of conservation and control in the various sectors of the fisheries in the Libyan FPZ and to the contributions of the Libyan Fishing Department to ICCAT research initiatives, such as the GBYP,

Considering that during the 2011 season over 2,800 tons out of the total East Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna TAC were left unfished to the benefit of the recovery of the stocks and that during the current and coming years such tonnage will contribute significantly to the biomass increase of the East Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna population by over 400 tons annually,

Considering that Libya is fully committed to the enforcement of the management measures recommended by ICCAT and is presently prospecting the strengthening of its cooperation with research/scientific agencies and the implementation of innovative conservation measures especially in the light of the recent indications on the spawning grounds of East Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna,

Considering that the principle of taking into account a situation of war for the recoupment of foregone quota is not new to ICCAT as it has already been established by the 1998 precedent when the special case of Croatia was raised and deliberated upon positively,

Therefore, Libya, in the full knowledge that it shall not disturb the biology of the East Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna population and the overall quota allocation keys as considered in the 2008-2013 East Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna Recovery Plan, submits the recoup of its foregone 2011 bluefin tuna quota over a period of three years as follows:

* Received after deadline.

2012	250 tons
2013	300 tons
2014	352.66 tons

1.1 The fishing fleet

- The number of fishing vessels which will participate in catching E-BFT for the 2012 season in the East Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea is 15 vessels (13 PS, 24-40 m and 2 LL, over 40 m). No vessels less than 24m nor any recreational or sport fishery will participate in the 2012 fishing season.
- The total number of other vessels that will participate in the 2012 bluefin tuna fishing season is 7 vessels, with no fishing gear on board, except the transfer cage or services supplies.
- Thirteen (13) purse seiners over 24 m and 2 longliners over 40 m, authorized to fish for bluefin tuna in 2012, have been allocated an individual vessel quota taking into consideration the SCRS best catch rates, where 60 t will be allocated to the longline vessels over 40 m and 840 t allocated among the 13 purse seiners over 40 m, with 2.66 t to be kept as a reserve for any incidental or by-catch that might occur in the artisanal fleet. The list of authorized vessels and their individual quotas will be presented on time, and any changes to these fishing possibilities allocation or the vessel list will be transmitted to the ICCAT Secretariat immediately and in accordance with the recommendations adopted by ICCAT.
- The authorized vessels expected to carry out fishing activities during the 2012 fishing season in working groups and the details of these groups and allocation key will be notified to the ICCAT Secretariat within the required timeframe.
- Respect of the individual quota limits shall be monitored by the fishery authorities and cross checking with the ROP and national observers on board the fishing vessels.
- All vessels deemed to have exhausted its individual quota shall be ordered into port immediately.

1.2 Joint Fishing Operations (JFOs)

- JFOs will only be authorized with other CPC authorities that have less than 5 purse seiners authorized to fish bluefin tuna and registered in the ICCAT list.
- If any request for a JFO is received from a CPC that has less than 5 purse seiners, Libya will study this request very carefully and will consent to the JFO after making sure that all the requirements for JFO stipulated by Rec. 10-04 are fulfilled, and ICCAT will be informed of this consent within the timeframe required.

1.3 Farms

- Libya has only one farm registered in the ICCAT Record of Farms with a capacity of 1000 t. This farm has not operated since 2006 and it will not be active in 2012.

– Enforcement of the Fishing Plan

a) Regulations

- Ministerial Decree #61/2010 transposing Rec. 09-06, amending Rec. 08-05, to establish a multi-annual recovery plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic.
- Law # 14/1989 which organizes the fishery and aquaculture sectors in Libya.
- Other acts organizing and managing bluefin tuna licenses.

b) Licensing

- Individual fishing permits shall be issued by the Fishery Authority based on Decree #61/2010 (Articles 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) for each vessel authorized to fish bluefin tuna in 2012, specifying the following conditions as required by Rec. 10-04:

- Fishing area (East Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea, Article 3, Decree #61/2010).
- Individual quota (Article 11, Decree #61/2010).
- Logbook on board (Article 28, Decree #61/2010).

c) VMS

- All fishing vessels and other vessels active in bluefin tuna fishing shall not be authorized unless equipped with a fully active VMS (Article 18, Decree #61/2010).
- The Fishery Authority will monitor the status of VMS transmissions and any interruption of such transmission will be investigated immediately in order to resolve the problem

d) Observers

- Regional and national observers shall be placed on board all purse seiners and other vessels authorized to participate in the 2012 bluefin tuna season (Article 14, Decree #61/2010).

e) Reporting of catch

- The catch vessel Master shall communicate, by electronic or other means, a week catch report to the competent authorities, including information on catch, data, number of fish, total weight (Article 20, Decree #61/2010).
- A weekly and monthly catch report of all authorized Libyan vessels active in bluefin tuna catching shall be transmitted to the ICCAT Secretariat in accordance with the format established for this purpose.

f) Transfer

- The catch vessel Master shall request from the competent authorities, by email or fax, an authorization to transfer bluefin tuna catch, specifying the date, area and position of the catch, the number of fish and the estimated weight and expected date and time of the transfer, towing vessel information, the number of cages and their final destination, conformed and signed by the Regional Observer and the National Observer.
- A numbered transfer authorization shall be sent to the catching vessels after checking that all the requirements in paragraphs 75, 76, 77, 78... of Rec. 10-04 are met.
- In case there are indications of a difference in the estimated weight of fish, including the number of fish that died during the transfer operation between that reported by the ROP on board the catching vessel and the vessel Master by more than 10%, or 5% in the case of the number of fish less than 30 kg, an investigation will take place according to the procedure indicated in paragraph 80 of Rec. 10-04.
- All bluefin tuna transfers to tugs shall be documented by video camera and one copy shall be on board the tug boat and another copy shall be delivered to the ROP and vessel Master (Article 24, Decree #61/2010).
- The vessel Master shall complete the transfer declaration and the BCD forms and transmit these forms to the Fishery Authority after confirming the data from the ROP (Article 25, Decree #61/2010).
- The Master of the tug boat shall not leave the transfer site before he receives the original documents which prove the legality of the catch (Transfer Declarations, BCDs and Catch Vessels Logbook, Article 23, Decree #61/2010).
- The Master of the fishing vessel or his representative shall inform the competent authorities of the flag State of the name, location and flag State of the farm to which the fish are marketed (Article 21, Decree #61/2010).
- The Master of the catching vessel shall keep an on-board logbook of the operations and must complete, by midnight every day, all the information on the vessel's activities and shall declare the number and the weight of the dead fish retained on board and to be landed at port (Article 25, Decree #61/2010).

g) Sampling requirements

- All catch transfers will be documented by video footage.

- All authorized purse seine vessels must have full deployment (100%) of ROP and national observers and all tugs shall have a national observer on board.
- At the time of transfer of live fish to towing cages, a certain percentage of fish transferred shall be sampled and killed to reduce the confounding and improve weight estimation as required paragraph 87 of by Rec. 10-04).
- Libya shall require all operators of purse seiners to transfer their catches only to farming units that can guarantee the utilization of stereoscopic systems for the assessment of live fish on arrive of towing cages to their farms.

h) Landing/transshipment ports

- Transshipment at sea is prohibited.
- Bluefin tuna fishing vessels shall only land/tranship bluefin tuna catches at ports designated by the Fishery Authorities (Al-khums port, Tripoli port and Zawara port).
- All vessels entering any of these ports for landing or transshipment shall seek a pre-entry permission from the Port Authorities (Article 22, Decree#61/2010).
- All landings or transshipments shall be inspected by Port and Fishery Authorities and inform the fishing vessel flag State with a report (as indicated in paragraph 68 of Rec. 10-04).

i) Use of aircraft

- The use of airplanes or helicopters to search for bluefin tuna is prohibited (Article 10, Decree #61/2010).

j) Minimum size

- Catching, retaining, landing, transshipping, transferring, selling, displaying for sale of bluefin tuna weighing less than 30 kg is prohibited (Article 15, Decree #61/2010).
- For catching vessels fishing actively for bluefin tuna, an incidental catch of a maximum of 5% weighing between 10-30 kg is permitted and shall be counted against Libyan quota.

k) Market measures

- Foreign and domestic trade, landing, imports, exports, placing in cages and transshipments of bluefin tuna and its products, which are not accompanied by accurate, complete and validated BCDs is prohibited (Articles 21 and 24, Decree #61/2010).

l) Imposing of sanctions

- Any non-compliance with the regulations regarding bluefin tuna fishing operations shall lead to penalties stated in Article 17 of Decree #61/20910 (confiscation of fishing gear, releasing of catches, suspending or withdrawal of license, decrease or withdrawal of quota).

2. Fishery Inspection Plan

Controlling and monitoring of fishing activities in Libya are governed by the Fisheries and Aquaculture Act #14/1989, Decree #61/2010, transposing Rec. 09-06, and the Coast Guard and Port Security Act #229/2005, and considers the core legal documents which define the activities and actions which are infringements of fishery policy

2.1 Human resources

- Fishing inspection will be implemented by Fishing Inspectors from the Fisheries Authority and Coast Guard personnel, in coordination with the Port Authority.

- The Coast Guard shall cooperate in surveillance and control at sea of all activities linked to fisheries inspection planned and coordinated with the consent of the Fishery Authority.
- A Central Control Room will be established during the 2012 bluefin tuna fishing season to supervise the monitoring of fishing activities.
- Specific fisheries inspection tasks shall be planned, including a list of relevant provisions of national and international regulations governing the management of fishery resources, and will also contain a description of the inspector tasks as per Rec. 10-04.

3. Capacity Management Plan

- Libya shall keep reducing its fishing capacity in accordance with the requirements of ICCAT measures until its fishing capacity is commensurate with its allocated quota (**Table 1**).

Table 1. Libya's Capacity Management Plan for 2010-2013.

<i>Tuna vessel fleet</i>		<i>Fleet (vessels)</i>						<i>Fishing capacity</i>				
<i>Type</i>	<i>Best catch rates defined by the SCRS (t)</i>	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Purse seiner over 40m	71	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Purse seiners between 24 and 40sm	49.78	31	30	29	21	18	17	1493	1444	1045	896	846
Purse seiners less than 24sm	33.68	1	1	1		0	0	34	34	0	0	0
TOTAL PURSE SEINE FLEET		33	31	30	21	18	17	1527	1477	1045	896	846
Longliners over 40m	25	5	4	2	2	2	1	100	50	50	50	25
Longliners between 24 and 40sm	5.68		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longliners less than 24sm	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL LONGLINE FLEET		5	4	2	2	2	1	100	50	50	50	25
Total fleet/fishing capacity		38	35	32	23	20	18	1627	1527	1095	946	871
TAC								22000	13500	13500	13500	13500
Quota Libya								947	581	903	903	903
Report/quota transfer*								145	145	0	0	0
Under-harvest report 2009											0	0
"Over-harvest reimbursement"									0	0	0	0
Adjusted Libya quota								1092	726	903	903	903
Under/overcapacity								535	801	192	43	-32

Reduction 2011 78.70%
 Reduction 2012 95.20%
 Reduction 2013 103.50%

MOROCCO**1. Capacity Reduction Plan for 2012**

	<i>SCRS potential catches (t)</i>	<i>Vessels registered in ICCAT prior to 2010</i>	<i>Theoretical catches (t)</i>	<i>Vessels authorized for 2012</i>	<i>Theoretical catches 2012 (t)</i>
PS Large LOA > 40 m	70.7	2	141.4	1	70.7
PS Med. 24 < LHT < 40	49.8	3	99.6	0	0
PS Small LHT < 24*	33.7	1	33.7	0	0
LL Large	25	0	0	0	0
LL Med.	5.7	1	5.7	0	0
LL Small	5	63	315	0	0
Baitboat	19.8	0	0	0	0
Handline	5	0	0	0	0
Trawl	10	1	10	0	0
Other artisanal**	5	pm	pm	pm*	141.6
Traps (Moroccan indicators)	112.3	18	2,021.4	09	1,010.7
Total		89	2,616.8	09	1,223.00
2012 Quota					1,223.07
Total theoretical catch			2,616.8		1,223.00
Theoretical rate of overage of capacity/quota			-		- 0.0001 %

* This is a reserve, that is, it is not certain that this vessel will be operational in 2011.

**These are some artisanal and coastal vessels authorized to catch bluefin tuna incidentally according to the volume of the quota assigned to this component in the 2011 annual fishing plan.

Pm = *pour memoire*.

2. Plan annuel de pêche pour la saison 2012 *

Le Royaume du Maroc a élaboré et mis en œuvre un plan de gestion de la pêcherie du thon rouge au titre de l'année 2011. Ses dispositions s'inspirent intégralement de la Recommandation 10-04 portant sur le rétablissement du thon rouge de l'Est.

Ainsi, le quota de pêche 2012 tel qu'attribué par la Commission au Maroc ainsi que les dispositions de ladite Recommandation seront re transposées dans une Décision ministérielle portant sur la gestion et l'aménagement de la pêcherie du thon rouge pour la saison de pêche 2012.

Le quota de 1223,07 TM sera réparti sur l'ensemble des segments opérationnels qui ont opéré en 2011:

- Le segment des madragues, -le segment côtier et artisanal, et-le segment hauturier spécialisé.

Le nombre d'unités de pêche qui seront opérationnelles, en 2012, est détaillé dans le plan de gestion et de réduction de la capacité de pêche du Maroc élaboré pour cette saison.

Aussi, le Maroc poursuivra-t-il la mise en œuvre de toutes les dispositions de la Recommandation 10-04 en matière de contrôle de l'accès à la ressource (autorisation spéciale, registre des madragues et des navires autorisés, couverture par des observateurs, taille minimale, fermeture saisonnière, interdiction des transbordements en mer...).

Par ailleurs, comme le Maroc ne dispose que d'un seul navire de pêche hauturier spécialisé pour le ciblage du thon rouge vivant, l'administration pourra l'autoriser à effectuer une opération conjointe, à sa demande sous réserve de se conformer aux exigences de l'ICCAT en la matière.

* Received after deadline.

Aussi, et dans le cadre de la coopération avec le GBYP, le Maroc est-il disposé à poursuivre les opérations de marquage de thon rouge au niveau des madragues comme ce fut le cas en 2011.

Enfin, il est à préciser qu'aucune ferme d'engraissement n'est autorisée à ce jour au Maroc et aucune activité dans cette filière ne sera autorisée en 2012.

3. Suivi et contrôle des activités de pêche

Par ailleurs, toutes les mesures de gestion adoptées par la commission en matière de suivi, d'observation et de contrôle des activités de pêche, d'une part, de collecte et de communication des données de captures, d'autre part, seront scrupuleusement appliquées en 2012 comme ce fut le cas pour la saison précédente.

Aussi, le Maroc poursuivra-t-il ses efforts en matière de coopération avec les autres CPC impliquées dans les activités de pêche et de commerce de thon rouge pour renforcer les opérations de vérification et de croisement des informations.

TUNISIA

1. Fishing plan

All the Tunisian fishing vessels that carry out bluefin tuna fishery use surrounding net; these are tuna purse seiners.

The management of fishing by these vessels will be governed in 2012, as in 2011, in accordance with national regulations and the ICCAT recommendations, based on the fishing season which in 2011 was from 16 May to 14 June. In 2012, the competent authority will continue to guarantee compliance of the fishing period will continue to guarantee compliance of the fishing period through the monitoring of the VMS data.

The national quota for 2011 amounts to 1,017.56 t (initial quota); the adjusted quota is 860.18 t. This quota has been distributed among the vessels authorized to carry out fishing, based largely on the measures established by ICCAT and the technical specifications of the tuna fleet.

In 2012, Tunisia envisages continuing to grant individual quotas to its vessels; the national quota will be distributed among its tuna vessels such that the fishing capacity of each vessel is proportional to the quota allocated to it. The methodology of allocation of the quotas in 2012 will be the same as that used in 2011.

The number of vessels authorized to carry out bluefin tuna fishing will be fixed after the quotas for 2012 are decided. For information purposes, this number will be 21 vessels in case the quota remains the same as in 2011 (1,017.56 t). The Tunisian administration will inform the ICCAT Secretariat later of the vessel names, individual vessel quotas and any other pertinent information.

According to Tunisian regulations, the transshipment of fishing products must be subject to prior authorization. The competent authority will maintain this requirement in 2012, and will prevent all at sea transshipment of bluefin tuna in accordance with paragraph 70 of Recommendation 10-04.

Also, the national regulation specifies that the landing of fishing products must take place in Tunisian fishing ports, unless the fishing permit indicates an exceptional authorization. This provision will also be maintained in 2012 and the pertinent measures will be taken to avoid any landing of bluefin tuna outside the designated ports (paragraph. 67 of Rec.10-04).

In 2011, the Tunisian administration deployed 16 observers: 15 observers on board Tunisian vessels and one observer on board a vessel of another CPC. In 2012, the administration envisages maintaining the same number of observers, particularly by supporting the deployment of Tunisian observers on board vessels of other CPCs.

2. Fishing capacity management plan

In 2008, Tunisian fishing capacity amounted to 42 vessels which correspond to a catch level of 1.809.26 t. This capacity has been reduced to 23 vessels with a catch level of 1.084.54 t. so that it is proportional to the quota allocated in 2011, i.e., a reduction of 19 vessels and a reduction in capacity of 724.72 (i.e., a reduction of 76.78%).

In 2012, Tunisia will continue to respect the obligation to reduce capacity defined in paragraph 47 of Rec. 10-04 in order to reach a rate corresponding to at least 95% between fishing capacity and the capacity proportional to the quota for 2012. To this effect, 20 vessels over 24 m and one vessel less than 24 m will be authorized to participate in bluefin tuna fishing in 2012. A change will probably be made in the fleet structure.

Table 1 shows Tunisia's fishing capacity foreseen for the 2012 season, in number, according to the length range of the fishing vessels. This capacity is given for information purposes and will be adapted once the TAC for 2012 is decided.

3. Farming capacity management plan

In accordance with paragraphs 51 and 52 of 10-04, Tunisia envisages maintaining in 2012 the same farming capacity of bluefin tuna caged in 2008, i.e. 2,134 t. including imports that will be placed in the cages in the Tunisian farming facilities (see **Table 2**).

It should be noted that the farming company (SMT) is being substituted by another. The SNB and THC companies are in the process of negotiating the association with other companies to carry out the farming activity in 2012.

4. Inspection plan

In 2012, Tunisia will maintain the deployment of an inspection vessel in the framework of the ICCAT International Joint Inspection Scheme. in accordance with paragraph 101 of Rec.10-04.

Table 1. Tunisia's Fishing Capacity Plan for 2012.

Vessel categories	Catch level	2008		2010		2011		2012*	
		Num.	Capacity	Num.	Capacity	Num.	Capacity	Num.	Capacity
Large purse seiners ≥ 40 m	70.66 t	1	70.66 t	1	70.66 t	0	0	0	0
Medium purse seiners 24 - 40 m	49.78 t	24	1194.72	24	1194.72	19	945.82	20	995.6
Small purse seiners ≤24 m	33.68 t	16	538.88	16	538.88	4	134.72	1	33.68 t
Small longliners ≤24 m	5 t	1	5	1	5	0	0	0	0
Total		42	1809.26	42	1809.26	23	1080.54	21	1029.28
% Reduction							76.78%		98.51%

*Data for information purposes.

Table 2. Tunisia's Farming Capacity Plan for 2012.

ICCAT Number	Management of the installation	Maximum caging amount foreseen for 2012 (in t)
AT001TUN00001	Société VMT Sahbi Sallem	356
AT001TUN00002	Société TT Abdelwaheb Ben Ramdhane	444
	*Ex Société SMT (Establishment being substituted; to be replaced by another)	*978
AT001TUN00004	Société TFT Ridha Sallem	356

*Provisional data.

TURKEY**1. Eastern Bluefin Tuna Fishing Plan for 2012**

Fishing, transferring and farming activities for eastern bluefin tuna (BFT) will be conducted in compliance with applicable ICCAT recommendations. An individual quota allocation system for each of bluefin tuna catching vessels shall be applied. Fishing for bluefin tuna shall only be conducted in respect of the catching vessels' individual quotas.

The Turkish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MoFAL) shall announce the above-mentioned decision to all sector stakeholders in accordance with the Ministerial Communiqué and Notifications regarding bluefin tuna fishing, farming and trading.

1.1 Potential fishing grounds

The potential fishing ground for E-BFT fishery will be off the western and southern coasts of Turkey, Antalya Bay and the region between Antalya Gazi Pasha and Cyprus Island. In the eastern Mediterranean, fishing activity is estimated to be conducted mostly in the triangular marine area surrounded by Turkey, Cyprus, and Syria. Sparse fishing activities may occur in the southern regions of the Aegean Sea.

1.2 List of authorized bluefin tuna catching vessels

MoFAL shall issue special fishing permits for all bluefin tuna catching vessels to be authorized for 2012 in accordance with domestic legislation as well as relevant ICCAT regulations on capacity adjustments. All vessels shall be equipped and monitored with a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS).

MFAL has reduced the total number of bluefin tuna catching vessels by achieving more than 547% decrease from the beginning of the capacity reduction measures applied since 2009. Nevertheless, it is assumed that the "best catch rates" used for capacity adjustment purposes have been established for historical fishing seasons when Turkey used to have only a one month closed season. However, now the duration of the closed season is 11 months and the "best catch rates" per purse seine vessel needs to be recalculated by the SCRS.

The final list of authorized bluefin tuna catching vessels and individual quotas associated to them shall only be determined after the Commission's final decision on TAC and quotas. List of authorized bluefin tuna fishing vessels shall be submitted to ICCAT Secretariat before the specified deadline.

1.3 Licensing

A special fishing permit, which will be issued by the provincial directorates of MoFAL for the eligible purse seiners (who have formally possessed such permit during previous years) to conduct the bluefin tuna fishery, is mandatory for bluefin tuna catching vessels to operate for 2012 season. Total number of "special fishing permits" to be issued shall be determined by MoFAL in accordance with relevant ICCAT rules and recommendations.

A special tug and towing permit, which will be issued by the provincial directorates of MoFAL for the eligible fishing vessels to conduct any bluefin tuna transfer operation, is mandatory for bluefin tuna other vessels to operate for 2012 season.

1.4 Allocation of bluefin tuna catch quota

Even though Turkey has lodged a formal objection to the quota allocation scheme from the year 2011, the objected quota level mentioned above has been respected for sake of the multi-annual recovery plan for eastern bluefin tuna and Turkey has not exceeded total amount of 535.120 metric tons, which has been considered as the basis for domestic allocation of individual quotas to the catching vessels authorized to fish in 2011 by taking the recent status of eastern bluefin tuna stocks into consideration.

In 2012, domestic criteria for usage and allocation of bluefin tuna catch quotas shall be determined after the Commission's final decision on TAC and quotas.

1.5 Methodology used for Individual Quota Allocation

MoFAL plans to allocate 98% of the total domestic quota through its distribution in an equal ratio to each of the fishing vessels, based on a domestic criterion to be applied.

For the fishing vessels having allocated an individual quota but not intending to operate for 2012 bluefin tuna fishing season, the possibility of transferring its individual quota to another fishing vessel domestically will be allowed. If a catching vessel cannot completely exhaust its assigned individual quota (IQ) by the end of the season, no IQ transfer (or carry over) to the next year shall be allowed.

1.6 Coastal, recreational and sport fisheries

A specific quota level will be allocated for the purposes of artisanal, recreational and sport fisheries, as well as incidental and by-catches, which is 2% of the total. The marketing of bluefin tuna caught in recreational and sport fishing is prohibited except for charitable purposes.

1.7 Regulations for 2012 bluefin tuna fishing season

Fishing period and closed season

- Commission's final decision to be taken on closed fishing seasons shall be implemented.

Joint fishing operations

- No joint fishing operation (JFOs) with any other CPC is allowed unless the concerned CPC has less than 5 authorized (maximum 4) purse seiners.
- A JFO for bluefin tuna shall only be authorized with the consent of MoFAL and of the other CPC authority concerned. if the vessels to be involved are equipped to fish bluefin tuna and has sufficient individual quotas.
- Fishing vessels to conduct any JFO with the vessels of any other CPC shall present the required certificates and letter of consent to MoFAL at least 15 days before the start of the operation (departure from port) to be transmitted to the ICCAT Secretariat within the specified deadline.
- Commission's final decision to be taken on joint closed fishing seasons shall be implemented.

Bluefin tuna landing/transshipment ports

- Bluefin tuna fishing vessels shall only transship/land bluefin tuna catches in the ports designated for that purposes.
- The following ports have been designated by MFAL for the purpose of bluefin tuna landing / transshipment:

<i>Province</i>	<i>Designated landing/transshipment port</i>
ADANA	Karataş fishing port
ANTALYA	Antalya port Gazipaşa fishing port
MERSİN	Karaduvar fishing port
HATAY	İskenderun fishing port
ÇANAKKALE	Kabatepe fishing port Gülpınar fishing port
İSTANBUL	Kumkapı fishing port Tuzla fishing port
İZMİR	Karaburun fishing port

Vessel Monitoring System requirements

- Fishing vessels requesting a bluefin tuna fishing and transport permit for 2012 shall be equipped with a full-time operational satellite tracking device (or vessel monitoring system. VMS) onboard, as required by MoFAL.

Recording and reporting

- Recording and reporting obligations laid down by relevant ICCAT Recommendations shall be implemented.

Towing operations

- Provisions regulating towing operations laid down by relevant ICCAT Recommendations shall be implemented.

Caging operations

- Provisions regulating caging operations laid down by relevant ICCAT Recommendations shall be implemented.

Transfer operations

- Provisions regulating transfer operations laid down by relevant ICCAT Recommendations shall be implemented.

Transshipment

- Provisions regulating transshipment operations laid down by relevant ICCAT Recommendations shall be implemented.

Cross checking

- The relevant information recorded in the logbooks of the fishing vessels, in the transfer/transshipment documents and in the catch documents shall be verified by MoFAL by using available inspection reports, observer reports, VMS data.
- MoFAL shall carry out cross checks on all landings, all transshipment or caging between the quantities by species recorded in the fishing vessel logbook or quantities by species recorded in the transshipment declaration and the quantities recorded in the landing declaration or caging declaration, and any other relevant document, such as invoices and/or sales notes.

Enforcement

- Any noncompliance to the regulations regarding bluefin tuna fishing and transfer shall lead to nullification of the special fishing permit or the special tug and towing permit issued by MoFAL.
- Non-compliant fishing vessels shall not get any of the above mentioned special permits for future operations.

Market measures

- Foreign and domestic trade, transport, landing, imports, exports, placing in cages for farming, re-exports and transshipments of eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna and its products (with the exception of fish parts other than the meat i.e., heads, eyes, roes, guts and tails) as well as their keeping onboard, at storage or inside the towing cages attached to a catching/towing vessel which are not accompanied by accurate, complete, and validated documentation shall be prohibited.

Observer requirements

- Presence of “ICCAT Regional Observers” and “CPC Observers” shall be required during the whole bluefin tuna catching, transferring and caging operations at sea and at farm sites in 2012.

Use of aircraft

- Provisions regulating use of aircraft laid down by relevant ICCAT Recommendations shall be implemented.

Minimum size

- Provisions regulating minimum size laid down by relevant ICCAT Recommendations shall be implemented.

Sampling requirements

- Commission’s final decision for sampling requirements shall be implemented for the 2012 fishing season.
- Until then, the requirements of paragraph 87 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04 shall be applied to improve the counting and weight estimation of the caged fish.
- Fishing/farming operators shall apply technological methods, including the utilization of stereoscopic cameras, to improve the accuracy of weight estimation and quality without killing any fish.

Whether specified in the above-given plan or not, all provisions stipulated by the effective ICCAT Recommendations shall entirely be transposed and applied.

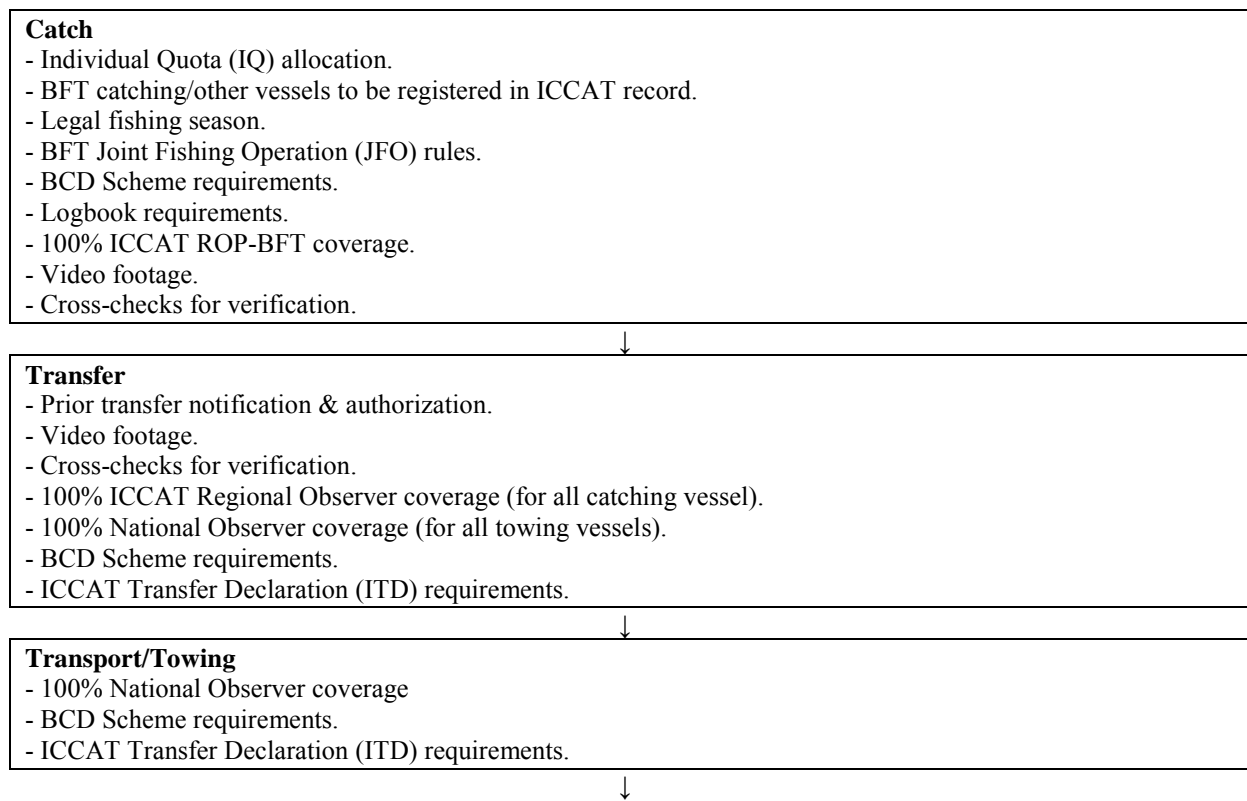
Owners/operators of the fishing vessels, managers/operators of farming facilities and exporters shall be responsible from the proper implementation of all provisions mentioned above, as well as of other applicable rules and recommendations imposed by ICCAT.

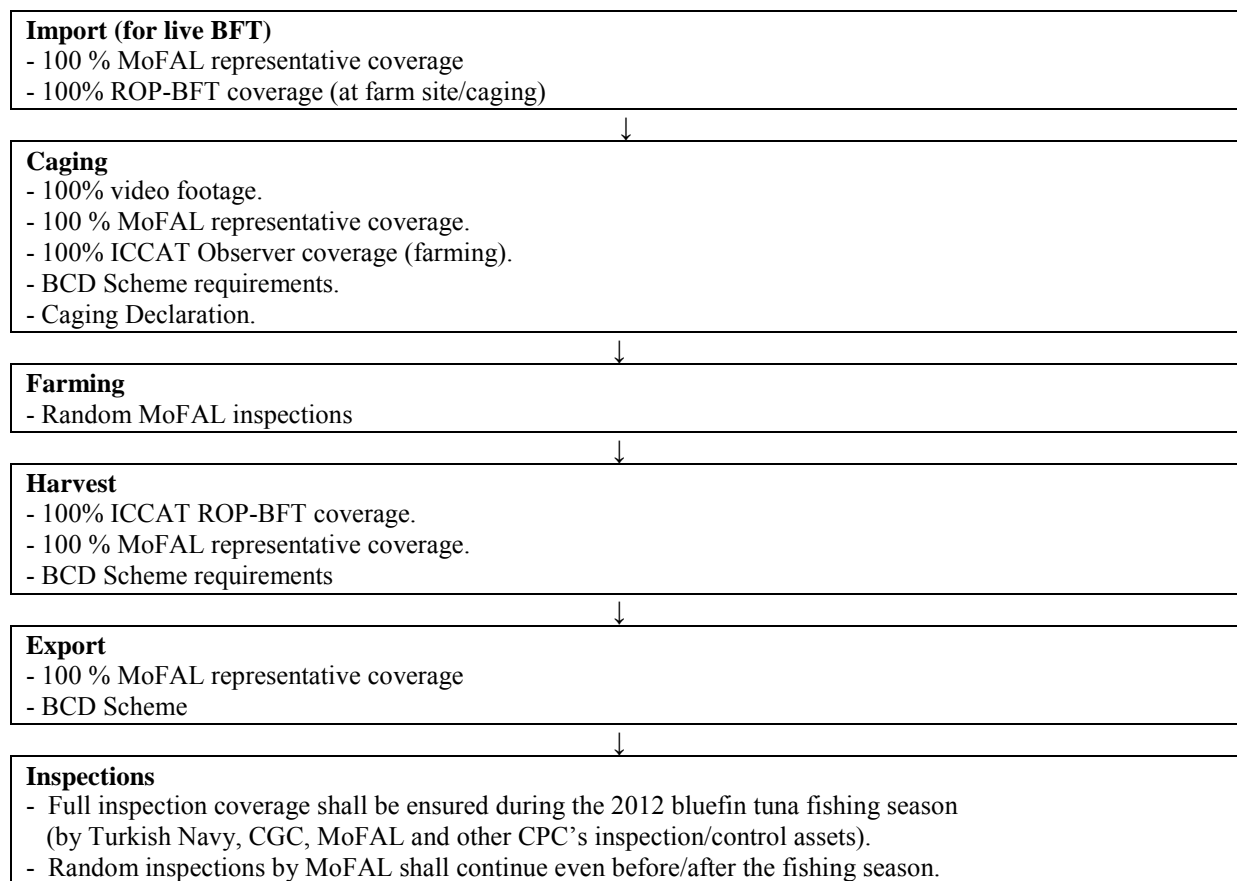
2. Fisheries Inspection Plan

2.1 ICCAT Inspections in 2012

In 2012, Turkey plans to continue her contribution to the ICCAT Joint Scheme of International Inspection with sufficient number of inspection assets, exact details of which shall be communicated to the ICCAT Secretariat within the specified deadline.

Table 1. Turkey’s framework of MCS for the Bluefin Tuna Fishery, Transfer, Farming and Trading.





3. Capacity Reduction Scheme for 2012

Table 2. Turkey's Capacity Reduction Plan (2012-2013).

<i>Category</i>	<i>Catch rate</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>2012</i>	<i>2013</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>2012</i>	<i>2013</i>
PS 40	70.66	12	11	6	4	847.92	777.26	423.96	282.64
PS 24-40	49.78	11	10	3	5	547.58	497.8	149.34	248.9
PS 24	33.68	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL		23	21	9	9	1395.5	1275.06	573.3	531.54
	Quota	2010	2011	2012	2013				
		419.183	535.89	535.89	535.89				
	Overcapacity	976.317	739.17	37.41	-4.35				
	Quota + %25	523.9788	669.8625	669.8625	669.8625				
	Overcapacity%	132.9%	37.9%	-93.0%	-100.8%				

Notes:

(1) Turkey has presented a formal objection over the quota allocation scheme adopted in 2010.

(2) Since exact distribution of vessel in terms of overall length is not definite yet, the above given plan may subject to a slight revision by keeping the plan format unchanged, at the 22nd Regular Meeting of the Commission.

History of Swordfish Fishing and Swordfish Management/Development Plans

ALGERIA

Swordfish fishing in Algeria is an ancient artisanal activity which is mainly carried out by a coastal artisanal fleet with 1526 active units in 2001.

These small boats, for the most part, incidentally fish swordfish when fishing small and large tunas using different types of fishing gears such as longline.

It should be noted that 13 longline vessels over 12 meters specifically targeting swordfish are registered in Algeria.

The catches made during the period from 2000 to 2010 varied between 465 (2010) and 1081 t (2001) and are destined for the domestic market and occasionally for export.

Table 1. Summary of Algerian swordfish catch data (2000-2010).

<i>Year</i>	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<i>Catches</i>	816	1081	814	665	564	635	682	601	802	468	465

Unit: tonnes

It is noted that all the information and data (swordfish fishing activity and production) are periodically transmitted to ICCAT.

At the legal level, in Algeria the regulatory framework of swordfish fishing activities, as well as for other types of fishing, is set forth in the provisions of Executive Decree No. 03-481 of 13 December 2003, which established the conditions and the conditions to carry out fishing.

In this framework and in accordance with the provisions of the pertinent ICCAT recommendations, particularly Recs. 08-03 and 09-04 concerning Mediterranean swordfish, Algeria has enacted the regulatory texts on compliance (ministerial decree and decision).

Also, through these texts on compliance the period of prohibition of swordfish fishing in waters under national jurisdiction has been established from 1 October to 30 November each year.

Other regulatory measures have also been taken, notably that concerning the limit on the minimum market size, fixed at 120 cm (Executive Decree No. 04-86 of 18 March 2004 establishing the minimum market sizes of biological resources) as well the limit on the by-catches of swordfish to 8% of the catches taken.

Finally, it should be noted that besides the afore-mentioned management measures, this artisanal fishery is currently not subject to any development program.

BARBADOS

Swordfish, albeit probably comprising a comparatively small proportion of the island's total fish catches, have been landed in Barbados for centuries. The island's earliest routinely collected catch records dating as far back as the 1950s include a category for "billfish" in which swordfish would have been included. The very fact that a distinct category for billfish existed bears testimony to the fact that these fish were considered important in the context of the island's fisheries. It was however only from 1993 that swordfish landings were recorded separately from billfish.

Initially swordfish, as all large pelagic species, were taken entirely on single-hook lines as incidental catches during pelagic fishing trips that primarily targeted flying fish (*Hirundichthys affinis*) and dolphinfish (*Coryphaena*

hippurus). The island's catches of the large pelagic species first significantly increased with the development and subsequent expansion of its fleet of "iceboats" from the late 1970's. Although Barbadian iceboats also primarily target flying fish and dolphinfish, the possession of an ice hold allows them to stay at sea fishing for longer periods of time, and this increases their potential fishing range. However, the directed fishery for the large pelagic species in the island is more often considered to have started with the introduction of surface longline gear.

From the late 1950s the Barbados Fisheries Division conducted sea trials and introduced a miniature surface longline first composed of five hooks to capture large pelagics from small boats (Wiles, 1963), and later twenty hooks which required the use of a winch (Bajan Magazine, 1980). Experimental fishing trials using much longer surface longline gear were later conducted during the UNDP/FAO Caribbean Development project (1965-1973). However, results from these fishing efforts were disappointing leading to the conclusion that development of a longline fishery in the eastern Caribbean region for tunas and other large pelagics would not be profitable (Kawaguchi (b); Wolf and Rathjen, 1974).

Nevertheless, U.S longliners reportedly began successfully fishing in eastern Caribbean waters for large pelagics including targeting swordfish in the winter of 1983-1984 (Hunte et al. 1994). The success of these fishing exercises piqued the interest of some local boat owners and a few of the larger iceboats at the time started experimenting with small longlines (Weidner et al. 2001). Around this time Crown Agents (1990) also conducted a number of sea trials with longlines that they considered suitable for use on existing Barbadian iceboats. With the overall success of these fishing efforts, in 1988 three *bona fide* longline vessels were added to the Barbados commercial fishing fleet. These early longliners deployed 25-30 km long longlines with around 200-250 hooks (Weidner et al. 2001).

In the early 1990s the Barbados Development Bank commissioned a feasibility study on the potential for developing a longline fishery in Barbados following receipt of a number of requests for funding local longline operations. The study concluded that longlining was viable in Barbados provided that smaller boats (40 to 50 ft LOA or 12.2 to 15.2m) were employed.

Nevertheless, during the 1990s some longline vessels greater than 15.2m LOA were in the local fleet. This included 6 vessels larger than 20m LOA, two of which were also greater than 24m LOA. However, operating these large-size vessels proved unprofitable particularly in the case of the 24m vessels and both had ceased local operations by the end of the 1990's. One of the vessels sank in 1997 and the other was later sold in the early 2000's after being inactive since around 1997.

The present-day fishery

The vast majority, just less than 90%, of Barbados annual swordfish catches are landed by longliners. The current Barbados longline fleet is comprised of 35 registered vessels the majority of which are less than 50ft (15.2m) LOA. A number of these vessels have been converted from flying fish iceboats. Only two vessels greater than 20m are currently registered although neither has actively fished in the past 4 years. A third vessel in this size range is still on the island but has been inactive for over 10 years and its registration has been suspended. No vessels greater than 24m LOA remain in the local fishing fleet. No foreign owned vessels are registered in the Barbados fishing fleet and all vessels are home-based. Existing legislation ensures that owners of local fishing vessels must have a *bona fide* link to Barbados.

The number of hooks used by each local longliner ranges from 200 to 750 with each vessel making between 6 and 10 sets per trip. Most longline fishing trips are conducted within the island's EEZ which due to the island's geographic position affords the maximum 200 nm limit to its east into the Atlantic Ocean. Longline trips may last up to two weeks but rarely last longer than 10 days. The relatively small sizes of the vessels are major constraints to the distance from land that can safely be travelled and the duration of the trip. Thus local longliners rarely go beyond 500 km from land (Weidner et al. 2001). Most Barbadian longline vessels do not employ the electronic fishing aids used by large-scale fishing fleets such as sonar fish-finders or satellite imagery to track mobile fish aggregations.

There is currently no directed swordfish fishery *per se* in Barbados. However, from the late 1980s through the early 1990s a number of local longliners targeted swordfish by employing deep sets at night using imported squid bait and light sticks to lure the fish to the gear. However, the operational costs of such fishing exercises proved to be much higher than fishing for other species such as tunas and billfish. Additionally, without access to the more advanced fish locating technologies used by more well developed fishing fleets, the odds of locating

aggregations of swordfish that would facilitate a large catch tends to be low. Coupled with high shipping costs, difficulties in meeting the exacting product quality standards for exportation to the USA, the exclusive export destination, and the lower market prices for the product compared with that of tuna, it became relatively unprofitable for the local fleet to target swordfish for export. Furthermore the local market was too small to absorb large swordfish catches at the prices that would have profited the fishery. For these reasons local longliners directed their efforts to primarily catching tunas, specifically yellow-fin tuna, instead of swordfish. Swordfish are now taken on an incidental basis and in recent years are sold locally. Nevertheless the value of the fishery has been estimated at around Bds. \$556,500 (US \$278,250) annually, and it is estimated that around 108 fishermen are employed in the longline fishery.

Management and development of the swordfish fishery

The Fisheries Act (1993, amended in 2000) is the primary legislation related to the management and development of the island's fisheries. The Act prescribes a wide list of management options available that may be put in place as regulations to manage and develop fisheries by the Minister responsible for fisheries. In 1998 the first suite of Fisheries regulations under the parent Fisheries Act were put in place. The general administration of the Act is vested with the Chief Fisheries Officer who is charged with the responsibility of developing and overseeing the implementation of specific plans for the management and development of each fishery. The island's first fisheries management plan (FMP) was published in 1997. There is no separate management or development plan for swordfish *per se* and the species is included along with tunas and billfishes under a sub-plan for Large International Oceanic Pelagic species in the most recent draft national fisheries management plan.

The FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries has been held as a guiding principle for all Barbados FMPs. In this context, wide stakeholder participation in developing and implementing the management and development of local fisheries, the need to continuously improve data and information gathering for all fisheries and the adoption of the precautionary approach to fisheries management are all promoted throughout the plan. In the context of the Large International Oceanic Pelagic species the plan recognizes that related management measures should to the extent possible be based on compliance with ICCAT regulations as the recognized RFMO for these species. Amendments and additions to the 1998 Fisheries Regulations have been drafted and are currently under review. Included among these is the establishment of a legal minimum landed size for swordfish and the mandatory detailed reporting of fishing activities such as through the use of standardized trip logbooks. It should also be noted that Barbados is actively pursuing the implementation of a VMS programme for its longliner and ice boat fleets.

Following a recent meeting with stakeholders in the longline fishery it was agreed that although there is still keen interest in adopting some of the more advanced technologies that would facilitate increased catch rates of large pelagic species such as swordfish, there are no immediate plans to increase fishing effort for swordfish. As such no increase in the existing swordfish quota is being sought at this time. However, given the natural unpredictability of swordfish catch rates, Barbados requests no downward adjustment of its current swordfish quota and furthermore reserves the right to apply for an increase in its quota should the industry seek to increase its fishing effort for this species in the future. In this case ICCAT will be advised in advance as the need arises.

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BELIZE

1. Background

Belize introduced its High Seas Fishing Act in 2003 to provide a legal basis for the regulation of the activities of its high seas fishing vessels. This Act embodies all the resolutions adopted by the various RFMOs and was intended to ensure compliance with all relevant conservation and management measures for the protection of the high seas fisheries resources.

Belize has also ratified the FAO “Compliance” Agreement, the “Fish Stocks” Agreement and the “IPOA-IUU”, the provision of which have already been incorporated into Belize’s High Seas Fishing Act 2003. It has also ratified the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC). The above formalizes Belize’s commitment to the elimination of activities which diminish the effectiveness of conservation measures.

The fleet which fishes on the High Seas is registered by the International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize (IMMARBE) and is licensed by the Belize Fisheries Department. Matters of policy are determined jointly by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries in coordination with the Director General of IMMARBE.

2. Mission

As adapted from the overall mission of the Belize Fisheries Department, Belize aims to provide the best possible management of its fleet engaged in the swordfish fishery in the ICCAT Convention area in an effort to optimize future benefits through efficient and sustainable management.

2.1 General objective

To participate in the management and conservation of the swordfish resources in the ICCAT Convention area by ensuring compliance with measures dealing with data collection, monitoring, control and surveillance so as to attain the best possible management of Belize’s high seas fishing fleet.

2.2 Specific objectives

- Seek to increase quota allocation to provide for expansion in Belize’s swordfish fishery.
- Continue diligent monitoring, controlling and surveillance of fishing vessels engaged in the exploitation of swordfish to ensure full compliance.
- Continue to provide statistical data in a timely fashion to the ICCAT Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) via the ICCAT Secretariat in order to facilitate the scientific process and informed decision making concerning the management of the swordfish stocks.

2.3 Commitment to fight against IUU

Belize reaffirms its commitment to the global fight to help prevent, deter and eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing. There are no occurrences of IUU activities amongst Belize’s high seas fishing fleet, and it is the intention of this administration to do everything in our power to maintain this distinction.

3. Resources

Belize’s high seas fishing fleet is managed by the High Seas Fishing Unit (HSFU) which is comprised of personnel from the Belize Fisheries Department and the International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize (IMMARBE). Fishing vessels are monitored using a recently upgraded VMS which provides position reports every 4 hours. This unit is responsible for the monitoring, control and surveillance of all fishing vessels; which includes, but is not limited to, the tracking of vessels via their VMS, collecting catch and effort data from all fishing vessels and reporting it to the relevant RFMOs, and ensuring that fishing vessels comply with all relevant regulations as outlined in Belize’s High Seas Fishing Act (HSFA) (2003) and the resolutions passed by the various RFMOs. The HSFA (2003) serves as the legal basis for the execution of the daily activities of the HSFU, as well as the regulatory control over Belize-flagged fishing vessels.

Subsequent to an evaluation mission conducted by the European Commission, better control mechanisms for the high seas fleet has been implemented as per their recommendations. These include:

- a bounded fishing log for all vessels;
- a complete ban on shark finning for all Belize flagged vessels, which requires ALL sharks to be landed with their fins naturally attached;
- enhanced VMS powered by Polestar, which allows for web-based tracking of all registered fishing vessels. Position reports are received from all vessels every 4 hours, and hourly in sensitive areas, and geo-zoning capability to “assign” authorized areas to fishing vessels;
- full implementation of the European Union’ Catch Certification Scheme;
- the legal framework for the implementation of the EC recommendation through the revision of the HSFA; and
- the implementation of a network of port inspectors at sites where Belize flagged vessels discharge their catch.

All formal procedures are conducted in full collaboration with all local competent authorities including the Belize Agricultural Health Authority (BAHA) and the Belize Customs Department which both provide support services to fishing vessels.

Belize is now participant to the ICCAT’s Regional Observer Program, which will help to ensure that data reporting for transshipment activities are accurate and in accordance with ICCAT requirements.

Belize is also a member of two major regional fisheries organizations that have active programmes to improve fisheries management systems for their membership: (i) the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM), which recently adopted a regional declaration on IUU Fishing; and (ii) the Regional Organization for the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector of Central America (OSPESCA), which has a regional IUU fishing working group which has coordinated both workshops for the successful implementation of the EU IUU Regulation.

4. Current status and needs

Belize currently has 52 vessels operating in the ICCAT Convention area, which represents more than 40% of our entire national fleet. Twenty-seven (27) of the vessels operating in this area target tuna and tuna-like species, and 5 of these 27 vessels participate in the swordfish fishery – 2 vessels targeting northern swordfish and 3 vessels targeting southern swordfish. However, there are plans of introducing 8 new vessels to engage in swordfish fishery in this area over the course of the next three years. The Belize flagged vessels that are currently targeting Swordfish in the ICCAT Convention area as well as those that we plan to introduce are all between 300-500 gross tons.

As a result of attaining Contracting Party status of ICCAT in July 2005 and our subsequent membership of Panels 1, 2, 3 and 4, Belize has the following quota allocations for 2011:

- North Atlantic albacore	300 t
- South Atlantic albacore	510 t
- Northern swordfish	130 t
- Southern swordfish	125 t

Belize also participates in the fishery of bigeye tuna, yellowfin tuna, skipjack and other small tunas including wahoo, dolphinfish and mackerels in accordance with the upper limits specified by ICCAT.

It must be noted that Belize’s current quota allocations for northern and southern Atlantic swordfish is fully utilized by the 5 vessels targeting these species.

4.1 Authorized fishing vessels

Of the 52 vessels operating in the ICCAT Convention area, 27 of these vessels target tuna species, while the other 25 vessels target non-tuna species. The major tuna species harvested include: bigeye tuna, yellowfin tuna, albacore, skipjack tuna and swordfish, and these vessels range in size from 91.74 GT to 2,548 GT. The non-tuna species that are harvested include: mackerel, horse mackerel, sardines and prawn, etc. These vessels range in size from 182 GT to 7,765 GT.

4.2 Tuna vessels

The list of Belize's high seas fishing vessels that target tuna and tuna-like species in the ICCAT Convention area is given in **Table 1**.

Table 1. List of Belize's high seas fishing vessels.

No.	Vessel Name	ICCAT Record No.	Belize Registration No.	LOA	GRT	Vessel Type
1	UNIVERSO	AT000BLZ00001	159910042	32.84	362	Longliner
2	OCEAN ATUN NO.61	AT000BLZ00002	10611692	27	91.74	Longliner
3	MARINHEIRO	AT000BLZ00003	10611694	27	91.74	Longliner
4	OCEAN ATUN #111	AT000BLZ00004	10611697	27	91.74	Longliner
5	OCEAN ATUN 66	AT000BLZ00005	10611698	27	91.74	Longliner
6	OCEAN ATUN NO.22	AT000BLZ00006	10611695	27	91.74	Longliner
7	PATRIACH	AT000BLZ00007	10611696	27	91.74	Longliner
8	COLOSSAL	AT000BLZ00008	10611689	27	91.74	Longliner
9	STELLARIS	AT000BLZ00009	10611690	27	91.74	Longliner
10	MILAGRE	AT000BLZ00010	10611691	27	91.74	Longliner
11	MARVEL	AT000BLZ00011	10611693	27	91.74	Longliner
12	OCEAN ATUN 21	AT000BLZ00012	10711717	27	91.74	Longliner
13	NUEVO ATUN	AT000BLZ00013	10811726	39.86	332	Longliner
14	BERMEOTARRAK CUATRO	AT000BLZ00015	1922091	75.65	1905	Purse seiner
15	BRAGO	AT000BLZ00016	10711704	26	165	Purse seiner
16	LAGARTO	AT000BLZ00017	10911759	32.7	268.25	Longliner
17	LIPER DOS	AT000BLZ00018	10911758	38.3	309	Longliner
18	PLAYA DE AZKORRI	AT000BLZ00019	10821727	87	2548	Purse seiner
19	FORCADA	AT000BLZ00020	10911762	28	198	Longliner
20	FORTUNE NO. 1	AT000BLZ00027	541020010	52.7	610	Longliner
21	FORTUNE NO. 2	AT000BLZ00028	541010011	52.7	493	Longliner
22	FORTUNE NO. 3	AT000BLZ00029	541020012	59.2	535	Longliner
23	GOLD BEST	AT000BLZ00030	541020013	56.85	628	Longliner
24	CAP COZ	AT000BLZ00035	11121790	79	2109	Purse seiner
25	CAP VERGA	AT000BLZ00036	11121791	79	2109	Purse seiner
26	CAP FINISTERE	AT000BLZ00037	11121792	79	2109	Purse seiner
27	CAP D'AMBRE	AT000BLZ00038	11121793	72.5	1664	Purse seiner

4.3 Management of swordfish fishery

There are 5 long line tuna vessels that are currently engaged in the fishing of northern and southern Atlantic swordfish in the ICCAT Convention area. These vessels are subject to monitoring, control and surveillance measures which are achieved through the use of VMS and regular catch and effort reporting, observation of transshipments at sea, inspection of discharges at port and regular correspondence with these vessels. The VMS allows Belize's monitoring personnel to assign certain vessels to specific geographic regions, and the system generates notifications if a vessel ventures outside its designated area. Catch reports are scrutinized thoroughly to ensure that fishing was conducted in compliance with the high seas fishing license which guarantees compliance with Belize's High Seas Fishing Act (2003), the EU IUU Regulation (EC 1005/2008) and all relevant ICCAT regulations.

Since the attainment of ICCAT Contracting Party status in July of 2005, Belize has seen a gradual reduction in its quota allocation as the maximum sustainable yield (MSY) and total allowable catch (TAC) for northern and southern Atlantic swordfish have been revised. This is currently restricting the development of Belize's swordfish fishery and the decrease was endured despite our growing need for additional quotas as a developing coastal state. Belize currently has a combined total allocation of 255 MT of swordfish which is being fully utilized by 5 longline tuna vessels that target this species. It is noteworthy that all these vessels cannot operate at 100% capacity due to quota restrictions; however, Belize would like to enable these vessels to increase their operational capacity to ensure the sustainability of their fishing operations and to introduce 8 new vessels into this area to target the same species over the course of the next 3 years. The new vessels will be of similar GT and holding capacity as the existing vessels; and the implementation of this plan is expected to see an additional combined total of 445 MT of northern and southern Atlantic swordfish being fished. Provisions must also be made for vessels that catch this species as a by-catch which is expected to require an additional combined total 105 MT of northern and southern Atlantic swordfish.

5. Projected needs

The HSFU plans to introduce 8 new tuna longliners in the ICCAT Convention area that will be targeting swordfish. These vessels will range between 300-500 GT and are expected to target both northern and southern Atlantic swordfish. Belize's long term objective is to build local capacity which will phase out the current economic investors and result in a higher level of income and expanded benefits for Belize. The Belizean Government currently has facilities in place for entrepreneurs who would seek to venture into new industries, and the local encouragement will undoubtedly result in building of a locally owned fleet to engage in the Atlantic swordfish fishery. Consequently, Belize's ability to secure additional quota allocations, in line with the vision of its expansion plan, is paramount to its effective implementation.

6. Quota request

In consideration of the *ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities* (Ref. 01-25) and the need for developed States to begin transferring some of their quotas to developing States, based on current and historical catches, Belize hereby requests the following allocation for swordfish:

- *Northern Atlantic swordfish: 380 t*

Belize currently has 2 fishing vessels targeting northern Atlantic swordfish which equally share 130 t. Belize is planning to introduce 3 new vessels of similar GT and holding capacity over the course of 3 years to target this species; and they are expected to fish an additional 195 t of the species. Furthermore, there are 11 vessels that catch this species as a bycatch, and they will require 55 t to accommodate their fishing operations and not affect quotas allocated to vessels targeting this species. This plan will require an increase of 250 t of northern Atlantic swordfish to be effected accordingly.

- *Southern Atlantic swordfish: 425 t*

Belize currently has a quota allocation of 125 t for southern Atlantic swordfish for the year 2011. The 3 vessels that engage in the fishery of this species cannot operate at 100% capacity because of the limited quotas available for them to fish. An additional 40 t will enable these vessels to increase their operating capacity which will effectively increase their efficiency in order to guarantee the sustainability of their fishing operations. Also, Belize is planning to introduce 5 new vessels of similar GT and holding capacity over the course of the next 3 years to target this species, which will require an increase of 210 t to accommodate the introduction of these new vessels. Additionally, there are 5 vessels that catch this species as a bycatch, and they will require 50tT to accommodate their operations and not affect quotas allocated to vessels targeting this species. Therefore, a total increase of 300 t of southern Atlantic swordfish will be required to facilitate this expansion of Belize's swordfish fishery.

6.1 Justification for quota request

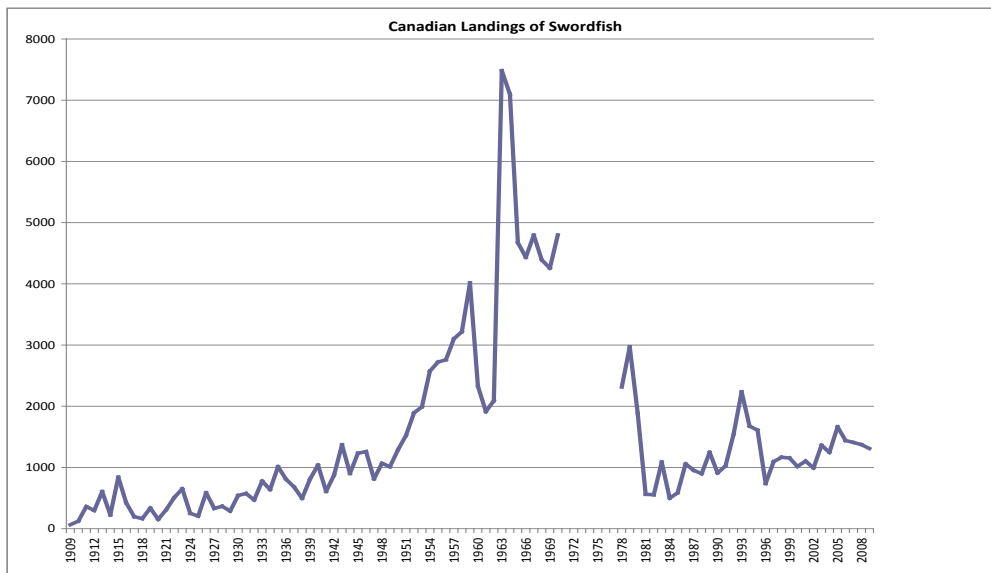
Since the attainment of ICCAT Contracting Party status, Belize has proven itself to be a responsible Flag State in managing its fleet in accordance with ALL ICCAT resolutions and recommendations, and has fully respected quota allocations. Being a developing nation, our economy is largely dependent on the Agricultural and Fisheries sector, and our high seas fishery makes an important contribution to this end. Belize is cognizant of our request for more quotas at a time when the swordfish TAC must be reduced. However, in an effort to aid our continued

development, we take this opportunity to remind the Commission of the need for Developed nations who have enjoyed the use of this resource for many years, to transfer some of their own quotas to facilitate the needs of Developing States such as Belize. This has been acknowledged during previous Commission meetings as a necessary step towards achieving greater equitability in quota allocations. It is noteworthy that Belize's fleet has historically utilized 100% of its swordfish quota allocations; however, our swordfish fleet is forced to operate at less than 100% capacity due to quota restrictions. Therefore, it is essential that our additional quota requirements be granted in order to ensure the sustainability and viability of our high seas fishing operations, and the realization of Belize's development needs in respect of the Atlantic swordfish fishery.

CANADA*

Summary

Canada's North Atlantic swordfish fishery dates back to the late 1800s, and is exclusively commercial. This fishery is socially and economically important to many coastal and First Nations communities throughout Atlantic Canada, providing approximately \$15 million in economic benefits to harvesters and other beneficiaries (processors, buyers, etc). Canadian landings back to 1909 are demonstrated in the figure below:



The Canadian large pelagic longline fisheries currently operates from April through December, though data indicates in earlier years when quotas were not restrictive, catches can occur in any month. The harpoon fishery for swordfish primarily occurs from June through late August.

Canada has a strong management regime in place which ensures the fishery is sustainable, strictly monitored and controlled. Key elements, several of which exceed ICCAT requirements, include:

- Effort controls that match availability of fish
- limitations in the number of authorized licenses
- gear restrictions
- targeted time and area closures
- minimum size limits to protect juvenile fish
- dockside monitoring of all landings
- mitigation measures for non-target species
- stringent reporting requirements
- effective quota management regime

* Only the Summary has been translated to French and Spanish by the Secretariat. The full report, in original language only, is available on request from the Secretariat.

The economics of the fishery dictate that to ensure a viable swordfish fishery, an increase in Canada's swordfish allocation is required. Canadian vessels have accepted significantly less during the rebuilding period, even though the Canadian fleet is alone at ICCAT in consistently demonstrating its ability to fully utilize Canada's quota.

Canada's average annual landings have totalled 100 percent of its annual allocations during the past five years. Since 2007, Canada has been allocated 8.8% of the ICCAT quota allocations. Nevertheless, Canada has accounted for close to 11.9% of all North Atlantic swordfish harvested over the past five years.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

1. Fishing Plan

a) Types of fishing vessels

In 2010, three Korean longliners were chartered to exploit the swordfish and bigeye quotas in Côte d'Ivoire. During the same period, 380 artisanal vessels fished the above-mentioned species using lines and nets (encircling and drop).

b) Management Plan

For 2011, Côte d'Ivoire foresees reserving of its northern swordfish fishing quota exclusively for artisanal fishing vessels (300 vessels).

c) Quota and number of authorized fishing vessels

Côte d'Ivoire's initial quota for the 2011 fishing season amounts to 50 t (paragraph 3 of Rec. 10-02). Its adjusted quota for 2011 is 47.72 t for having carried out an over-consumption of 2.28 t in 2009 (paragraph 7 of Rec. 10-02).

The number of vessels authorized to fish North Atlantic swordfish was 380 in 2009 and 2010. For 2011, this number will be reduced to 300. The specific individual quota for each vessel has not yet been decided. Côte d'Ivoire does not foresee allocating an individual quota to each vessel. All landings will be monitored to avoid an overage in the national quota for 2011.

2. Implementation plan

a) Catch report

Statistical reporting is carried out daily at the various landing points and centralized at the fisheries directorate for processing. This information includes the date, catch area, catch volume, and the weight of each North Atlantic swordfish.

The catches of the vessels are subject to rigorous monitoring so as not to exceed Côte d'Ivoire's allocated quota.

b) Transshipment

The prohibition of at-sea transshipment of North Atlantic swordfish is maintained. Transshipment is only authorized in the designated landing ports, in the presence of the administration officials in charge of the fisheries.

c) Landing

Landings of North Atlantic swordfish are only permitted in the three designated national ports (Abidjan, San Pedro and Sassandra) and they are all subject to inspection by the Fisheries Directorate and the regional services of the ministry responsible for fisheries.

d) Imposition of sanctions

If an infraction is detected, sanctions will be imposed on the fishing operator which can include the obligation of remaining at port and a five year suspension of its authorization to fish North Atlantic swordfish.

3. Capacity management plan***a) Reduction of fishing capacity***

Côte d'Ivoire has reduced its fishing capacity by reducing the vessels chartered in 2010. The number of vessels fishing North Atlantic swordfish in the 2009 fishing year was five and three in 2010 (i.e., a 40% reduction as compared to the 2009 fishing year).

Côte d'Ivoire has also reduced its fishing capacity in 2011 by exclusively reserving its quota for artisanal fishing whereby the number of vessels authorized will be 300 (i.e., a 26.6% reduction as compared to 2009), so as to minimize thus the risks of exceeding its allocated quota.

b) Proof that the current capacity is proportional to the allocated quota

The total catches of North Atlantic swordfish in 2009 amounted to 77.28 t, of which 52.58 t were taken by artisanal fishing. The Fisheries Directorate decided not only to exclusively allocate the quota to artisanal fishing, but also to reduce the number of authorized vessels. Thus, Côte d'Ivoire will continue to guarantee that its fishing capacity is proportional to its allocated quota in accordance with paragraph 3 of Rec. 10-02.

GHANA

The artisanal drift gill net fishery in Ghana started in the mid-1970s targeting large pelagics including the swordfish, sailfish and marlins, among others. This fishery which operates from dugout canoes employs between 10-12 people using small drift nets with meshes between 45-60 mm. Catch and effort data from sampling and catch assessment surveys after Banerji S. 1972 and following the FAO ARTFISH software are reported. As part of the ICCAT Enhanced Research Programme for Billfish, size sampling among other statistical and biological parameters of the four major landing sites namely, Apam, Shama, Dixcove and Axim are obtained on monthly basis. The fishery has developed from a daily fishing trip in the 1970s without ice onboard to a trip lasting approximately three days with insulated containers for icing. CPUE trends have generally declined over the past decade due to varying factors including changes in climatic regimes. Management plans in conformity to ICCAT regulations prohibit landing of juvenile fishes less than 115 cm LJFL. The community based fisheries management units in collaboration with field recorders monitor landings from these operators and report and advise on best fishing practices and seasons.

JAPAN**1. History of Japanese swordfish fishing**

- (1) The Japanese longline fishery began in the tropical central Atlantic in 1956. Japan is the fourth oldest historical party for the north Atlantic swordfish fishing among ICCAT members, following Canada, Spain and USA, according to the ICCAT records. The Japanese fishery had expanded into the entire Atlantic thereafter.
- (2) Japanese longline vessels have been targeting tuna species such as bigeye and bluefin tuna, while catching swordfish as by-catch. Because of this nature, the catch of northern swordfish has been fluctuating between hundreds of tons and more than one thousand tones. When ICCAT first introduced a recommendation on swordfish back in 1990, due consideration was given to this nature. It required CPCs whose nationals did not target swordfish to limit the incidental catch to no more than 10% of the entire catch.
- (3) In 1994 when ICCAT strengthened the regulation on swordfish by introducing national allocations to Canada, Portugal, Spain and the United States, Japan was allowed to catch swordfish up to 8% of the total catch in the North Atlantic for 1995 and 1996. Japan ensured that its bycatch ratio did not exceed 8% (4.2% in 1995 and 5.5% in 1996), while other members exceeded their allocations.

- (4) In 1995, in face of the stock decline, ICCAT changed its approach and decided to incorporate Japan in the allocation scheme for 1997 and beyond. Japan accepted its share of 6.25% to contribute to the recovery of the swordfish stock. As a result, Japan's allocation for 1997 (706 MT) became about half of the catch in 1996 (1,494 MT), while a five-year block quota was accorded to Japan instead of a three-year block quota.
- (5) In 1996, ICCAT established TAC for swordfish at 11,300 MT for 1997, 11,000 MT for 1998 and 10,700 MT for 1999. Accordingly, Japan's allocation further decreased to 688 MT for 1998 and 669 MT for 1999 with a five-year block quota starting in 1997.
- (6) These drastic reductions of allocation caused tremendous difficulties for the Japanese fleet. This was further aggravated by shifting of the bigeye fishing ground from south to north of 5 degrees North, which brought more bycatch of North Atlantic swordfish by the Japanese fleet. As a result, the Japanese fleet used up all the quotas for the five years within three years (by the end of 1999). In response, Japan took severe measures including mandatory release of all North Atlantic swordfish for three years from 2000.
- (7) It should be noted, however, that the total catch of swordfish by Japan in the entire Atlantic drastically decreased from 1993 to 1999.

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
N. SWO	1,126	933	1,043	1,494	1,218	1,391	1,089
S. SWO	5,256	4,699	3,619	2,197	1,494	1,186	775
Total	6,382	5,632	4,662	3,691	2,712	2,577	1,864

According to the 2010 SCRS Report, the stock separation between south and north is supported by recent genetic studies, but the precise boundaries are uncertain and mixing is expected to be highest at the boundary namely 5 N. This means that the catch of northern swordfish by Japan during this period might not have caused as much impact as the figure indicates. Because of this mixing, ICCAT introduced a special provision allowing Japan to count up to 400 MT of northern swordfish catch against unused allocation of southern swordfish.

- (8) Japan has been restricting the increase of tuna fishing capacities. In addition, the Government carried out tuna buy-back programs in 1998 and 2008, spending about 28 billion yen to scrap about 200 large-scale tuna longline vessels, taking into account scientific assessments that tuna stocks had been fully or over exploited. There is no question that these buy-back programs brought positive impacts on stock status of swordfish even though the species is caught as bycatch by Japanese longliners.

2. Development Plan

- (1) Japanese tuna companies are generally located in small local cities and villages of the vulnerable economic scale, only having small-scale agriculture and fisheries as main industries. They always had wishes to expand their tuna industry including large scale tuna longliners, from social and economical points of views in order to maintain local communities.
- (2) On the other hand, the Japanese Fisheries Law has been prohibiting Japanese fishing vessels from fishing tuna on the high seas unless the Government issues fishing licenses. The law also requires the Government to ensure conservation of the resources, when deciding the number of the licenses to be issued and other conditions. The Japanese basic fisheries policy is that fishing capacities have to be commensurate with its fishing opportunities as determined by tuna RFMOs such as ICCAT. Japan will continue to restrict the number of longliners.
- (3) Many tuna longliners come from areas that were devastated by the earthquake and the subsequent tsunami on March 11 of this year. Even though swordfish is bycatch, any reduction of allocations for Japan is likely to bring further economic difficulties to these areas.

- (4) On the other hand, Japan also recognized the aspiration of coastal developing countries to develop their own fisheries. In this regards, Japan will consider a gradual transfer of its historical share of swordfish allocation to developing members.

3. Management Plan

- (1) Japanese swordfish catch is by-catch, which has been fluctuating year by year mainly due to the shift of the fishing ground for bigeye tuna. Japan, having no intention to increase North Atlantic swordfish as target species, needs flexibility to address this nature. For this purpose, special arrangements for Japan including a multi-year block quota, as provided in paragraph 9 of Recommendation 10-02, should be continued.
- (2) Japan has been properly reporting data on swordfish, which has been utilized to assess the status of the North Atlantic swordfish stock. Japan will continue to instruct its fishermen to submit such data in a timely fashion.
- (3) Japan has been monitoring, controlling and enforcing all its tuna vessels operating on the high seas with VMS and port inspection. Japan will continue to do so to comply with ICCAT measures.

KOREA

In accordance with the paragraph 5 of the ICCAT Rec.10-02, the Korean government would like to submit its report on history of swordfish fishing and its development/management plan of the Korean swordfish fishery.

First of all, Korea would like to stress that Korea was one of major fishing countries to catch bigeye tuna and swordfish in the 1980s in the Atlantic Ocean. In particular, the annual average catch level for Atlantic swordfish in the second half of the 1980s was approximately 870mt according to the Report of SCRS in 2010. Since then, the number of fishing vessels targeting bigeye tuna and swordfish had noticeably decreased until 2006 because some of fishing vessels had moved to the Pacific Ocean.

Since 2007, Korean fishing vessels have resumed their fishing operation targeting bigeye tuna, and swordfish as its bycatch in the Atlantic Ocean. However, when they started to fishing, their catch limit (50mt per northern swordfish and southern swordfish respectively) has been severely low comparing the past. Due to this partial reason, they had slightly exceeded its catch limit unintentionally for the past few years.

Under this circumstance, as a management plan of swordfish fishery, the Korean government has instructed fishermen not to land this species on board since 2010, and has initiated the payback program in order to deduct the overharvest for those species. Owing to this program, the real landing of swordfish on board had to be zero in 2010. During this period, the Korean fishing vessels have been forced to discard swordfish as a bycatch for bigeye tuna regardless of live or dead condition. On the other hand, with this payback program, the Korean fishing vessels have been experiencing a difficulty in assorting and discarding swordfish on board. This takes time and cost to do that without a useful selective fishing gear use.

Regarding northern swordfish, the adjusted quota in 2011 is minus 109.5mt. In other words, the Korean fishing vessels shall not be allowed to land this species on board for at least additional two years (years of 2012 and 2013). On the other hand, the adjusted quota for southern swordfish in 2011 is 69mt, but the Korean fishing vessels will not be allowed to land this species on board on a voluntary basis until at the end of this year. They are looking forward to utilizing swordfish for the purpose of commercial use. Korea would like to remind that it has the smallest quotas of bigeye tuna as well as swordfish under the current ICCAT Recommendations.

Finally, Korea is in a hope that its catch limit for northern swordfish would be adjusted in a multi-year conservation and management plan of the ICCAT in order to resume a normal fishing practice and avoid reckless discard practice for swordfish. Korea believes that this would be consistent with a reasonable principle of an effective use and conservation of fisheries resources.

MEXICO

Mexico's NOM 023-PESC-1996 establishes, among others, the management measures to guarantee the conservation of swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) in relation to the nominal catch limits (that include fish released

alive), as well as the timely release of fish, whereby in a unique and exclusive case fish of these species can be retained if, when brought alongside the vessel, they are already dead.

As regards Mexico's catch limit of 200 t, it is noted that as of the time of writing, the limits have not been surpassed, since for 2010 only 35 t of swordfish were reported. The rest of the information has been presented in the Compliance Tables.

MOROCCO

1. National catches of North Atlantic swordfish

In the last 10 years the average catch of swordfish has been on the order of 11,332 tonnes (t) per year. The catch in this area in 2008 was about 10.752 t, representing a 53% reduction as compared to that of 1987 (20,236 t). According to the Scientific Committee, this decline could be attributed to the various management measures adopted by ICCAT and to the change in the fishing area of various fleets, particularly the movement of some fleets towards the South Atlantic or outside the Atlantic Ocean (ICCAT, 2009b).

In the report of the 2009 North Atlantic swordfish stock assessment, it was noted that based on the sampling of 10,094 fish caught by the Moroccan fleet with drift longline between 2004 and 2008 in the south area of Morocco (Dakhla), the average size of these fish is 133 cm (fork length) for an average individual weight of 33 kg (Abid and Idrissi in ICCAT, 2009b).

Swordfish occupies an important place in the species composition of tunas and tuna-like species reported to ICCAT, as it represents 17% of the total national catches of these species in 2009.

2. Monitoring of the swordfish fishery (in the Atlantic and in the Mediterranean)

The collection of statistical data on catch and effort is carried out practically in an exhaustive manner, through the administrative structures on fishing (*Département des Pêches* and the *Office National des Pêches*), located all along the Atlantic and Mediterranean coasts of Morocco. These same structures also guarantee the monitoring of the the fishing and landing operations and also ensure the respect of the regulatory measures in force, mainly through a scientific observers programme and the monitoring of the marketing operations. Besides, the *Office des Changes* also monitors the exports of fishing products (ICCAT, 2009).

On the scientific level, the *Institut National de Recherche Halieutique* (INRH), through its five regional centers, covers the entire Moroccan coast and has reinforced the collection of biological data on the major species (which includes swordfish). The Regional Center of the INRH in Tangiers serves as coordinator for the collection of all these data, with the extension of the research work towards the areas located in the south of Morocco (ICCAT, 2009).

3. Description of a swordfish fishing operation by surface or drifting longline: traditional and modern

The longline is a very long main line (or mother line), composed of monofilament, which carries numerous hooks on branch lines of variable length and spacing depending on the target species. Swordfish is a pelagic species which may also be caught by surface longline, which has floats on the surface. The swordfish fishing operation with drift longline is carried out in three phases as follows (Mallouli Idrissi, 2006; Abid and Idrissi, 2006; in *ICCAT Manual*):

- **Casting:** This is an operation that starts very early in the morning or at sunset. It consists of extending the longline from the stern of the vessel from north towards the south at an average vessel speed of 10 to 11 knots using a spinner from the mother line and at the rate of 420 m/minute which starts by attaching a radio buoy that marks the initial position of the mother line. The fitting of the former is done successively, and each member of the crew has a well-defined task. One crew member attaches the gangions and the floating buoys on the conveyor belt, another baits the hook (squid or mackerel), a third crew member casts the baited hook towards the port side of the vessel so that it does not get tangled with the mother line, while still another crew member hangs the gangion with a hook to the mother line every 48 m, then a floating buoy is attached to the main line after the casting of 8 gangions and a radio buoy is attached after the casting of 25 floating buoys;

- **Line setting:** This is a period that lasts between 4 and 5 hours during which the crew takes advantage of resting or repairing the damaged gangions.
- **Hauling:** This consists of hauling the mother line at the level of the vessel's bow (forward) from the starboard side with a longline haul. The mother line is hauled towards the bow in order to be stowed in a drum (large reel). After having detached the clasps of the mother line, the branch lines are and the buoys are hauled by the reels and stored in plastic cases, later they are transferred on the conveyor belt towards the bow of the vessel for the next fishing operation.

4. Marketing of swordfish

Ninety-eight percent (98%) of the swordfish production is exported mainly to the Italian and Spanish markets. Of this amount, 75% is exported to the Italian market, 20% to the Spanish market, and 5% to other markets. Furthermore, the catch sold to the Italian market goes through the intermediation of large Spanish export companies based mostly in Vigo, Spain (Mallouli Idrissi 2006). Besides, this author points out that according to the statistical analysis of the different databases available and interviews with Moroccan swordfish exporters and Spanish importers-exporters, only 20% of the swordfish from Morocco is distributed on the Spanish market, the rest is destined the Italian market, considered the primary consumers of the world's swordfish.

5. Future management plan for this fishery

Taking into account the current improved state of this resource in the Atlantic, and based on the management measures adopted by ICCAT, the *Département de Pêche Maritime* is drafting an integrated management plan.

This includes, among others, a plan for the distribution of the TAC among the various operational fleets, seasonal closures based on advice from the ICCAT scientific committee (SCRS), a system to manage fleet capacity so that is proportional to the fishing possibilities, a special license, as well as other pertinent management measures.

This plan will also be accompanied by a training program and the improvement the various techniques of selective fishing of swordfish that will replace the other techniques that from now on are prohibited in the Mediterranean (driftnets), and will also guarantee an economic return to the operators who will be obliged to resort to these new techniques adapted in the Atlantic to exploit swordfish.

Finally, new fishing methods that are even more selective will be tried over the course of the next few months on board small and medium sized longliners.

SENEGAL

Senegalese fishing is mainly comprised of an artisanal fishery targeting small coastal pelagic species and coastal demersal species. This fishing catches tunas and tuna-like species incidentally, in which the species identification among swordfish, billfish and marlins continues to be very poor.

Industrial fishing is centered on a fleet that is comprised of trawlers and tuna vessels. The latter comprised 4 purse seiners and a longliner in 2003 and 2004 targeting billfish, in particular, swordfish. Since 2005, the number of longliners went to 3 from 4 in 2008 and 5 in 2009. In 2010, two of these three vessels changed flag, and a third changed its fishing option and targets crustaceans.

As concerns sport fishing, this targets marlins, sailfish and swordfish during the fishing season which goes from May to November. In Senegal, there are two large fishing centers, Dakar and Mbour. The majority of the catches are assessed in number and no sampling has been carried out concerning this species except for the catch records. ICCAT financing has enabled making improvements, particularly regarding the quantification of the catches.

Senegal has benefited from swordfish quotas allocated at the ICCAT annual meeting in 2006 in Croatia. This quota includes 400 t from the north stock and 300 t from the south stock.

Senegal has implemented, in relation with the companies and boat owners, the mechanisms for compliance by their vessels with the Commission's management measures.

Senegal is committed to improving the capacity of its fleet through an on-going development plan.

TRINIDAD & TABAGO**1. Background**

Trinidad and Tobago longliners have been fishing swordfish in the northern Atlantic Ocean for at least three decades. **Table 1** shows the country's reported catches and longline fleet size from 1983 to 2010. The species was targeted by the fleet from the 1980's to the mid-2000s; however since then other species have replaced swordfish as the main target species. The reasons for this shift in operations relate to economics in terms of pricing relative to other species (specifically tunas) and market access conditions which mandate that owners incur significant costs.

Trinidad and Tobago's involvement with ICCAT was prompted by its swordfish fishing operations and the country's initial activities as a Contracting Party related to neutralising its swordfish overages against the allocated catch limits and subsequently securing a catch limit that would allow the national fleet to continue its operations. The process involved a revision of Trinidad and Tobago's catch statistics through technical assistance from ICCAT and close monitoring of the country's swordfish catches by the local authorities.

At the time of negotiation of Trinidad and Tobago's current North Atlantic swordfish catch limit, it was indicated that this was below the potential of the national fleet, which at the time included 10 registered longliners. In agreeing to the catch limit of 125 t, however, concessions were made by Trinidad and Tobago given the prevailing climate relating to the TAC and the demand for fishing opportunities from CPCs. It is to be noted that Trinidad and Tobago's fleet of longliners has generally been increasing since 2003 and the current number (to date) of operational longliners is 26.

2. Development/Management Plan

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago seeks to provide the greatest possible economic opportunity for its citizens. In this regard the Government facilitates the development of national fleets as far as is possible in accordance with established fisheries management principles and regulations.

The projected national, longline fleet-size for the period 2012 to 2015, based on requests to enter the fishery for tuna and tuna-like species, is given in **Table 2**. One longliner will be targeting North Atlantic swordfish from 2012.

The estimated national harvesting potential for the period 2012 to 2015, based on the projected fleet size, is given in **Table 3**. The estimated harvesting potential of a national longliner for swordfish (126 t/yr) and the estimated swordfish bycatch of the remaining vessels were taken into account in arriving at these quantities.

Considering the estimated harvesting potential of the Trinidad and Tobago longline fleet for North Atlantic swordfish for the period 2012-2015 and the reduced TAC for the stock, Trinidad and Tobago will request that its catch limit of 125 t be retained. Given the differences between the catch limit and the estimates of harvesting potential, catches of swordfish will be closely monitored to ensure compliance with the catch limit.

Table 1. Trinidad and Tobago historical catch and effort statistics - North Atlantic swordfish.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Trinidad and Tobago SWO catch limit (t)</i>	<i>Trinidad and Tobago reported SWO catches (t)</i>	<i>No. of longliners</i>
1983	-	21	Not available
1984	-	26	Not available
1985	-	6	Not available
1986	-	45	Not available
1987	-	151	Not available
1988	-	42	Not available
1989	-	79	Not available
1990	-	66	Not available
1991	-	71	Not available
1992	-	562	Not available
1993	-	11	12
1994	-	180	18

1995	-	150	20
1996	-	158	21
1997	-	110	26
1998	86.7 ²	130	24
1999	86.7 ²	138	23
2000	64.2 ²	41	19
2001 ¹	64.2	75	20
2002 ¹	64.2	92	20
2003	125	78	10 ³
2004	125	83	10 ³
2005	125	91	14 ³
2006	125	19	17 ³
2007	125	29	19 ⁴
2008	125	49	25 ⁴
2009	125	30	29 ⁴
2010	125	21	24 ⁴

Notes:

1. Partial revision of TTO statistics accepted by ICCAT in 2001; fully revised statistics accepted in 2002.
2. Revision of the TTO statistics resulted in an increase of the 1998 and 1999 TTO north Atlantic swordfish catch limits from 42 t to 86.7 t and the 2000 catch limit from 42 t to 64.2 t.
3. The numbers of longliners reported for the years 2003 to 2006 (inclusive) refer to registered vessels.
4. The numbers of longliners reported for the years 2007 to 2010 (inclusive) refer to operational vessels.

Table 2. Trinidad and Tobago projected longline fleet size (2012-2015).

<i>Year</i>	<i>Projected longline fleet-size (no. of vessels)</i>
2012	36
2013	40
2014	44
2015	48

Table 3. Estimated harvesting potential of Trinidad and Tobago projected longline fleet for North Atlantic swordfish (2012-2015).

<i>Year</i>	<i>Estimated harvesting potential – North Atlantic swordfish (t)</i>
2012	173
2013	178
2014	183
2015	188

TUNISIA

Swordfish pertains to the category of large pelagic species and is one of the important species fished along the Tunisian coasts. Swordfish occupies an important place in the Tunisian economy as it has a high commercial value and is a preferential product for the export market.

Swordfish fishing in Tunisia has been monitored more closely since 1999 in the framework of a regional research project co-financed by the COPEMED / FAO Project and the INSTM. The aim of this action is to improve knowledge on the Mediterranean fisheries regarding statistics, and biological and environmental research.

1. History of the swordfish fishery in Tunisia

Up to 1997, the major part of swordfish fishing effort was concentrated on the North coast of the country. Fishing was carried out by artisanal boats using surface longline during the period of fish schooling (June-July).

Since 1998, this activity became widespread all along the Tunisian coasts. To this effect, some ports such as Tébourba and Mahdia in the East and Zarzis in the South have become important landing ports of this species.

The history of the national landings of swordfish in recent years (2006-2010) shows that the majority of the catches take place between the months of May and September with peak months in June and July. The annual production is around 1000 t. The fishing areas in the North of the country are mainly north-east of the Isle of Galite, along the coast of Tabarka, Cap Sarrat and in the East off the coast of Mahdia.

2. Management and development plan

Within the framework of the implementation of the management measures on the Mediterranean swordfish stock, Tunisia has adopted the following regulatory measures:

- Prohibition of driftnets (Article 15 of the decree of 28 September 1995) starting in 2002;
- Prohibition of swordfish fishing in virtue of an annual decision to take the ICCAT recommendations in account.

Also, the decree of 28 September 1995 regulating fishing includes the swordfish conservation and management measures. These measures include, in particular:

- Catch sizes: The minimum size authorized must be over 100 cm from the tip of the lower jaw to the rear edge of the shortest caudal ray.
- Fishing effort: The construction of fishing vessels, including vessels engaged in swordfish fishing, are subject to prior authorization. This measure has been taken to control fishing effort and to sustainably exploit the fishing resources.

The monitoring of swordfish landings along the Tunisian coasts is ensured, in particular, by the fishing guards who ensure the implementation of the minimum size regulations and compliance with the fishing periods.

When exporting, the lots of swordfish shipped must be accompanied by catch certificates which include information on the catching vessels, the fishing areas, is compliance with EC Regulation No.1005-2008.

TURKEY

1. History of swordfish fishery in turkey

The exact time when swordfish fishery starts in Turkey is unknown. However, Turkish swordfish fishery dates back to XVIIth century. In 1630s, swordfish had been caught via tuna trap nets, deployed along the coast of Beykoz, Istanbul according to “*Evliya Çelebi’s Travel Notes*” (Kahraman and Dağlı 2008)*.

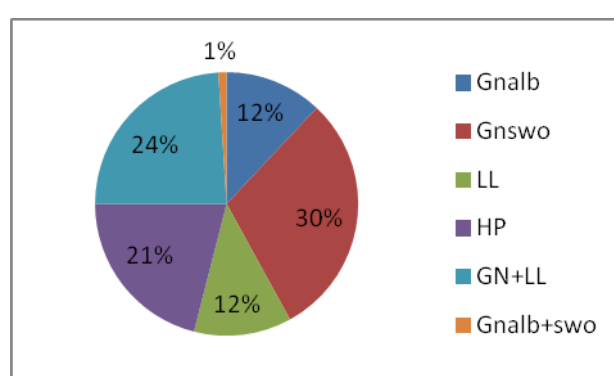
The swordfish fishery in Turkish waters is carried out by harpoon, longline, pelagic gillnet and purse-seine in both Aegean and Levantine Seas. Although, any swordfish existing in the Sea of Marmara, a total of 50 fishing boats from Marmara coasts are participated to swordfish fishery along the Aegean and Levantine coasts. In general, approximately 150 fishing boats from 21 fishing ports are participated to swordfish fishery from Istanbul to Iskenderun.

According to the fishing methods, the history of Turkish swordfish fishery is summarized in **Table 1**.

* Kahraman, S.A., Dağlı, Y. 2008, *Evliya Çelebi’s Travel Notes with Current Turkish*: Istanbul, (in Turkish). 1.Cilt, 2. Kitap, Yapı Kredi Yayınları 1808, Istanbul,765 p.

Table 1. History of the Turkish swordfish fishery.

<i>Fishing gears</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Starting area</i>	<i>Present status</i>	<i>Season</i>
Trap	1630s-1970	Bosphorus	Abandoned	April-February
Harpoon	1950s-1970s	Bosphorus and Sea of Marmara	Only off Gokceada	<i>Formerly and Nowadays</i> , May-June
Longline	1960-1975	Sea of Marmara	Since 1974, Fethiye Since 2003, Özdere	<i>Formerly</i> , Autumn <i>Nowadays</i> , Dec-May
Gillnet	1900s-1960s	Bosphorus	Musellim Strait, Doğanbey Bay and off Fethiye in the Aegean Sea.	<i>Formerly</i> , June-October <i>Nowadays</i> , April-Sept.
Purse seine	1960s-1970s	Bosphorus and Sea of Marmara	Whole of Aegean Sea	<i>Formerly</i> , Autumn <i>Nowadays</i> , Sept-April

**Figure 1.** Proportion of fishing gears in the sum of swordfish boats.

The catch statistics indicated that there were unstable catch amounts between 7 tons in 1976 and 589 tons in 1988 (FAO, 2000)¹. The catch amount of swordfish was 423, 386, 301 and 334 t for 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively (TURKSTAT, 2011)², which is corresponding approximately 3% of total landings from GFCM area. However, swordfish fishing is expanding activity in Turkey.

Nowadays, more than 150 fishing boats including albacore boats are participated in the swordfish fishery, while there were only about 65 boats in early 2000s.

2. Swordfish fishery management and development plan

In deference to relevant ICCAT Conservation and Management Measures, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (former MARA) introduced the Notification on Regulating Commercial Fishing at Seas and Inland Waters, covering the period 2009-2012, in order to ensure more sustainable fishing activities, improved quality for fishing products, and better conservation of fisheries resources. The management of swordfish fishery in Turkey is regulated in accordance with the current Notification.

According to the Notification:

- The closed period for swordfish fishery is between 1 October 2011 and 30 November 2011. So, the rest of the year is the fishing season for Mediterranean Swordfish.
- The catch of swordfish smaller than 125 cm is prohibited.
- It is mandatory for the fishing vessels to catch swordfish obtain "Fishing Permit" from the provincial directorate issuing vessel's license. Applications by the fishermen to acquire a special fishing permit for

¹ FAO.2000.Fishstat Plus: Universal Software for Fishery Statistical Time Series. Ver.2.3.FAO Fish.Dept., Data and Statistics Unit, Rome.

² Turkish Statistical Institute, 2011.

swordfish is subject to some technical criteria; however, applications by the fishermen can legally be made even until the last day, i.e. 29 November 2011, for this season.

As of 30 November 2011, the special fishing permits to be acquired by fishermen (or to be issued by the Ministry) shall belong to the 2012 fishing season for swordfish. When an application made is approved by the Ministry, the special permit information is simultaneously recorded in the Fisheries Information System (FIS) operated by the Ministry.

- When longlining for tuna and swordfish, only hooks nos. 1 and no. 2 are permitted.

When they are not fishing for swordfish and during the closed season, many of swordfish fishermen are engaged to the other coastal fisheries, trawling and tourism or farming activities.

In 2002 and 2003, EU and ICCAT enforced a recommendation prohibiting the usage of drift-nets in the Mediterranean. Afterwards, drift-netting in Turkey was also banned in 2006 (Anon., 2006)³.

Subsequently, Turkey announced its position for elimination of modified driftnet usage with the ICCAT Circular # 3225/2010. Accordingly, usage of all modified drift-nets has been prohibited as from 1 July 2011.

Accordingly, all fishing vessels with the modified drift-nets have gone under obligation to shift their fishing gears in accordance with provisions of *Revised Notification No. 2/1 Regulating Commercial Fishing*.

To this end, in 2011, with the contribution of the United States Government and the ICCAT Secretariat, a scientific exchange program (pilot project) has been initiated with the involvement of a number of scientists, officials and industry representatives from Turkey and from the U.S. side.

The above mentioned project which comprises bilateral field works, training activities, scientific exchange, experimental fishing activities and analyses of the findings in a phased manner, aims to promote the usage of a more selective fishing gear “*the buoy gear*” by the majority of Turkish swordfish fishermen.

UNITED STATES*

Executive Summary

ICCAT Recommendation 10-02 requires each CPC to “submit to the Secretariat by 15 September 2011, a report on [the] history of its swordfish fishing and a development/management plan of its swordfish fishery. Consideration of the multi-year conservation and management plan in 2011 shall be based upon those reports and development/management plans as well as the *ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities* [Rec. 01-25].” This document describes the history, future development, management, and socio-economic aspects of the U.S. North Atlantic swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) fishery.

The conservation and management of U.S. Atlantic swordfish fisheries since 1985 – five years before active management by ICCAT – has been defined by a comprehensive suite of ecosystem-based measures that go beyond the requirements of ICCAT recommendations. These measures have been developed using a scientific approach with the goal of developing and maintaining a sustainable swordfish fishery. The U.S. swordfish fishery is carefully managed using permitting and effort controls, minimum size and landing restrictions, gear restrictions, retention limits, time/area closures, reporting requirements, vessel monitoring systems (VMS), and observer requirements, among others. The United States has also implemented extensive scientific programs to support the collection of reliable fishery data, participation in stock assessments, and innovative research on swordfish biology, life history, and fishing techniques to reduce bycatch. These actions support our efforts to prevent and eliminate overfishing and excess fishing capacity, while ensuring that levels of fishing effort are commensurate with the ICCAT objective of achieving and maintaining MSY. Together, they ensure the sustainability of the swordfish stock and support an ecosystem-based approach to management.

³ Anon. 2006, Turkish Fishery Regulation Circular (37/1) for Marine and Inland Commercial Fisheries in Fishing Season 2006-2008. T.C. TKB-KKGM, R.G. Sayı: 26269 Ankara, 108 p. (in Turkish).

* Only the Summary has been translated to French and Spanish by the Secretariat. The full report, in original language, is available upon request from the Secretariat.

Several U.S. domestic management measures (e.g., gear requirements, time/area closures, by-catch mitigation) have had the effect of limiting the ability of the U.S. fleet to fully harvest its ICCAT allocation. For example, as a responsible steward of the Florida Straits swordfish nursery grounds, U.S. actions to reduce fishing effort by our fleet in this area reduced mortality on both immature and mature swordfish. Such actions resulted in substantial declines in U.S. catches during the first part of the last decade (2001-2006), which were further exacerbated by natural disasters such as Hurricane Katrina. However, these same measures also resulted in a significant U.S. contribution to the health of the swordfish stock and the associated marine ecosystem, to the ultimate benefit of all ICCAT members that fish for this stock.

It is a challenging task to achieve broad ecosystem management objectives while preserving a viable fishery. During recent meetings of the Future of ICCAT Working Group, Contracting Parties agreed that ecosystem-based management is a key concept that underpins ICCAT's goals and objectives for sustainable fisheries. Parties have expressed support and commitment to this general approach, as articulated in various ICCAT recommendations, particularly those that pertain to bycatch. As this document will demonstrate, the United States is taking its ocean stewardship responsibilities seriously, and we believe we are finding the right balance in our fisheries. It will be important for RFMOs such as ICCAT to encourage these kinds of efforts in order to ensure sustainable fisheries and healthy ecosystems.

Since the North Atlantic stock of swordfish was declared rebuilt, the United States has been fully committed to the revitalization of our swordfish fishery, and has made significant efforts over the past few years to restructure its fisheries and adjust regulatory constraints on its swordfish fishermen in light of new circumstances. These measures are designed to increase swordfish catch while ensuring that the fishery complies with U.S. laws and regulations, including those aimed at preserving long-term sustainability. There has also been a recent emergence (or re-emergence) of interest in alternative fishing gears to fish for swordfish including buoy gear, harpoon gear, and rod and reel, as well as a renewed interest in recreational fisheries for swordfish. As a result of revitalization efforts and the increased availability of fish due to stock rebuilding, U.S. swordfish catch has increased by nearly 40 percent since 2006.

With a healthy stock structure, we anticipate that the availability of larger fish in the U.S. fishery may continue to increase, thereby further increasing the volume of U.S. swordfish landings. Further, the United States continues to enhance the productivity of its existing fleet. We are making steady progress toward fully harvesting our swordfish allocation while using best fishing practices to conserve other marine species. Under our long-term management strategy, steadily increasing swordfish catches can be realized with minimal adverse ecological impacts.

In summary, the United States has chosen to pursue a prudent and deliberate strategy of incrementally increasing swordfish fishing effort to ensure an environmentally and economically sustainable fishery while preserving its record of compliance with all ICCAT recommendations. U.S. swordfish landings have gradually increased since 2006 due to efforts to revitalize this fishery in a responsible manner, while maintaining the long-term sustainability of the stock in accordance with the objectives of the Convention. The United States looks forward to continuing its active participation in this socially and economically important fishery. To that end, this document describes the interests, fishing patterns, and fishing practices of the U.S. Atlantic swordfish fleet – past, present, and future.

CHINESE TAIPEI

1. Background

In accordance with *ICCAT Rec. 10-02 Recommendation by ICCAT for the Conservation of North Atlantic Swordfish*, Chinese Taipei hereby submits its Report on the history of north Atlantic swordfish fishing and management plan on vessels catching north Atlantic swordfish.

2. History of North Atlantic swordfish fishing of Chinese Taipei

2.1 The tuna longline fleet of Chinese Taipei started to target albacore in the Atlantic Ocean in the early 1960s. In the mid 1980s, newly built longliners equipped with deep-freezer started to target bigeye tuna in the tropical area. Swordfish is bycatch of these fisheries. Basically, Chinese Taipei doesn't have any swordfish-directed longline fishery.

2.2 In order to ensure compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures, domestic measures have been implemented. They include grouping of tuna longline fleet into 3 groups for area-specific fishing: Northern Albacore Group, Bigeye Tuna Group and Southern Albacore Group. Vessels belonging to a specific group shall be permitted to fish in the fishing area designated to that group (**Figure 1**), and shall not fish in other areas without prior authorization. Generally, north Atlantic swordfish is caught by vessels in the Northern Albacore Group and to a lesser extent by vessels in the Bigeye Tuna Group. The historic catch of north Atlantic swordfish caught by Chinese Taipei longline fleet is shown in **Table 1**.

2.3 The annual catch of north Atlantic swordfish caught by Chinese Taipei longline fleet began to decline sharply in 2007. Following are the main reasons:

2.3.1 Reduced fleet size: To make its fleet size commensurate with its fishing possibilities and comply with all recommendations adopted by ICCAT, Chinese Taipei implemented a 3-year vessel reduction program from 2005 to 2007. As a result, the number of vessels authorized to operate in the Atlantic Ocean was reduced from 205 to 109 during the period from 1998 to 2007, which caused a decline in the total catch of the tuna longline fishery, including the catch of north Atlantic swordfish.

2.3.2 Reduced catch quota: Chinese Taipei has agreed to reduce 13% catch quota (decrease from 310 tons to 270 tons) of north Atlantic swordfish as from 2006, while other CPCs quota remained unchanged.

2.3.3 Reduced individual allocation of catch quota: Limited individual quota is allocated to fishermen and live release of swordfish is encouraged. Fishermen are requested to avoid operating in fishing grounds where the catch proportion of swordfish is high. These steps have effectively reduced the catch of north Atlantic swordfish.

2.3.4 Fishing layoff in the north Atlantic: The fishing vessels which were operating in the northern Atlantic Ocean have intermittently ceased fishing due to rising fuel costs since the second half of 2007.

2.3.5 Cease of fishery by aged fishing vessels due to safety reason: A number of fishing vessels which used to fish in the northern Atlantic Ocean ceased fishing due to safety reason. They are authorized to resume fishing by replacement of new vessels or after renovation.

Table 1. The historic catch of North Atlantic swordfish caught by the Chinese Taipei fleet.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Initial catch limit(tons)</i>	<i>Adjusted catch limit(tons)</i>	<i>Catch (tons)</i>	<i>Balance</i>	<i>Note</i>	<i>No. of vessels authorized to operate in ATL</i>	<i>No. of vessels in northern albacore group</i>	<i>No. of vessels in bigeye tuna group</i>	<i>No. of vessels in southern albacore group</i>
1998	288.2	288.2	286	2.2	No carry-over policy	205	-	-	-
1999	288.2	288.2	285	3.2	No carry-over policy	188	20	119	49
2000	213.3	213.3	347	-133.7	Overage was deducted from 2002 catch limit	185	19	115	51
2001	213.3	213.3	299	-67.7	1.25 times of overage was deducted from 2003 catch limit	182	19	107	56
2002	213.3	79.6	310	-233.4	Overage was deducted from 2004 catch limit	172	19	99	54

2003	310	225.4	257	2.4		150	17	90	43
2004	310	52	30	22.0	Underage was added to 2006 catch limit	144	14	98	32
2005	310	310	140	170	Part of unused catch limit was added to 2007 catch limit	142	14	98	30
2006	310	332	172	160	Part of unused catch limit was added to 2008 catch limit	75	14	15	46
2007	270	405	103	302	Part of unused catch limit was added to 2009 catch limit	109	14	60	35
2008	270	405	82	323	Part of unused catch limit was added to 2010 catch limit	109	14	60	35
2009	270	405	89	316	Part of unused catch limit was added to 2011 catch limit	109	14	60	35
2010	270	405	88	317	Part of unused catch limit was added to 2012 catch limit	117	14	67	36

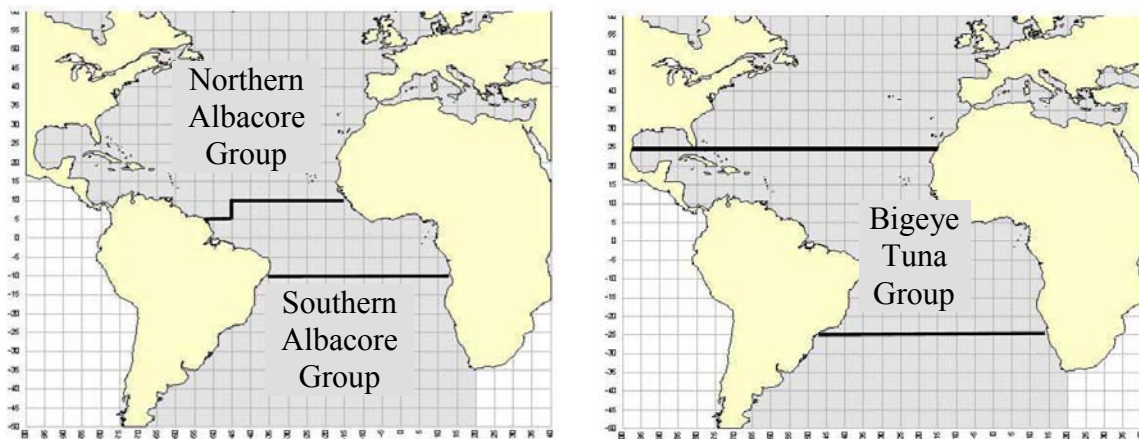


Figure 1. Fishing area of each group of tuna longline vessels flagged by Chinese Taipei.

3. Management plan on vessels catching North Atlantic swordfish by Chinese Taipei

Swordfish is bycatch in tuna longline fishery, and the management regulations on longline fishery cover the management of north Atlantic swordfish including:

3.1 General provision

There is a requirement of carrying on board fishing permit and certificate of nationality as required under the relevant regulations. There is also the requirement of vessel markings, and markings on fishing gears, including signal flags or radar reflector buoys.

3.2 Prior authorization by area and group

Designation of fishing vessels to one of the three groups, and permission of their fishing in specific area designated to the group they belong.

3.3 Catch limitation and individual quota

The government allocates species-based fishing quota to individual fishing vessel. Vessels are required to report their catch weekly, to ensure no overuse of quota occurs. When a vessel reaches its allocated target species quota, it should stop fishing immediately and must return to the designated port. If the limit on any bycatch is reached, its catch should be discarded and recorded on the catch logbook.

3.4 Management of positions of fishing vessels

All vessels are required to install satellite-based vessel monitoring system (VMS). The VMS on board shall be maintained functional at all times, whether at sea or in port, and transmit positions of the vessels to the VMS center every 6 hours.

3.5 Management of catch reports

The captain of the fishing vessel shall accurately fill in the catch logbook and weekly catch report. After a fishing vessel enters into a port or completes its transshipment, the fishery operator shall submit its catch logbook to the Fisheries Agency.

3.6 Management on transshipment of catch

Application for at-sea or in-port transshipment permission shall be submitted to the Fisheries Agency no later than 24 hours before the transshipment. Transshipment shall only be conducted after the Fisheries Agency issues written approval for the transshipment. Transshipment declaration shall be submitted to the Fisheries Agency within 15 days of the completion of the transshipment.

3.7 Management of catch statistical documents

When a fishing vessel wishes to sell any catch, the fishery operator shall apply for the catch statistical documents of the fish species, including north Atlantic swordfish, in accordance with relevant regulations. The information on catch statistical document shall be verified against the data on weekly catch report. A fishing vessel shall not use the catch statistical document issued to another vessel.

3.8 Observer program

Fishing vessels shall accept scientific observers appointed by the Fisheries Agency for carrying out observation on board.

3.9 Inspection

The fishing vessels shall keep in contact with the fishery surveillance and patrol ships dispatched by the Fisheries Agency, and accept boarding and inspection.

3.10 Measures specified for swordfish

In compliance with the measure on the restrictions of minimum weight and size of swordfish under Recommendation 10-02, fishermen are required to release live undersize swordfish for rebuilding swordfish stock.

In addition, Chinese Taipei voluntarily prohibits vessels to fish in the Mediterranean to conserve Mediterranean Swordfish and eastern bluefin tuna.

4. Conclusion

4.1 In accordance with the conservation and management measures for north Atlantic swordfish adopted by ICCAT, Chinese Taipei has executed a management plan for this stock and will improve it continuously. Also, Chinese Taipei will strive to make sure fishing vessels flying its flag comply with its management plan and all the conservation and management measures adopted by ICCAT. In the future, if the Commission further amends its rebuilding program for north Atlantic swordfish, Chinese Taipei will modify its management plan for this stock accordingly.

4.2 Even though the utilization rate of north Atlantic swordfish catch limit was low during the period from 2007 to 2010, it is predicted the catch will exceed 80% in 2011. Therefore, our current catch limit may not be sufficient in the future. In view of the possible insufficiency of our catch limit, Chinese Taipei would like to express its desire to maintain its current north Atlantic swordfish catch limit.

4.3 Facing the new quota allocation of north Atlantic swordfish, Chinese Taipei fully supports setting a total allowable catch (TAC) of north Atlantic swordfish at a level that would support its maximum sustainable yield (MSY) as recommended by the SCRS. However, quota allocation should be openly discussed taking into account the fishery of those who have long been engaging in the fishery, and their compliance and data submission status. If there is any reduction in the current or future TAC, the catch limit for each CPC should be adjusted in a fair and equitable manner.

Appendix 4 to ANNEX 9

Statement by the Observer from Greenpeace to Panel 1

Greenpeace notes with concern the content of the “Draft Recommendation on a Multi-annual Conservation and Management Programme for Bigeye and Yellowfin Tunas despite numerous statements about the need to apply precaution, the high degree of IUU catches in the tropical tuna fisheries, and the well documented impacts associated with the use of FADs in the Convention area.

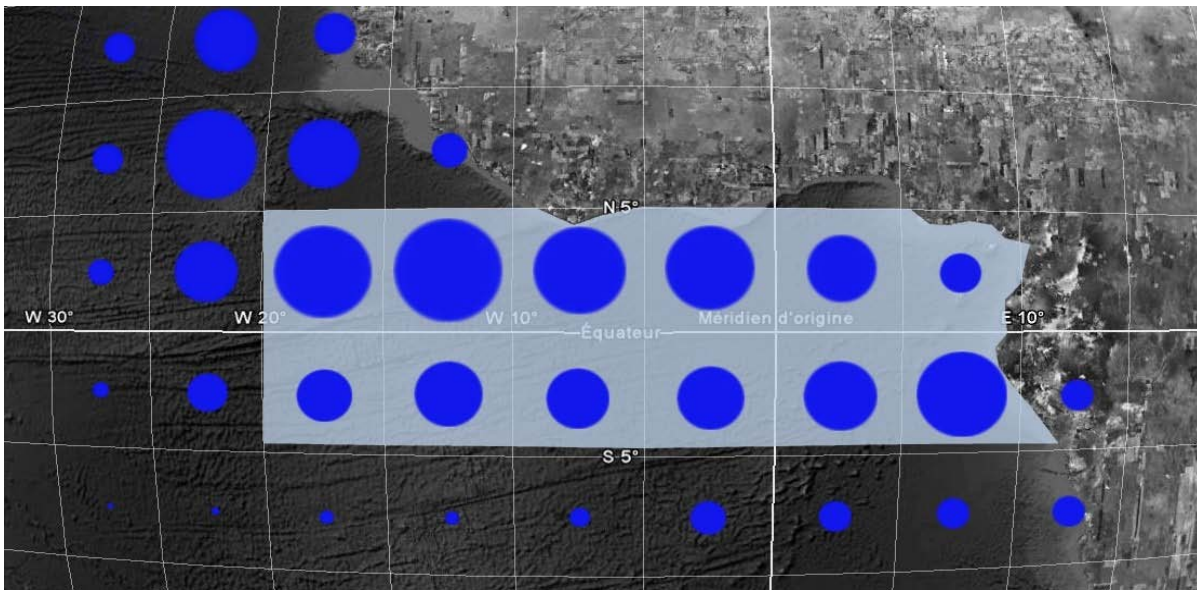
According to the SCRS, in relation to tropical tunas, “Overall carrying capacity of the total purse seine fleet in 2010 has increased to about the same level as in the 1990s and FAD based fishing has accelerated more rapidly than free school fishing (although both have substantially increased), with the number of sets on FADs reaching levels not seen since the mid-1990s.

It is therefore shocking that in this context, this Commission may choose to offer less protection to tropical tuna stocks in 2011 than it would have 13 years ago.

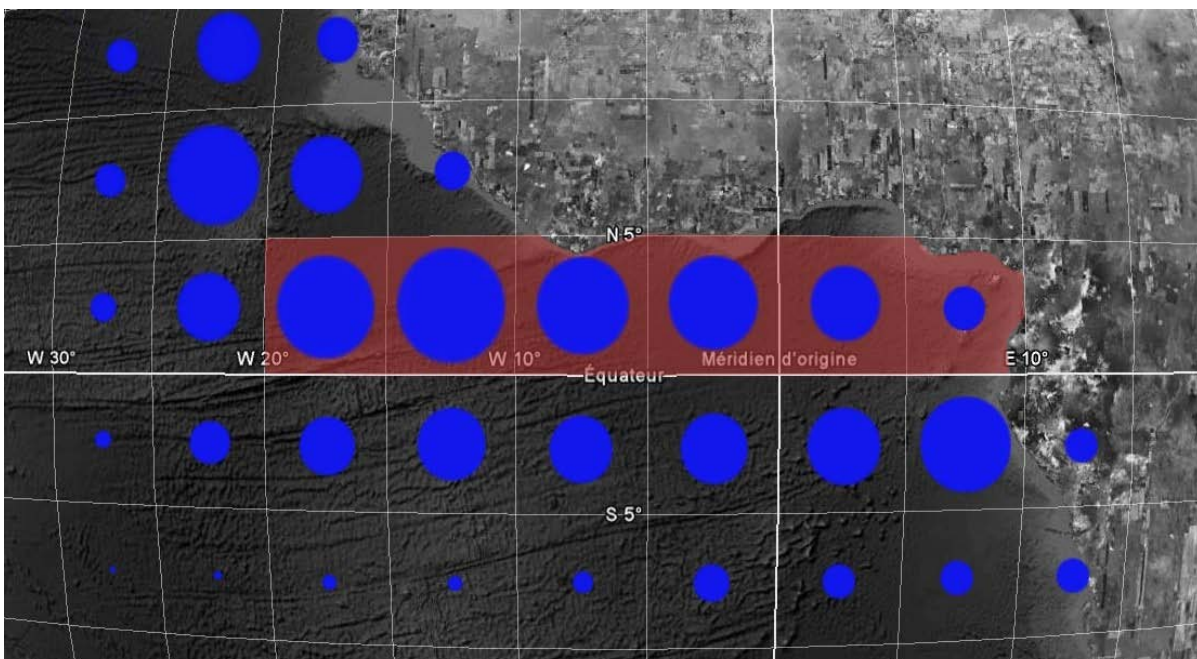
A shrinking FADs area closure

The maps below show the area closures contained in previous recommendations as well as the options considered at this year's ICCAT meeting. Blue circles represent catches of tropical tunas in 5°x 5° squares as contained in the 2009 SCRS report to ICCAT.

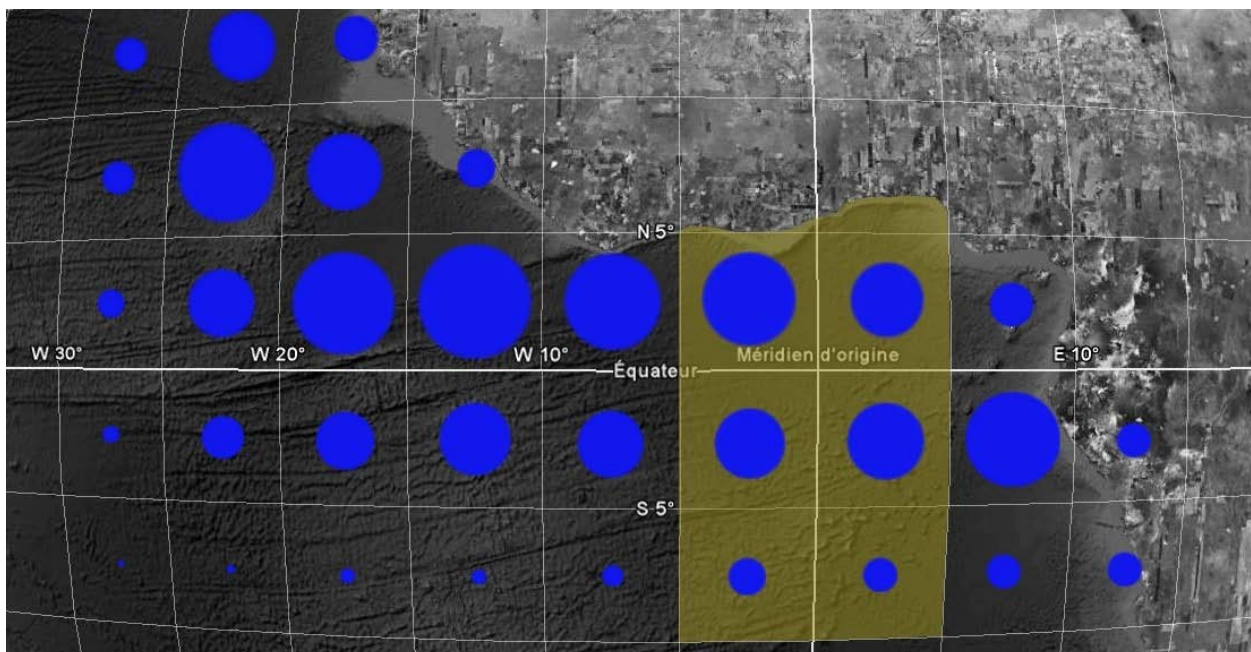
1. Area closure in ICCAT Recommendations 98-01 and 99-01:



2. Area closure in ICCAT Recommendations 98-014 and 99-01:



3. Area closure in the “Draft Recommendation on a Multi-annual Conservation and Management Programme for Bigeye and Yellowfin Tunas”



A decreased time area closure

The table below summarizes the previous time and area closures contained in ICCAT recommendations as well as the proposal in the “Draft Recommendation on a Multi-annual Conservation and Management Programme for Bigeye and Yellowfin Tunas”. ICCAT Recommendations 98-01 and 99-01 included a three month FAD area closure, which was then reduced to only one month through ICCAT Recommendation 04-01 and excluded the months of December and January, of peak tropical tuna catches. In the new proposal it has been extended to include the month of February, where catches are smaller and is again shorter than the one this Commission was able to agree 13 years ago.

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Area closure</i>	<i>Time closure</i>
98-01, 99-01	Southern limit: 4°S; Northern limit: 5°N; Western limit: 20°W; Eastern limit: African coast	1 November to 31 January.
04-01, 08-01	Southern limit: 0°S; Northern limit: 5°N, Western limit: 20°W; Eastern limit: 10°E	1 November to 30 November of each year.
11-01	Southern limit: 10°S; Northern limit: African coast; Western limit: 5°W; Eastern limit: 5°E	1 January to 28 February

New footage released by Greenpeace on purse seining on FADs

Greenpeace has made public yesterday new footage, documenting the destruction caused by the use of FADs in the western Pacific Ocean. The footage was captured by a whistleblower within the tuna industry. The footage can be seen at <http://xurl.es/2b7je>

Greenpeace is calling on the commission to agree on a permanent ban on the use of all FADs in association with purse seine fishing for 2012 and beyond. Additionally, Greenpeace considers that given the well documented impacts of this fishing technique, diminishing protection from FADs as compared to recommendations adopted by this same Commission 13 years ago, instead of increasing it, completely undermines the credibility of ICCAT.

Appendix 5 to ANNEX 9

Statement by the Observer from Greenpeace to Panel 1

The use of FADs in purse seine tuna fisheries significantly undermines the sustainability of these fisheries because of the high levels of juvenile bigeye tuna, as well as bycatch of non-target (and vulnerable) species such as sharks, turtles and other species.

This Convention has been aware of the impacts associated to the use of FADs in these fisheries for more than a decade as demonstrated by the fact that time and area closures had been agreed already in 1998. The lack of a management framework to ensure that such levels of juvenile mortality and bycatch are greatly reduced throughout all these years is simply not acceptable.

Greenpeace has made public today new footage, documenting the destruction cause by the use of FADs in the western Pacific Ocean. The footage was captured by a whistleblower within the tuna industry.

The footage can be seen at <http://xurl.es/sb7je>

Greenpeace is calling on the Commission to agree on a permanent ban on the use of all FADs in association with purse seine fishing for 2012 and beyond.

Appendix 6 to ANNEX 9

Statement by the Observer from the Pew Environment Group to Panel 1

Panel 1 members have voiced strong support for comprehensive measures on bigeye (BET) and yellowfin tuna (YFT), which the Pew Environment Group also supports. Of primary importance is the need to reduce catches of juvenile bigeye and yellowfin in the Gulf of Guinea surface fisheries, and improve catch reporting and monitoring.

To accomplish these clear objectives, Panel 1 should adopt a robust conservation and management measure that includes TACs for yellowfin and bigeye, a large time/area closure in the Gulf of Guinea that prohibits the use of fish aggregating devices (FADs) from December-March. FAD purse seine fisheries are particularly difficult to manage given their impacts on multiple species, and should be addressed as a priority.

TAC: The SCRS Recommendations are as follows: BET: 85,000 t; YFT: 110,000 t.

The stock status of bigeye tuna and yellowfin tuna, as reported by SCRS, are likely more pessimistic due to the 20,000 t of unreported catch of tropical tunas that was not included in either assessment. Thus, we recommend that the TACs be set at a precautionary level, lower than the SCRS-recommended level, to account for this large unreported catch.

From the 2011 SCRS Report:

“It needs to be noted that projections made by the Committee assume that future constant catches represent the total removals from the stock, and not just the TAC of 85,000 t established by ICCAT [Rec. 09-01]. Catches made by other fleets not affected by [Rec. 09-01] need to be added to the 85,000 t for comparisons with the future constant catch scenarios contemplated.”

“The Commission should be aware that if major countries were to take the entire catch limit set under Recommendations 04-01 and 09-1 and other countries were to maintain recent catch levels, then the total catch could well exceed 100,000 t.”

Time/Area Closure to Reduce Catches of Juvenile Tunas: Panel 1 should extend the size and length of the current time/area closure for FAD fishing. The SCRS found that the voluntary moratorium on FADs (1997-2000) had a beneficial effect upon mortality of juvenile bigeye, as seen in **Figure 1**, Area B, below. A time/area closure of this size would be appropriately precautionary.

SCRS: *“There is a general agreement that larger time/area moratoria are likely to be more precautionary than a smaller moratoria, providing that reductions in juvenile mortality are necessary to achieve management objectives.”*

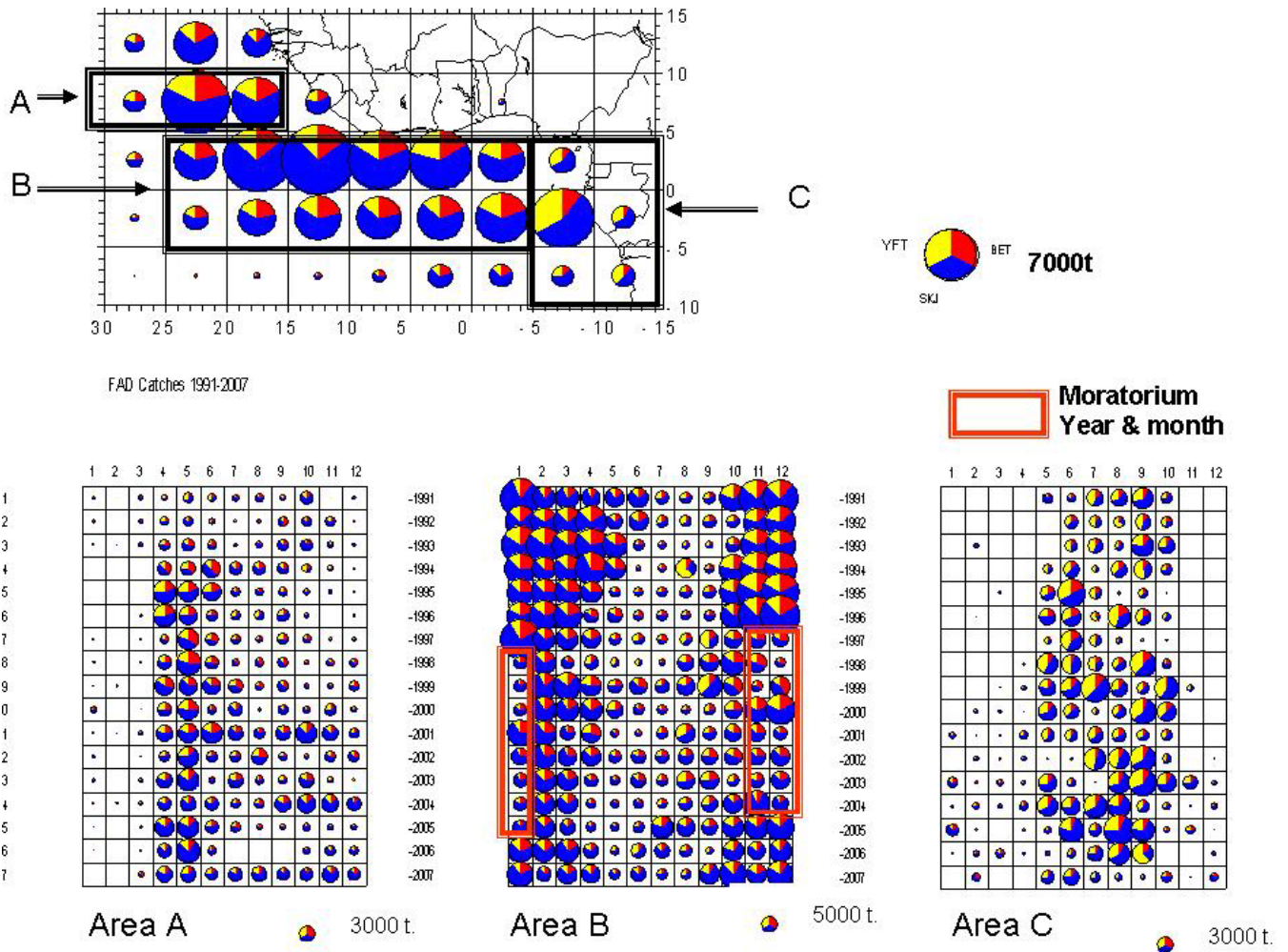


Figure 1. (from the 2009 SCRS Report). Total monthly catches on FADs taken by EU PS and Ghana (estimated) in three regions. Catches during the FAD moratorium period are indicated by the box outlined.

Limit and Manage FAD use in non-closure period: Time/area closures alone will not reduce overall FAD use or control their proliferation. Due to their wide-spread use, the SCRS should be given more information on FADs in order to improve stock assessments and to examine potential ecosystem impacts. FAD management plans, including keeping an inventory of FAD deployments, FAD marking requirements, FAD composition (materials/radio buoys), and limits on the numbers of FADs a CPC will deploy should be submitted to the Commission.

Effort limits: Effort in surface and longline fisheries should be effectively limited to ensure that capacity is in line with the TACs for yellowfin and bigeye tunas. Additionally, if vessels are replaced, the carrying capacity of vessels should not be allowed to increase. The Commission should provide a table with the number and sizes of all baitboat, longline, and purse seine vessels over 20m for each CPC that reported catches for yellowfin and bigeye tunas in the Convention area in order to ensure compliance with effort limits in the future.

Monitoring: Regular submission of catch data (Task I and Task II) to ICCAT by CPCs that have been allocated a catch limit should be required. Functioning VMS should be on all boats over 20m fishing for bigeye and yellowfin tunas. Also, in order to monitor catches and compliance with the FAD closure, all purse seine vessels should carry an observer during the FAD closure, with the view to expanding observer coverage to 100% for all purse seine fisheries.

Appendix 7 to ANNEX 9

Statement by Algeria to Panel 2

As you know, at the 17th Special Meeting of ICCAT, Algeria's bluefin tuna catch quota was considerably reduced from 684 metric tons (t) in 2010 to 138 t in 2011.

It should be pointed out that this inequitable reduction only concerns Algeria whose allocation key was reduced from 5.073% to 1.073%, since that of other members has remained unchanged and or even increased in some cases.

To denounce this unjust practice, Algeria immediately initiated the procedure to object to Recommendation 10-04, in accordance with the provisions of Article VIII of the ICCAT Convention, although requesting reparation in anticipation of the inter-sessional meeting of the Compliance Committee.

In response to our objection and to our request, the Chairs of the Commission and the Compliance Committee, respectively, responded in their letters dated 15 December 2010 and 11 February 2011 that this issue would be taken up with the Commission and Panel 2

Today, one year after the 17th Special Meeting of ICCAT and after having followed the objection procedure through to the end, and while very carefully respecting its obligations towards ICCAT, Algeria takes the opportunity of this meeting to request that its bluefin tuna catch quota be fully restored to the amount of its historical allocation key of 5.073% of the TAC.

Without any doubt, such a wise and just decision would put an end to this unjust situation which damages the image of our Organization and compels my country to object, since it cannot really exploit only 1/5 of its historical quota.

Appendix 8 to ANNEX 9

Joint Statement to Panel 2 by the Observers from WWF and Greenpeace

Despite progress made in the management of the East Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna fishery in recent years, the *bluefin tuna crisis* is not over. Views expressed by some members of Panel 2, stating that the bluefin tuna stock is showing signs of recovery are not based on conclusive scientific evidence, neither are they backed by the SCRS.

We wish to remind members of this panel that substantial concerns remain as to the extent of IUU catches in the fishery, as any substantial deviations in catches would result in the failure to recover the stock: any catch of 20,000 tonnes or more has 24% or less probability of achieving it.

Last 25 October we sent a letter to the ICCAT Secretariat, the Chair of the Compliance Committee, and members of Panel 2 containing very serious allegations of illegal fishing involving several Mediterranean countries, farming and companies, including fishing with spotter planes and substantial unreported catches in 2011. Such allegations are signed and come from a professional tuna operator and we would be interested as to any investigation that any party may have made based on such allegations. We are happy to provide a copy of the letter to any party interested.

Worrying statements in relation to the current estimates of overcapacity in the bluefin tuna fishery were also made at the previous session of Panel 2. A recent paper submitted by WWF to the SCRS demonstrates that substantial overcapacity remains in the fishery (more than doubling the current TAC) and calls for further reductions as one of the urgent tasks before this panel.

We have also clearly heard that despite five years of regulations attempting to ensure a proper control of tuna farming and fattening activities and 15 years of farming operations in the Mediterranean, there is no solution readily available to estimate the amount of tuna caught and transferred into tuna cages. The report of the regional observers programme acknowledges, again, that observers cannot reliably estimate the amount of tuna caught in purse seine-tuna farming operations. The COC meeting last week also demonstrated that sampling requirements are largely unmet. This, combined with use of inflated fattening growth rates, continues to pose fundamental

compliance and traceability problems that won't be tackled by the adoption of the necessary eBCD scheme alone.

In summary, pervasive overcapacity linked to the absence of a reliable assessment of fish transfers into cages and inflated growth rates in farms results in an optimum environment for overfishing.

Consequently, we urge this meeting of Panel 2 to:

- Take all the necessary steps to amend the current capacity reduction plan to ensure the complete elimination of overcapacity by 2013. This should include mandating SCRS to deliver to the Commission in 2012 an updated and more realistic assessment of the catch potential per fleet segments under the current management scheme (understood as full potential for realization of catches as constrained exclusively by the length of the fishing season).
- Adopt the electronic BCD scheme.
- Agree on a prohibition of tuna fattening and farming in the region until a fully tested operational procedure allows to the accurate monitoring of the amount and size of transfers into cages.
- Adopt the necessary measures to ensure that the next stock assessment is based on much better data than that available to the 2010 assessment, and a much improved methodology fitted to large uncertainty situations.

Finally, we re-state our concerns about the VMS data in Libya. The data presented by the ICCAT Secretariat at this meeting, points to the presence of at least 5 different vessels included in the BFT records in the waters of the Gulf of Sirte (territorial waters) and at least 13 different vessels inside the Libyan Fisheries Protection Zone during the month of June as well as 8 and 18 different vessels, respectively, in the month of July. We would like to know the details of the procedure ICCAT will follow to address this very important matter.

Appendix 9 to ANNEX 9

Statement by the Observer from CARICOM to Panel 4 and to the Compliance Committee

Many fisheries in CARICOM States are mixed species fisheries, and artisanal fisheries generally make use of all their catches. In the original marlin conservation measure, the reference year for determining compliance was 1996, and subsequent amendments noted the reference years to be 1996 or 1999. For two major parties, 1996 and 1999 were years of high marlin by-catches according to data appearing in the relevant tables of catches provided in the 2011 SCRS report, although according to the 2011 compliance tables, 1996 was the higher catch year for these two same parties.

In view of the uncertainties associated with the marlin assessments, if the Commission wished to be conservative and precautionary in 2000-01 when formulating the marlin rebuilding plan and amending it, then arguably the suitable reference year would have been 1995 for blue marlin, and 1997 for white marlin, as the lowest total catches were recorded for those years in and close to the period of interest. An alternative, acceptable and somewhat precautionary option would have been to use an average over the reference years of interest. This did not happen.

If the reference year in the current marlin rebuilding plan had been 1999 only, then different parties would have been in a state of non-compliance today for at least blue marlin. Likewise, if the reference year had been 1997, Trinidad and Tobago would not have been in a state of non-compliance in respect of the billfish rebuilding plan in 2011. Hence within the period of interest, the specific year chosen for the reference year creates an arbitrary difference between being in a state of compliance and a state of non-compliance. Although CARICOM States began joining ICCAT from 1999 onwards, these Developing Parties had not been included in the usual 'small group' negotiations that would have resulted in the final formulation of the 2000 and subsequent related recommendations on the marlin rebuilding plan, which were sufficiently defensible on the basis of the supporting science.

In 2010, CARICOM reminded the Commission that the Caribbean region was a region of known high abundance of billfishes, and of the food usage of billfishes by several CARICOM States. Additionally the CARICOM State of Trinidad and Tobago reminded the Commission of the mixed nature and limited mobility of

that State's large pelagic fisheries that made it difficult to achieve the desired bycatch reductions of the two marlin species. At that time, Trinidad and Tobago also requested flexibility in understanding this special situation, which was not unreasonable in view of the catch quantities concerned.

CARICOM notes that while marlin landings reduced for some industrial longline and purse seine fisheries during and after 1996-1999, Atlantic sailfish landings for these same fisheries increased in the subsequent years, and the increase was notable for at least one major party. This was extraordinarily fortunate for the parties concerned, seeing that the billfishes were bycatch species for such fisheries, and it was important to reduce marlin catches at the same time. Unfortunately, these Atlantic sailfish catch increases may now be threatening the status of this species. If a rebuilding plan for Atlantic sailfish is imminent, it should not be sympathetic to those parties with industrial fleets taking larger sailfish by-catches as a result of the need to reduce their marlin by-catches.

On the subject of artisanal fisheries, the statistics clearly show that artisanal fisheries employ more people and feed more people than industrial fisheries, and hence the social and economic benefits are more widely spread throughout the societies concerned. The contributions are significant not just from a statistical standpoint, but also in terms of food security and poverty alleviation for many of the world's poor and under-privileged.

Artisanal fisheries, at least in CARICOM States, are multi-species and opportunistic in nature, harvesting in proportion to availability. Arguably, such fishing is therefore more sensitive to the natural balance of life occurring in the marine ecosystem, and makes these fisheries closer to achieving an ecosystem approach to fisheries management than all the industrial fisheries of ICCAT. Several of the artisanal fisheries in the CARICOM region are actively pursuing co-management models because this allows a bottom-up approach to fisheries management, which is more suited to the complex social, physical, cultural, and operational context of these fisheries. It should be noted that CARICOM States with fisheries for tuna, tuna-like and billfish species, including artisanal fisheries for such species, have been reporting at least all their Task I data and other information including fisheries descriptions, to ICCAT for several years. CARICOM accepts that there is good reason to improve data and information on all artisanal fisheries, but argues that it will be necessary for ICCAT to consider carefully how best to treat the new and improved information so that it does not result in penalizing these fisheries through the application of regulatory measures that are inflexible with regard to the application of historical data that may not exist or be of sufficient accuracy to inform sensible management practices for those concerned.

In a world of 7 billion people and counting, food consumption needs and hence food security are at the top of the agenda for most countries, and certainly for CARICOM States. In view of this, it is proposed that fisheries satisfying food consumption and food security needs, especially in Developing States, should be given top priority consideration in management planning and decision-making for the billfishes.

Appendix 10 to ANNEX 9

Statement by the Observer from Oceana to Panel 4

At this 22nd Regular Meeting of the Commission, during what is anticipated to be a very full Panel 4, ICCAT Parties must ensure sufficient attention and time are dedicated to sharks. While some progress has been made in recent years to reduce the impact of ICCAT fisheries on shark populations, much more still needs to be done.

Sharks are caught in many ICCAT fisheries, including by some longline fleets which target them to harvest their valuable fins. In fact, Contracting Parties reported to ICCAT that 20 species of highly migratory sharks, for which UNCLOS requires management from an international body, were caught in 2009. Most Atlantic pelagic sharks have exceptionally limited biological productivity, and many of these species are at an elevated risk for over-exploitation, as documented in the 2008 ecological risk assessments carried out in conjunction with the ICCAT shark stock assessment (Anon. 2009). Various commitments and recommendations have been made regarding sustainable and precautionary shark fisheries management at international for a, including the 2009 Second Joint Meeting of Tuna RFMOs (ICCAT, 2010a), the 2009 Working Group on the Future of ICCAT (ICCAT, 2010b) and the 2011 ICCAT Standing Committee for Research and Statistics (SCRS) (ICCAT, 2012).

Oceana calls on the ICCAT Contracting Parties to move closer to fulfilling these commitments and recommendations by:

1. Prohibiting the retention of endangered or particularly vulnerable species, especially porbeagle and silky sharks.
2. Establishing science-based and precautionary catch limits for other commonly caught shark species in ICCAT fisheries, starting with shortfin mako and blue sharks.
3. Requiring reporting of catch data as a prerequisite for landing a particular shark species.
4. Improving the ICCAT finning prohibition by requiring that sharks be landed with their fins wholly or partially attached in a natural manner.

Prohibit the retention of endangered or particularly vulnerable species

There are many vulnerable shark species still lacking protection by ICCAT. The two species in most need of attention this year are the porbeagle and silky shark.

Porbeagle sharks prefer cold, pelagic waters and migrate seasonally (Stevens et al. 2006a). They are slow-growing and have low reproductive potential, which makes them highly vulnerable to overexploitation. These sharks reach maturity between eight and 13 years of age¹ and can live as long as 46 years (Stevens et al. 2006b). Porbeagles give birth to only about four pups per litter, which is low compared to other pelagic, migratory sharks¹. The IUCN Red List considers porbeagle sharks Critically Endangered in the Mediterranean and Northeast Atlantic and Endangered in the Northwest Atlantic (Stevens et al. 2006a). In the Mediterranean, porbeagles are estimated to have declined by up to 99% since the mid-20th century. (Ferretti et al. 2008). In 2011, the ICCAT SCRS reported that the northeast Atlantic stock is overfished and that overfishing may still be occurring (ICCAT, 2012). Under current fishing conditions in the Northwest Atlantic, the porbeagle population is overfished and is expected to take from 30 to more than 100 years to recover (ICCAT, 2012). Unfortunately, little is known about the impact of fishing on porbeagle sharks in the South Atlantic (ICCAT, 2012).

Silky sharks are taken incidentally in many fisheries and are also targeted for their valuable fins (Bonfil et al. 2007). Like many shark species, silky sharks recover slowly from overfishing because of their biological characteristics; they grow slowly, live to an estimated 22 years or longer, and give birth to between six and 12 pups every one to two years (Last and Stevens, 2010). A recent ecological risk assessment of sharks ranked silky sharks as the most vulnerable species to Atlantic longline fisheries, due to their relatively low rate of productivity and high likelihood of catch and mortality in these fisheries (Cortes et al. 2010). The IUCN Red List considers silky sharks in the northwest and western central Atlantic to be vulnerable to extinction. One study of fishery logbook data estimated that the northwest Atlantic population has declined by 50% since 1992 (Cortes et al. 2007). Another study in the Gulf of Mexico estimated that the population has dropped by 91% since the 1950s (Baum and Myers, 2004). In 2011, the SCRS recommended that conservation measures be put in place for silky sharks that are similar to those adopted for other vulnerable shark species (ICCAT, 2012).

Due to the extreme vulnerability of these species, ICCAT should implement a ban on the retention, landing and sale of porbeagle and silky sharks.

Establish science-based and precautionary catch limits for other commonly caught shark species

Blue sharks and shortfin mako are commonly caught in ICCAT fisheries and are often commercialized. However, these species are being caught without the benefit of ICCAT catch limits to ensure sustainability.

Blue sharks are highly migratory and inhabit subtropical and temperate waters, usually in the open ocean. Tagging studies have shown blue sharks traveling long distances across the Atlantic Ocean, crossing multiple jurisdictional boundaries along the way. Valued for both their meat and fins, blue sharks are the most commonly traded shark species in the global fin trade (Clarke et al. 2006). The IUCN Red List classifies the Mediterranean population as Vulnerable (Stevens, 2009). In addition, recent studies have shown declines in blue shark abundance, including significant declines in the northwest Atlantic (Simpfendorfer et al. 2002) and a decline of over 96% in the Mediterranean Sea (Ferretti et al. 2008). Blue sharks are now caught in extremely high numbers as target species and desirable by-catch (Baum et al. 2003), and are an important commercial species in ICCAT fisheries. In 2009, fishing nations reported to ICCAT that 58,823 tonnes of blue shark were caught in the Atlantic Ocean and adjacent seas, a quantity greater than catches of many of the ICCAT-managed species. Based on the 2009 reported catch, more than 1.1 million blue sharks are estimated to have been caught in the ICCAT

¹ Roman, B. Florida Museum of Natural History, Ichthyology Department: Porbeagle.
<http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/fish/gallery/descript/porbeagle/porbeagle.html>.

convention area without any international limits. Blue shark catches in the Atlantic as reported to ICCAT and the FAO have increased in recent years.

Possibly the fastest shark and certainly one of the most active, shortfin mako sharks are found in tropical and warm temperate seas. They are both targeted by longline fisheries for their meat and caught incidentally as bycatch. In addition, shortfin makos are also a popular game fish. They are currently considered by the IUCN to be Critically Endangered in the Mediterranean and Vulnerable globally. According to 2009 ICCAT catch data, shortfin mako sharks are the second most commonly caught shark species in ICCAT fisheries, with nearly 6,000 tonnes being reported caught. A recent ecological risk assessment of sharks ranked shortfin mako sharks as the second most vulnerable species to Atlantic longline fisheries, due to their relatively low rate of productivity and high likelihood of capture and mortality in these fisheries (Cortes et al. 2010).

Due to high levels of catch and the vulnerability of these species, it is vital that ICCAT establish catch limits for blue and shortfin mako sharks.

Require reporting of catch data as a prerequisite for landing a particular shark species

Under-reporting of shark catches and misunderstanding of reporting requirements remain a major roadblock to sustainable shark management. Surprisingly, 50% of ICCAT Contracting Parties did not report any shark catches in 2009². Misreporting of shark catch data to the ICCAT Secretariat is an acknowledged problem (Anon. 2008) and ICCAT parties have expressed confusion over shark catch reporting requirements (Anon. 2009).

To help clarify ICCAT shark catch reporting requirements, the report from the 2008 ICCAT shark stock assessment meeting recommends “that data reporting procedures for the priority species identified by the SCRS be further specified and advertised” and that “data should be submitted for catches of the priority shark species, whether or not they are targets or bycatch, whether or not they are discarded, and regardless of whether the fleet is targeting tuna or tuna-like species” (Anon. 2009).

In 2009, a measure was adopted that prohibits ICCAT Parties from retaining shortfin mako sharks unless they are in compliance with data reporting requirements for this species³ ICCAT should build on this measure by putting in place similar requirements for other shark species.

Improve the ICCAT finning prohibition

In 2004, ICCAT became the first RFMO to establish a legally binding shark finning measure, which requires that the weight of the fins does not exceed 5% of the weight of the carcasses onboard at the first point of landing⁴. However, this Recommendation contains weaknesses that limit its ability to effectively prohibit finning from occurring. For example, Contracting Parties are not required to land shark fins and bodies simultaneously. Also, ICCAT also does not specify whether the 5% pertains to the live (whole) or dressed (gutted and beheaded) weight of sharks, allowing for different and sometimes conflicting interpretations of the rule across Contracting Parties. The current finning measure would be significantly improved by simply requiring that sharks be landed with their fins wholly or partially attached in a natural manner.

In summary, this meeting of the Commission offers a key opportunity to improve fishing practices, establish science and precautionary based management, and protect the most at-risk shark species. Oceana sincerely hopes that ICCAT will make the most of this opportunity.

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REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (COC)

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting of the Conservation and Management Measures Compliance Committee (COC) was opened on Wednesday, 9 November 2011, in Istanbul, Turkey, under the chairmanship of Dr. Chris Rogers (USA).

2. Appointment of the Rapporteur

Mr. Marco D'Ambrosio (European Union) was appointed Rapporteur.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda as attached in **Appendix 1 to ANNEX 10** was adopted without amendments.

The Chair informed the Committee that he would take Agenda items 5, 6 and 7 as a block when addressing the document on the Compliance Summary Tables (**Appendix 3 to ANNEX 10**), on a CPC by CPC basis.

Under Agenda item 10 (Other matters), the Chair stated that he wished to find an agreement on the composition of the Review Group. The objective of such group is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of ICCAT's compliance review process and to ensure that sanctions are applied in a fair, equitable and transparent manner. The group would assist the Chair through the preparation of meeting material in advance of the Compliance Committee and in evaluating the cases of each CPC in recommending appropriate actions to the Committee.

Furthermore, the Chair also informed the Committee that the following documents would be reviewed and discussed:

- Secretariat's Report to the Conservation and Management Measures Compliance Committee (COC);
- Draft Recommendation by ICCAT to Amend the Mandate and Terms of Reference Adopted by the Commission for the ICCAT Conservation and Management Measures Compliance Committee (COC) (see **ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-24]**);
- Draft Recommendation by ICCAT to Clarify the Application of Compliance Recommendations and Developing the Compliance Annex (see **ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-11]**);
- Guidelines for an ICCAT Schedule of Actions to Improve Compliance and Cooperation with ICCAT Measures (**Appendix 4 to ANNEX 10**).

4. Presentation and Adoption of Report of Inter-sessional Meeting of the Compliance Committee (Barcelona, Spain, February 2011)

The Chair presented an overview of the Report of the Inter-sessional Meeting of the Compliance Committee held in February 2011 in Barcelona, Spain.

In particular, Dr. Rogers mentioned the discussion and endorsement of the 2011 bluefin tuna fishing, inspections and capacity plans. The Chair noted that during that meeting it appeared that Rec. 10-04 does not contain guidance on the scope, content and format of such plans and therefore proposed to invite the Chair of Panel 2 to provide such guidance.

The Chair also reviewed the objections to Recommendation 10-04 lodged by Algeria, Norway and Turkey, and the inter-sessional correspondence on the adoption of the plans of Albania and Libya.

The Report was adopted without amendments.

5. **Review of Actions taken by CPCs in response to letters of concern/identification arising from the 2010 Annual Meeting;**
6. **Review of the implementation of and compliance with ICCAT requirements; and**
7. **Review of ICCAT Regional Observer Programmes (ROP) and consideration of any necessary actions**

These three Agenda items were addressed as a whole and the document summarizing these issues was amended as appropriate in light of the responses received from the Parties in the course of discussions or as a result of any reports received by the Secretariat following the deadline for submission (see **Appendix 3 to ANNEX 10**). The Chair also noted that there would be further discussion and consideration on the compliance of CPCs in the discussion of the Compliance Tables, which were reviewed separately for adoption by the Committee.

Some Parties undertook to provide further written detailed contributions to respond to comments/questions raised during the Contracting Party-by-Contracting Party compliance review.

The Chair noted that Contracting Parties, in their replies to the Secretariat and in their Annual Reports, should provide more clarity in regard to the reporting requirements that are not applicable in their particular situation. This would simplify the task of the Secretariat in the production of the Compliance summaries and save time during the meeting in cases where there was ambiguity about the applicability of a reporting requirement. In particular, Parties should confirm in their Annual Reports if no information was available to respond to case by case reporting requirements, such as vessel sightings, chartering arrangements, transshipping events, or evidence of IUU activities.

In the course of discussions on the compliance summary tables, possible infractions came to light in respect of a number of ICCAT measures, for example, exceeding capacity limitations required by the bigeye tuna management plan (Recommendation 04-01), and those required by the blue and white marlin rebuilding plan (Recommendation 10-05). These potential infractions were noted in the revised compliance summary tables along with responses by the Contracting Parties, as appropriate. In particular, the Committee discussed its concern regarding reports of ongoing use of driftnets in some ICCAT fisheries. Concern was also expressed regarding Ghana's Gulf of Guinea fishery, including overharvest of bigeye tuna quotas and alleged illegal transshipments at sea by purse seine vessels flagged to Ghana and owned and operated by Korean interests. Ghana's transparency with respect to its compliance issues, willingness to repay some of its past overharvests, and the progress it is making to improve current and historical data were recognized. Also, in reviewing the transshipment reports, it was noted that the species composition of some CPCs appeared low compared to others, suggesting possible misreporting by the catching or transshipment vessels. One explanation for the difference was that low value species were not transhipped but rather sold in local ports.

Examination of Compliance Tables

The Compliance Tables were updated with the corrections submitted by Contracting Parties at the meeting. The revised tables were reviewed by the Committee to determine compliance with quotas, catch limits and size limits. Of general concern was the fact that several Contracting Parties had not submitted any Compliance tables. It was emphasized that Compliance Tables are an essential tool for the Committee to evaluate how well Contracting Parties have implemented conservation and management measures for their fisheries and that these should be sent to the Secretariat in accordance with the reporting requirements. It was agreed that failure to submit Compliance Tables must be considered a serious infraction of reporting obligations.

Concern was also raised on the repeated absence to the meeting of some Contracting Parties, making it impossible for other Contracting Parties to ask questions and seek clarifications on some specific issues. It was also agreed to contemplate the possibility of considering repeated absence at the Compliance Committee meetings as a serious infraction.

The following clarifications were offered and some changes were made:

Southern albacore: Japan and Uruguay offered a clarification on the right attribution of their catches. The Chair invited these two CPCs to make sure that the adjusted figures are also transferred to SCRS through their scientific experts.

Marlin: The Committee identified overharvests of marlin by several CPCs and these potential infractions were noted in the revised compliance summary tables. It was also noted that the marlin Compliance Annex needed to

be updated to include artisanal catches in order to assess compliance with the required limits specified in Paragraph 11 of Rec. 06-09.

Northern swordfish: Côte d'Ivoire informed that some adjustments were made concerning overharvests and the 2011 adjusted quota is 46.80 metric tons.

Southern swordfish: Calculations for Sao Tomé and Príncipe were needed to determine the necessary payback. Sao Tomé would have a negative balance in 2011. However, as pointed out during the discussions, Sao Tomé informed that not having any vessel targeting swordfish, there was no overharvest. It was agreed that Sao Tome and Príncipe would communicate the final adjusted quota to the Secretariat.

The Chair noted several instances where the current catches reported in the Compliance Tables did not match figures reported to SCRS. The Contracting Parties concerned were requested to verify the correct figures and this confirmation was provided. Given this information, the Chair then asked several Contracting Parties to comment on situations of overharvest indicated in the tables. Overharvests were noted for some Contracting Parties in northern albacore, blue marlin, white marlin, and bigeye tuna.

The Compliance Tables were adopted and are attached as **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 10**.

Quality of data submitted to SCRS

The Compliance Chair noted the concerns of SCRS relative to Recommendation 05-09, which addresses statistical reporting obligations. At the 2011 meeting of the SCRS Sub-Committee on Statistics, the Sub-Committee noted in its report that evaluation of fishery statistics was becoming less scientific and more like compliance monitoring. The Compliance Chair recalled that the intent of Recommendation 05-09 was to identify priority areas for improving catch and effort statistics available to SCRS. To that end, the Compliance Committee is dependent on SCRS to indicate those fisheries and gear sectors where inadequate or incomplete data impedes scientific analyses and thereby limits the scope and quality of management advice. It was recommended by the Compliance Chair that SCRS maintain the focus of its evaluation on how specific deficiencies (missing or incomplete data) limit its work and whether such deficiencies have a significant impact on the formulation of management advice. Given this evaluation by SCRS, the Compliance Committee can recommend corrective action for reporting deficiencies with the most serious impacts.

Pending issues concerning grouped BCDs deriving from JFOs

In the course of reviewing the report of the Regional Observer Program for Bluefin Tuna, a question was raised about the purpose of the observer signature on bluefin catch documents. It was clarified that the observers are not validating the catch documents, as that is the responsibility of flag States and farming states. Rather, the regional observers are affirming by signature that the CPC has complied with the requirement to have a regional observer on board the harvesting vessel at the time of capture and at the caging facility at the time of harvest. Additionally, the signature affirms that the observer has performed the prescribed duties according to the contract.

After this discussion, Tunisia raised an issue about obtaining observer signatures for BCDs that had been re-issued. Given an interpretation of the BCD requirements in cases of joint fishing operations (JFO), Tunisia had issued a single BCD recording the total catch taken on board one vessel of the JFO group. The requirements of Recommendation 10-04 to post vessels to an authorized list, assign individual vessel quotas, allocate catches to individual vessels participating in the JFO, and to record catches in the log book of each participating vessel pertain to this situation. Given these requirements, issuing a single BCD to one of the vessels in the JFO would result in a BCD which exceeds the individual quota for that vessel and does not match the allocations or logbook entries for the other vessels involved. It was agreed that revisions to the catch documentation scheme could allow for grouped BCDs and that this could be taken up for consideration in the PWG. Japan indicated that a proposal had been submitted to PWG for this purpose.

In the meantime, Tunisia informed the Committee that BCDs had been re-issued to account for the individual allocations to each of the vessels involved in the JFO. Tunisia then transmitted the re-issued BCDs to the observer contractor in an attempt to obtain observer signatures. The observer contractor in turn transmitted the re-issued BCDs to the ICCAT Secretariat with an inquiry as to its responsibility for appropriate action. Given that harvesting of the subject bluefin tuna from the cages was about to begin, Tunisia requested advice from the Compliance Committee as to the proper course of action in this situation.

The Committee agreed that the Secretariat would electronically transmit scanned image files of the re-issued individual vessel BCDs to the Tunisian authorities. These electronic copies would be printed, re-stamped with the seal of the Tunisian validating authority, signed by the observers at the harvesting operation and transmitted to the Secretariat for comparison to the original re-issued BCDs in its possession. If there were no discrepancies, the Secretariat would enter the documents onto the BCD database. It was also agreed that Tunisia would transmit the list of re-issued BCDs in advance of trade with other Contracting Parties. Japan noted that this would be an acceptable approach to resolving the current grouped BCD issue without setting a precedent, but that import shipments could still be denied in Japan for valid reasons such as non-compliance with other requirements of the bluefin recovery program or the catch documentation scheme.

Alleged BFT fishing in Libyan waters during the NATO military operations

Greenpeace made an intervention underlining that from documents submitted by the Secretariat on VMS reports, it appeared that, despite the fact that Libyan vessels were blocked in ports since February 2011 without emitting VMS signals, during that same period an unusually high number of VMS signals (around 12,000) were received from non-Libyan flagged vessels in the Libyan protection zone and territorial waters. This might lead one to think that fishing activities occurred in that area. The question was raised on whether such activities, if confirmed, were legitimate. The Secretariat prepared and delivered a presentation on this issue giving more detail on the origin of those signals, but it was agreed that a more in-depth study would be required in order to have complete and accurate information. It was agreed that the Secretariat would resume its investigation after the meeting and keep CPCs informed on the outcome. The Secretariat will examine VMS position reports, authorized vessel lists, catch and landing reports as well as any other pertinent data to determine if there was evidence of unauthorized fishing within the Libyan zone. Where insufficient data are available to the Secretariat, additional information will be requested from concerned CPCs, namely Libya and those CPCs whose vessels had emitted VMS signals from the area. Likewise, the concerned CPCs will request information from the Secretariat in order to make assessments of vessel activity within the Libyan EEZ and will submit relevant information on the results of their respective or joint investigations to the Commission before the 2012 annual meeting.

8. Actions required in relation to issues of non-compliance by Contracting Parties arising from items 5, 6 and 7

The Chair reviewed the revised version of the draft Compliance Summary Tables [COC-308] which included the answers given by each CPC to the allegations of potential infractions, as well as the proposed actions that the Committee would take vis-à-vis such infractions. Based on the discussions and, in particular, in light of the provisions of ICCAT's Recommendation on Trade Restrictive Measures [Rec. 06-13], the Committee agreed on the following:

- No action necessary with regard to 12 CPCs
- 27 CPCs to receive a "letter of concern"
- 9 CPCs identified under Recommendation 06-13 to receive a "letter of identification"

The COC noted that all identified CPCs must respond to the issues raised in their letter at least 30 days before 2012 ICCAT annual meeting and agreed that all other CPCs receiving a letter should also respond prior to that meeting.

The Chair also proposed to have an exchange of views on the "Guidelines for an ICCAT Schedule of Actions to Improve Compliance and Cooperation with ICCAT Measures", a discussion paper prepared by the Compliance Committee Chair in response to a request made during the Compliance Committee inter-sessional meeting. The paper outlined a potential structure for determining actions to address non-compliance and incorporated concepts expressed by several CPCs during previous discussions about Compliance Committee procedures. Some delegations supported the concept of formal guidelines while others questioned how such guidelines would be applied. The Chair noted that the text was a reflection of the factors that he had considered in recommending actions for consideration by the Committee during several recent Committee meetings. The Chair emphasized his concern for transparency and equity in the process of recommending effective actions for situations of non-compliance and stated his view that adopting such guidelines would assist the Committee in that aspect of its work. The Committee agreed to continue discussion on the need for guidelines at a future meeting.

9. Election of Chair

The European Union proposed that Dr. Chris Rogers be elected for an additional two-year term as Compliance Committee Chair. The proposal was unanimously agreed.

10. Other matters

10.1 Chair's proposal to create a "Compliance Review Group"

The Chair recalled his proposal and noted that at the inter-sessional meeting in February 2011, CPCs agreed to establish such a group on a test basis. However, the issue of how that group should be composed had remained unresolved. The Chair underlined that a small size would be more appropriate for the tasks under consideration.

After discussion, CPCs agreed that representatives to the group would be appointed on a geographical basis as follows:

- North-America: declined in order to keep the group as small as possible;
- South-America: Uruguay;
- Europe: European Union;
- Africa: Morocco and South Africa;
- Asia: Japan.

Both the Chair and the CPCs considered that the experience of the Review group was positive and it was decided to repeat the experience at the next Compliance Committee before deciding whether this experience should continue on a permanent basis.

10.2 Secretariat's Report to Conservation and Management Measures Compliance Committee (COC)

Dr. Rogers reviewed the "Secretariat's Report to the Conservation and Management Compliance Committee (COC)" which gives an outline on compliance issues during the last year. The document also put forward some requests for clarification in the implementation and application of some existing provisions in order to dissolve any doubt:

a) Record of fishing vessels 20 metres in length overall or greater - Rec 09-08 [now Rec. 11-12]

On whether the submission of the date of authorisation for vessels can be retroactive, considering that Rec. 09-08 is silent on this matter, and whether it is useful that internal actions reports for vessels over 20 m are submitted annually even if no changes have occurred since the last submission, the Committee agreed to amend Rec. 09-08 as shown in **ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-12]**.

b) List of MED-SWO vessels

There were two questions concerning Rec. 09-04, the first on whether the Secretariat has to include the Mediterranean swordfish fishing vessels less than 20 meters in the ICCAT Record of Vessels, and the second on whether the same Recommendation also covers by-catch of swordfish. Since these are matters concerning a specific stock, the Committee decided to defer them to Panel 4.

c) LSTLV management reports under Res. 01-20 and internal action reports under Rec. 09-08 [Rec. 11-12]

It was recalled that, as required, some Contracting Parties are sending LSTLV management standard report annually, as well as the report on internal actions taken on vessels of 20 metres or greater. However, it was considered questionable whether such frequency should be maintained or whether it could be limited to those times when a CPC has to notify a change arising from its fisheries management. After discussion, the Compliance Committee recommended that these reports be submitted only when changes occur and therefore to amend Rec. 09-08, as reflected in Rec. 11-12 [see **ANNEX 5**]. The Compliance Committee agreed that it would no longer make an annual review of the LSTLV management reports. Instead, the Secretariat would make past submissions available on the public area of the ICCAT web site and CPCs would notify the Secretariat of any changes as they occur, in order to update the web site.

d) List of chartered vessels and chartering agreements

It was noted that the requirements of Rec. 02-21 (i.e., in particular the requirements of paragraphs 13 and 14) are currently not fully complied with, the Commission might envisage the revision of the Recommendation in accordance with paragraph 16 of Rec. 02-21 that stipulated a review in 2006. There was widespread understanding that this is an issue of compliance rather than interpretation of the existing measure. However, it was decided to review the concerned Recommendation at a future inter-sessional meeting in order to clarify any doubts on the data to be submitted. It was emphasized by several CPCs, that revisions to the measure should not lessen the current requirements, but should enhance data collection and improve implementation.

e) Bluefin tuna recommendations

Several questions on the implementation of bluefin Recommendations concerning bluefin tuna catching vessels and bluefin tuna other vessels, farming facilities and tuna traps. Since these are matters concerning a specific stock, the Committee decided to defer them to Panel 2.

f) Specific requirements for bluefin tuna

Following a request from the Secretariat, the Chair invited CPCs to use the appropriate forms included in Recommendations 08-05 and 10-04 when submitting weekly catch reports for bluefin tuna (available on <http://www.iccat.int/en/SubmitCOMP.htm>).

g) VMS reporting

The Secretariat informed that radio call signs (RCS) are not always submitted according to the provisions established under Rec. 07-08 (which does not assist in identifying the vessel) or that they are submitted differently for the ICCAT Record of Vessels or in the VMS messages. The Secretariat asked to receive the same RCS for each vessel so that the information of the ICCAT Record of vessels coincides with the VMS Record of vessels. The Chair invited CPCs to exercise due diligence in the application of the above provision.

h) BCDs and BFTRC submission and processing

Several requests for clarification concerning the implementation of Rec. 09-11 were made by the Secretariat. The Chair decided that it was appropriate to defer these to the PWG.

i) Relevant information in accordance to Rec. 06-13

The Secretariat informed that several CPCs asked for guidance on how to assess whether some findings do constitute “relevant information” to be transmitted to the Secretariat. The Chairman considered that CPCs have a margin of appreciation in establishing whether a finding for suspected non-compliance is relevant or not.

10.3 Revision of Compliance Committee Terms of Reference

Dr. Rogers reviewed the “Draft Recommendation by ICCAT to Amend the Mandate and Terms of Reference Adopted by the Commission for the ICCAT Conservation and Management Measures Compliance Committee (COC)”. The Chair recalled that on the occasion of the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT (May 2011), he and the Chair of PWG, Dr. Rebecca Lent, made presentations on the redistribution of tasks between the two bodies. The revised Terms of reference (those for PWG are discussed in that context) reflect the idea that the PWG should have a more forward-looking approach focused on the *conception* of new provisions and, or the update of existing ones, whereas COC should have a more retrospective approach focused on the correct and timely implementation of existing provisions.

After discussion and a few modifications, a revised version of the document was adopted and forwarded to the Commission for final adoption (see ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-24]).

10.4 Draft Recommendation by ICCAT to Clarify the Application of Compliance Recommendations and for Developing the Compliance Annex

The Chair reviewed this document aimed at resolving some misinterpretations concerning deadlines and procedures for the submission of reporting which shape the Compliance Annex [Rec. 98-14]. After discussing

the document, the Committee agreed to forward it to the Commission for final adoption of the text (see **ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-11]**), which would replace Rec. 98-14.

10.5 Statements to the Compliance Committee

The statements made to the Compliance Committee by Mauritania and by the Observer from the Pew Environment Group are attached as **Appendices 5 and 6 to ANNEX 10**, respectively.

11. Adoption of the Report and adjournment

The Chair thanked the delegates for their efforts in reviewing compliance information and the Secretariat for the work involved in preparing documents for the meeting. The Chair also thanked the interpreters for their excellent support. It was agreed to adopt the meeting report by correspondence.

The 2011 Meeting of the Compliance Committee was adjourned.

The Report of the Compliance Committee was adopted by correspondence.

Appendix 1 to ANNEX 10

Agenda

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Review of the Report of the inter-sessional meeting of the Compliance Committee (Barcelona, February 2011)
5. Review of actions taken by CPCs in response to letters of concern/identification arising from 2010 meeting.
6. Review of implementation of and compliance with the ICCAT requirements
 - 6.1 Compliance tables
 - 6.2 CPC Statistical data summaries
 - 6.3 CPC Compliance summaries
7. Review of the ICCAT Regional Observer Programs (ROP) and consideration of any necessary actions
 - ICCAT Regional Observer Programme (transshipment)
 - ICCAT Regional Observer Programme (bluefin vessels and farms)
8. Actions required in relation to issues of non-compliance by Contracting Parties arising from Items 5, 6 and 7
9. Election of Chair
10. Other matters
11. Adoption of Report and adjournment

Compliance Tables Adopted in 2011
(Compliance in year 2010, reported in 2011)

NORTH ALBACORE (All quantities are in metric tons.)

YEAR	Initial catch limits					Current catches				Balance				Adjusted quota/catch limit					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
TAC	34500.00	34500.00	30200.00	28000.00	28000.00														
BARBADOS	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	7.0	7.0	3.60	5.90	293.00	293.00	296.40	244.10	300.00	300.00	300.00	250.00	250.00	
BELIZE	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	21.80	26.20	39.00	416.00	178.20	173.80	261.00	-166.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	250.00	34.00	
BRAZIL	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	250.00	250.00	
CANADA	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	22.20	33.40	10.70	14.30	177.80	166.60	289.30	235.70	300.00	300.00	300.00	250.00	250.00	
CHINA	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	59.00	24.40	27.00	150.00	241.00	275.60	273.00	100.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	250.00	250.00	
CÔTE D'IVOIRE				200.00	200.00			24.70	53.40			175.30	196.60				250.00	250.00	
EU	28712.00	25462.00	25462.00	21551.30	21551.30	17803.10	16397.60	12913.45	15316.60	25264.90	20652.80	18914.05	12600.20	43068.00	37050.40	31827.50	27916.80	27916.80	
FRANCE (St. P&M)	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	3.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	296.80	299.80	300.00	250.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	250.00	250.00	
JAPAN	709.00	583.89	521.13	484.24		356.00	320.16	419.56	275.89					n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a		
KOREA	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	37.00	10.00	84.00	201.00	263.00	290.00	166.00	49.00	300.00	300.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	
MAROC	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	96.00	99.00	250.00	0.00	204.00	201.00	50.00	200.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
ST V & G.	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	263.00	154.00	135.00	157.90	37.00	183.00	265.00	192.10	300.00	337.00	400.00	350.00	350.00	
TR. & TOBAGO	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	18.40	15.90	17.00	17.10	281.60	184.10	283.00	232.90	300.00	300.00	300.00	250.00	250.00	
UK-OT	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	0.20	0.20	0.30	0.4	299.80	299.80	299.70	249.60	300.00	300.00	300.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
USA	607.00	538.00	538.00	527.00	527.00	532.10	248.10	188.79	328.70	378.80	593.40	483.71	330.10	910.50	672.50	672.50	658.80	658.80	
VANUATU	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	94.58	0.00	140.00		50.40	225.20	60.00		145.00	225.20	200.00	250.00		
VENEZUELA	270.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	375.00	222.00	398.00	288.00	-401.50	-373.50	-521.50	-559.50	-26.50	-151.50	-123.50	-271.50	-309.50	
CHINESE TAIPEI	4453.00	3950.00	3950.00	3271.70	3271.70	1297.00	1107.00	863.00	1587.00	5069.00	4718.00	4962.00	2402.60	6366.00	5825.00	5825.00	3989.60	3989.60	
TOTAL CATCH						20978.58	18658.16	15514.10											
Recommendation n°	06-04	06-04	07-02	09-05	09-05									06-04	06-04	07-02	09-05	09-05	09-05

JAPAN is to endeavour to limit North Albacore catches to no more than 4% of its total bigeye tuna catch (6.8% in 2005, 2.1% in 2006, 2% in 2007, 2.2% in 2008 and 2.2% in 2009).

JAPAN: 2010 figures are provisional.

ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES: 2008-2011 adjusted quota includes 100 t transfer from Chinese Taipei.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO: all landings are by-catches.

CHINESE TAIPEI: 2011 adjusted quota is 3989.6t (3989.6-3271.7+3271.7*25%-100) due to the underage of 2009 exceeding 25% of 2011 catch quota and a transfer of 100 t to St. V&G.

SOUTH ALBACORE

YEAR	Initial quota /catch limit					Reference years	Current catches				Balance				Adjusted quota (only applicable in case of overharvest)					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Average 1992-1996	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
TAC	30915	29900	29900	29900	29900															
BRAZIL	TAC share 27500		TAC share 26336.3*	TAC share 26336.3*	TAC share 26336.3*		535.10	487.00	202.00	270.80	8866.0	8826.0	11621.0							
NAMIBIA						2245.00	1196.00	1958.00	1792.00											
S. AFRICA						3797.10	3468.00	5043.10	4146.93											
CH. TAPEI						13146.00	9966.00	8678.00	10975.00											
BELIZE	360.00	360.00	360.00	360.00	360.00	327.00	31.90	31.00	213.00	303.00	328.10	31.10	297.00	204.00						
CHINA	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	35.00	24.60	89.00	100.00	65.00	75.00	11.00	0.00	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	
CÔTE D'IVOIRE									47.30	43.40										
EU	1914.70	1914.70	1914.70	1914.70	1914.70	1740.60	782.90	1011.60	1374.78	1170.60	1132.00	903.10	539.92	744.10						
GUATEMALA	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00															
JAPAN	402.00	308.62	233.95	243.70			797.00	1559.76	958.11	1007.28										
KOREA	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	9.00	31.00	137.00	187.00	39.00	34.00	-37.00	-124.00	-63.00	100.00	100.00	63.00	-24.00	37.00	
PANAMA	119.90	119.90	119.90	119.90	119.90	109.00	18.00	5.00	51.00	1.00	101.90	114.90	68.90	118.90						
PHILIPPINES	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	20.00	98.00	98.00	95.00	80.00	2.00	2.00	5.00						
ST V & G	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00		160.00	47.00	51.00	47.10	-60.00	53.00	49.00	52.90						
UK-OT	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	40.00	45.00	94.80	81.00	3.00	55.00	5.20	19.00	97.00						
URUGUAY	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	40.00	34.00	59.00	97.00	24.00	66.00	41.00	3.00	76.00						
USA	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	
VANUATU	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00		96.42	131.00	64.00			-31.00	36.00							
TOTAL CATCH							21774.42	18315.76	19192.29											
Rec. number	04-04	04-04	07-03	07-03	07-03										04-04	07-03	07-03	07-03	07-03	07-03

BELIZE: 150 t of carry over from 2007 to 2008.

JAPAN is to endeavour to limit its total South albacore catches to no more than 4% of its total bigeye tuna catch in South of 5 degrees North (3.0% in 2006, 7.9% in 2007, 20.2% in 2008 and 16.1% in 2009).

JAPAN: 2010 figures are provisional.

* The sharing arrangement with a TAC of 26,333.6 t was agreed within PA3 in 2007, however only the total TAC is reported in Rec 07-03.

NORTH SWORDFISH

YEAR	Initial quota					Current catches				Balance				Adjusted quota					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
TAC	14000	14000	14000	13700	13700														
BARBADOS	45.00	45.00	45.00	45.00	45.00	27.0	39.00	19.80	12.70	6.80	12.80	38.00	54.80	33.80	51.80	57.80	67.50	67.50	
BELIZE	130.00	130.00	130.00	130.00	130.00	8.70	1.00	112.00	106.00	121.30	194.00	83.00	89.00	130.00	195.00	195.00	195.00	195.00	
BRAZIL	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	100.0	100.0	100.0	75.00	75.00	
CANADA	1348.00	1348.00	1348.00	1348.00	1348.00	1266.20	1334.00	1299.70	1345.60	30.00	31.00	43.50	122.90	1296.20	1365.00	1343.20	1477.80	1595.90	
CHINA	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	85.00	91.00	92.00	74.00	11.00	5.00	4.00	5.00	96.00	96.00	96.00	79.00	80.00	
CÔTE D'IVOIRE	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00		70.94	77.28	29.94	50.00	4.06	-27.28	24.12	50.00	75.00	50.00	54.06	46.80	
EU	6718.00	6718.00	6718.00	6718.00	6718.00	6304.10	5069.20	5953.10	5187.80	1514.00	1917.70	2278.90	3447.90	7818.10	6986.90	8232.00	8635.70	8996.90	
FRANCE (St. P&M)	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	82.00	47.60	20.10	89.80	-3.20	60.70	36.70	30.90	78.80	108.30	56.80	120.70	80.00	
JAPAN	842.00	842.00	842.00	842.00	842.00	1144.00	619.26	963.00	622.67	1653.00	1875.74	1754.74	1974.07	2797.00	2495.00	2717.74	2596.74	2816.07	
KOREA	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	195.00	160.50	4.00	0.00	-145.00	-255.50	-209.50	-159.50		-95.00	-205.50	-159.50	-109.50	
MAROC	850.00	850.00	850.00	850.00	850.00	229.00	430.00	724.00	963.00	621.00	421.2	551.00	312.00	850.00	851.20	1275.00	1275.00	1162.00	
MEXICO	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	35.00	33.00	32.00	35.00	165.00	167.00	168.00	165.00	200.00	200.00	283.50	283.50	283.50	
PHILIPPINES	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.00	18.00	24.00	0.00	22.00	19.50	13.50	34.50	22.00	37.50	37.50	34.50	37.50	
SENEGAL	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	38.00	0.00	28.00	11.00			372.00	389.00			600.00	600.00	600.00	
ST V & G.	130.00	130.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	51.00	13.80	34.00	17.00	24.00	37.00	78.00	98.50	130.00	99.00	112.00	115.50	112.50	
TR. & TOBAGO	125.00	125.00	125.00	125.00	125.00	28.50	49.00	30.00	21.00	96.50	76.00	158.00	166.50	188.00	188.00	188.00	187.50	187.50	
UK-OT	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	3.00	9.90	10.10		209.00	22.60	40.90		212.00	32.50	51.00	40.10		
USA	3907.00	3907.00	3907.00	3907.00	3907.00	2682.80	2530.30	2878.03	2845.20	3194.50	3330.20	2982.47	3015.30	5860.50	5860.50	5860.50	5860.50	5860.50	
VANUATU	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		25.00	25.00	25.00		25.00	25.00	25.00			
VENEZUELA	85.00	85.00	85.00	85.00	85.00	30.00	11.00	7.00	24.00	264.20	137.00	135.00	135.00	294.20	148.00	142.00	127.50	127.50	
CHINESE TAIPEI	270.00	270.00	270.00	270.00	270.00	103.00	82.00	89.00	88.00	302.00	323.00	316.00	317.00	405.00	405.00	405.00	405.00	405.00	
Recommendation n°	06-02	06-02	06-02	09-02	10-02									06-02	06-02	06-02	06-02	09-02	10-02
DISCARDS																			
CANADA						60.80	38.70	9.30											
USA																			
TOTAL DISCARDS						60.80	38.70	9.30											
TOTAL CATCH																			

CANADA: Includes 25 t transfer from USA in 2007-2011 and a 100 t transfer from Senegal in 2010-2011. 2009 discards (9.3 t) have been taken off 2011 quota.
 CROATIA: catches of Mediterranean (Adriatic) SWO amounting to 3119 kg in 2009 and 4245 kg in 2008. These catches are not entered in the Compliance tables since they are not within the Northern SWO management framework.
 EU: allowed to count up to 200 t against its uncaught southern SWO.
 JAPAN: 2010 figures are provisional.
 SENEGAL: 50% of 2008 underage is adjusted to 2009 quota.
 UK-OT: 20t transferred to France (SPM) from UK-OT for up to 2010 (Rec. 06-02) to be discontinued in 2011.
 USA: Catches from 2007 to 2010 include discards.
 CHINESE TAIPEI: 2011 adjusted quota is 405t (=270+270*50%) due to the underage of 2009 exceeding 50% of 2011 catch limit.

SOUTH SWORDFISH

YEAR	Initial quota					Current catches				Balance				Adjusted quota					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
TAC	17000	17000	17000	15000	15000														
ANGOLA	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00														
BELIZE	150.00	150.00	150.00	125.00	125.00	119.70	32.00	111.00	121.00	30.00	88.00	99.00	66.50	150.00		210.00	187.50	129.00	
BRAZIL	4720.00	4720.00	4720.00	3666.00	3785.00	4152.50	3407.00	3386.00	2925.60	2927.50	3407.00	3694.00	3100.40	7526.40	7080.00	7080.00	6026.00	5618.00	
CHINA	315.00	315.00	315.00	263.00	263.00	473.00	470.00	291.00	294.00	-1.00	2.00	130.00	99.00	472.00	472.00	421.00	393.00	362.00	
CÔTE D'IVOIRE	150.00	150.00	150.00	125.00	125.00	17.41	90.00	113.17	163.71	132.59		111.83	23.79		225.00	225.00	187.50	148.79	
EU	5780.00	5780.00	5780.00	5282.00	5082.00	5798.40	4417.10	5480.50	6083.30	-63.00	1356.40	236.50	555.10	5735.40	5773.50	5717.00	6638.40	5318.50	5379.10
GHANA	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	65.00	177.00	132.00	116.00	35.00		-74.00	-90.00	100.00	135.00	58.00	26.00	10.00	
JAPAN	1315.00	1215.00	1080.00	901.00	901.00	1422.00	1212.09	900.11	1127.18	693.00	695.91	875.80	523.82	2115.00	1908.00	1775.91	1651.00	1424.82	
KOREA	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	94.00	76.50	10.00	0.00	-44.00	-70.50	-30.50	19.50	50.00	6.00	-20.50	19.50	69.50	
NAMIBIA	1400.00	1400.00	1400.00	1168.00	1168.00	1829.00	1239.00	534.00	526.50	-212.00	-51.00	815.00	791.50	825.60	1188.00	1349.00	1318.00	1375.50	
PHILIPPINES	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	58.40	45.00	53.00	13.00			-3.00	38.00			50.00	47.00	75.00	
S.T. & PRINCIPE	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	138.00	138.00	188.00	193.00	-38.00	-38.00	-88.00	-93.00						
SENEGAL	300.00	400.00	500.00	389.00	401.00	77.00	138.80	195.00	180.00	223.00	271.20	216.00	282.00	300.00		411.00	462.00	617.00	
SOUTH AFRICA	1200.00	1200.00	1200.00	932.00	962.00	207.00	142.00	170.00	144.70	4148.00	1658.00	1630.00	1387.30	4355.00	1800.00	1800.00	1532.00	1562.00	
UK-OT	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		25.00	37.50	37.50			37.50	37.50	37.50		
URUGUAY	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00	1165.00	1204.00	464.00	370.00	501.00	222.00	1018.00	1130.00	1749.00	1693.00	1482.00	1500.00	2250.00	1915.00		
USA	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	200.00	200.00	200.00	99.75	200.00	200.00	200.00	100.00	99.75	
VANUATU	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	5.53	6.00									20.00			
CHINESE TAIPEI	550.00	550.00	550.00	459.00	459.00	671.00	727.00	612.00	410.00	274.00	97.00	35.00	84.00	945.00	824.00	647.00	494.00	543.00	
TOTAL						14920.94	11960.49	12676.78											
Rec. n°	06-03	06-03	06-03	09-03	09-03									02-03	06-03	06-03	09-03	09-03	09-03

No carry over is allowed for southern swordfish in 2002-2006 unless specifically stated in Recommendation 02-03 or in cases where a party objected to Recommendation 97-08, as in the case of Brazil, South Africa and Uruguay.

EU: allowed to count up to 200 t against its uncaught northern SWO.

JAPAN: 2010 figures are provisional.

JAPAN: underage of 2009 may be carried over to 2010 up to 800 t. [Rec.09-03].

JAPAN: adjusted quota in 2010 exclude 50 t transferred to Namibia [Rec. 09-03].

SOUTH AFRICA will transfer 600 t of its uncaught quota of 2007 to 2009 providing an adjusted quota of 1800 t for 2009.

SAO TOME E PRINCIPE: No adjustments have been made to initial quotas, as catch figures are based on estimates carried over from previous years.

USA: catches include landings and dead discards.

CHINESE TAIPEI: 2011 adjusted quota includes 84 t of 2010 underage.

EAST BLUEFIN

YEAR	Initial quota					Current catch				Balance				Adjusted quota				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
TAC	29500	28500	22000	13500	12900													
ALBANIA			50.00	33.83	32.30			50.00				0.00				50.00	33.83	32.30
ALGERIE	1511.27	1460.04	1117.42	684.90	138.46	1511.00	1311.00	222.82	0.00	0.00	149.00	804.62	684.90	1511.27	1460.04	1027.42	684.90	228.46
CHINA	65.78	63.55	61.32	38.48	36.77	72.00	119.00	41.67	38.20	31.67	-17.56	2.09	0.28	103.67	101.44	43.76	38.48	36.77
CROATIA	862.31	833.08	641.45	393.50	376.01	825.31	834.03	620.10	388.60	36.90	-0.10	19.90	4.90	862.31	833.08	640.00	393.50	376.01
EGYPT			50.00	50.00	64.58			0.00	na							50.00	50.00	64.58
EU	16779.55	16210.75	12406.62	7604.38	7266.41	21801.30	14963.50	11042.37	6053.56	-5021.75	1247.30	864.25	1032.82	16779.55	16210.75	11906.62	7086.38	5756.41
EU-Malta	355.59	343.54												355.59	343.54			
EU-Cyprus	154.68	149.44												154.68	149.44			
ICELAND	53.34	51.53	49.72	31.20	29.82	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	53.34	1.53	49.00	31.20		51.53	0.72	31.20	78.82
JAPAN	2515.82	2430.54	1871.44	1148.05	1097.03	2238.24	2254.30	1858.20	1139.28	792.68	176.25	13.24	8.77	3030.92	2430.54	1871.44	1148.05	1097.03
KOREA	177.80	171.77	132.26	81.14	77.53	276.00	335.00	102.35	0.00	166.95	3.72	29.21	81.14	347.80	338.72	132.26	81.14	77.53
LIBYA	1280.14	1236.74	946.52	580.15	902.66	1359.00	1317.80	1081.64	645.30	0.00	64.19	10.13	79.85	1359.00	1381.99	1091.77	725.15	902.66
MAROC	2824.30	2728.56	2088.26	1279.96	1223.07	3059.00	2478.00	2278.00	1554.00	92.30	577.50	122.00	52.96	3151.30	3055.50	2400.00	1606.96	1238.33
NORWAY	53.34	51.53	49.72	31.20	29.82	0.00	0.29	0.00	0.00	53.34	51.24	49.72	31.20	53.34	51.53	49.72	31.20	29.82
SYRIA	53.34	51.53	50.00	33.83	32.33	49.60	40.50			3.74	11.03			53.34	51.53	50.00	33.83	82.05
TUNISIE	2333.58	2254.48	1735.87	1064.89	1017.56	2195.00	2679.24	1931.72	1043.58	138.60	-314.76	6.15	65.93	2333.60	2364.48	1937.87	1109.51	860.18
TURKEY	918.32	887.19	683.11	419.06	535.89	879.07	879.17	665.47	409.49	38.93	0.10	17.64	9.57	918.00	879.17	683.11	419.06	535.89
CH. TAIPEI	71.12	68.71	66.30	41.60	39.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	333.60	68.71	0.00	41.60	333.60	68.71	0.00	41.60	106.05
TOTAL CATCH						34265.52	27261.83	19894.34										
<i>Rec. number</i>	<i>06-08</i>	<i>08-05</i>	<i>08-05</i>	<i>09-06</i>	<i>10-04</i>									<i>06-08</i>	<i>06-08</i>	<i>08-05</i>	<i>09-06</i>	<i>10-04</i>

ALGERIA: Transfer of 90 t of its 2009 quota to 2011 (1117.42 - 90 = 1027.42 is the quota for 2009). Algeria has lodged an objection to Rec. 10-04.

CHINA: adjusted quota for 2008 is 101.44 t: half of balance in 2006 (75.8 t) to be adjusted in 2008. Overages in 2008 will be payed back in 2009.

EGYPT: catches for 2010 are not available as the quota for 2010 was used only by artesanal small boats for local consumption.

EU: Rec.08-05 requires that 4020.00 t of the 5021.75 t overharvest in 2007 is to be deducted over 2009-2012 (500 t in 2009 and 2010, 1510 in 2011 and 2012).

EU: voluntary reduction of 18 t for 2010 (meeting of intersession COC, February 2010).

ICELAND: Transfer of 49 t of 2009 quota to 2011.

JAPAN: 2010 figures are provisional.

KOREA: 336.95 t (50% of underage in 2006) was spread over the years 2007 (170t) and 2008 (166.95 t).

LIBYA: the underage in 2005 and 2006 may be carried over to 2009 and 2010 with 145 t in 2009 and in 2010, respectively [Rec.08-05].

MOROCCO: Quotas for 2007 and 2010 are adjusted as follows: Balance of 2005+2006 x 50% = 1308. This will be spread over 4 years by adding 327 t per year to initial quota.

In 2011, Morocco will have a supplementary amount (15.26 t) from the 2009 voluntary carry over, applied in accordance with the Commission's decision.

TUNISIA: has indicated that it intends to distribute its under harvest of 514 t over the period up to 2010 as follows: 2008 = 110t; 2009= 202t and 2010= 202t.

TURKEY: Turkey has lodged an objection to the quota for 2007-2010 (Annex 4 of Rec. 08-05) and has lodged an objection to Article 8 (TAC and quota allocation scheme) of Rec. 10-04.

CHINESE TAIPEI: 2011 adjusted quota is 106.05 t (=39.75+66.3) including 66.3 t transferred from 2009 quota.

WEST BLUEFIN

YEAR	Initial quota					Current catches				Balance				Adjusted quota/limit					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
TAC	2700	2100	1900	1800	1750														
CANADA	546.40	546.40	505.29	495.00	396.66	491.70	574.78	533.10	512.90	79.70	51.40	23.60	5.70	571.4	626.20	556.70	518.60	488.90	
FRANCE (St. P & M)	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.40	3.10	3.40	8.08	12.40	13.30	13.90	9.82	16.81	16.40	17.30	17.90	8.00	
JAPAN	380.47	380.47	329.79	311.02	301.64	382.54	418.82	281.67	425.18	111.12	72.77	120.89	6.73	493.66	491.59	402.56	431.91	308.37	
MEXICO	25.00	25.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	7.00	7.00	10.00	14.00	104.00	143.00	37.00	31.50	111.00	150.00	47.00	45.50	18.00	
UK-OT	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.27		31.80	35.80	39.53		31.80	35.80	39.80	43.53		
USA	1190.00	1190.10	1034.90	977.40	948.70	848.70	919.90	1272.60	925.30	936.20	865.30	279.80	331.90	1785.20	1785.20	1552.40	1257.20	1043.60	
TOTAL LANDING						1734.34	1923.60	2101.04											
<i>Discards</i>																			
CANADA	5.60	n.a	n.a	n.a		0.00	0.70	2.90		5.60	n.a	n.a							
JAPAN	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	5.60	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
USA	n.a																		
TOTAL DISCARDS						0.00	0.70	2.90											
TOTAL REMOVAL																			
<i>Rec. number</i>	06-06	06-06	08-04	08-04	10-03									06-06	06-06	08-04	08-04	08-04	10-03

CANADA: Balance and adjustments for 2007-2008 include 50% of unused dead discard allowance from the previous year. 2011 includes a 86.5 t transfer from Mexico as per Rec. 10-03.

CANADA: catches inclusive of discards and recreational harvests/mortalities and tagging mortalities.

JAPAN: 2010 figures are provisional.

MEXICO: in 2007 transfer of 75 t from the United States plus 11 t. carry forward from 2006; in 2008 transfer of 100 t. from the USA plus 25 t carry forward from 2007 [Rec. 06-06];

in 2009, transfer of 73 t to Canada and 25 t carry forward from 2008 [Rec. 06-06]; in 2010, transfer of 86.5 t to Canada and 37 t carry forward from 2009 [Rec. 08-04].

in 2011, transfer of 86.5 t to Canada and 10% of initial TAC allowed to carry over (Rec. 10-03).

USA: Catches include landings and dead discards.

BIGEYE TUNA

YEAR	Initial catch limit					Reference years		Current catches				Balance				Adjusted catch limits					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Average (91-92)	1999 (SCRS 2000)	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
TAC	90000	90000	90000	85000	85000																
ANGOLA						0.00	0.00														
BARBADOS						0.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	7.20	11.70										
BELIZE						0.00	0.00	60.16	70.10	60.00	249.00										
BRAZIL						570.00	2024.00	1593.40	957.60	1175.00	1151.10										
CANADA						46.50	263.00	141.60	130.20	111.00	102.80										
CAP VERT						128.00	1.00	1147.00	1068.00	827.00	1164.00										
CHINA	5900.00	5900.00	5900.00	5900.00	5572.00	0.00	7347.00	7399.00	5685.00	4973.00	5489.00	700.80	2415.8	2927.00	4181.00	8099.8	8100.80	7900.00	9670.00	8572.00	
CÔTE D'IVOIRE						0.00	0.00	0.00	302.00	790.00	659.70										
EU	24000.00	24000.00	24000.00	24000.00	22667.00	26672.00	21970.00	13740.70	11780.50	19791.49	18269.40	17759.30	19569.50	11408.51	10430.60	31500.00	31350.00	31200.00	28700.00	29867.00	
FRANCE (P & M)						0.00	0.00	2.20	2.60	0.00	2.50										
GABON						0.00	184.00														
GHANA	5000.00	5000.00	5000.00	5000.00	4722.00	3478.00	11460.00	4633.00	9269.00	10554.00	6769.00	-4274.00	-8543.00	-14087.00	-13366.00	359.00	726.00	-3543.00	-6587.00	-8634.00	
GUATEMALA						0.00	0.00	836.00	998.00	987.00	1011.00										
JAPAN	25000	25000	25000	25000	23611.00	32539.00	23690.00	17737.00	14597.16	13127.79	12105.97	5263.00	13665.84	17372.21	17594.03	23000.00	28263.00	30500.00	29700.00	26894.30	
KOREA				1983.00		834.00	124.00	2136.00	2599.00	2134.00	2646.00				254.00				2900.00	2783.00	
MAROC						0.00	700.00	700.00	802.00	795.00	276.00										
MEXICO						0.00	6.00	3.00	1.00	1.00	2.00	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	
NAMIBIA						0.00	423.00	41.00	146.00	108.00	71.50										
PANAMA	3500.00	3500.00	3500.00	3500.00	3306.00	8724.50	26.00	2922.00	2263.00	2405.00	1399.00	1128.00	2365.00	1095.00	2101.00	4050.00	4628.00	3500.00			
PHILIPPINES					1983.00	0.00	943.00	2368.00	1874.00	1880.00	1399.00										
RUSSIA						0.00	8.00	26.00	73.00	43.00	0.00										
SAO TOME & P						0.00	0.00		92.00	94.00	97.00										
SENEGAL						7.00	0.00	805.00		1041.00	844.00										
SOUTH AFRICA						57.50	41.00	171.00	224.00	179.70	144.80	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	
St. V. & GR.						0.50		567.00	171.00	292.00	395.90										
TRINIDAD & T.						131.50	19.00	27.30	68.80	56.00	40.00										
UK-OT						6.50	8.00	18.50	28.30	17.00	11.20										
URUGUAY						38.00	59.00	22.00	27.00	31.00	23.00			n.a							
USA						893.50	1261.00	527.30	488.50	515.20	673.40										
VANUATU						0.00	0.00	132.00	131.84	34.00											
VENEZUELA						373.20	128.00	318.00	122.00	159.00	85.00										
CURACAO						0.00	0.00	416.00	251.00	581.00	2688.00										
CH. TAIPE	16500.00	16500.00	16500.00	16500.00	15583.00	12698.00	16837.00	12116.00	10418.00	13252.00	13189.00	5700.00	6117.00	6598.00	8261.00	17816.00	16535.00	19850.00	21450.00	20257.90	
GUYANA																					
TOTAL CATCH																					
Rec. number	04-01, 05-03	04-01, 05-03, 06-01	08-01	09-01	10-01										04-01, 05-03, 06-01	04-01, 05-03, 06-01	08-01	08-01	09-01	10-01	

GHANA: in 2010, 2500t transfer of bigeye tuna catch limit of EU shall be authorised [Rec. 09-01].

JAPAN: Adjusted quotas of Japan in 2005-2009 exclude 2000 t transferred to China (Res. 05-03 and Rec. 08-01).

JAPAN: adjusted quota in 2010 exclude 800 t transferred to Korea [Rec. 09-01].

JAPAN: 2010 figures are provisional.

JAPAN: adjusted quota of Japan in 2011 exclude 3000 t transferred to China and 800 t transferred to Korea [Rec. 10-01].

CHINESE TAIPEI: 2008 adjusted quota has been reduced by 1600 t. in accordance with the provision of Rec. 04-01 and plus 1635 t. of 2006 underage (16535=16500-1600+1635).

CHINESE TAIPEI: 2009 adjusted quota has been reduced by 1600 t. in accordance with Rec. 04-01 and plus 4950t. due to the underage of 2007 exceeding 30% of 2009 catch limit (19850=16500-1600+4950).

CHINESE TAIPEI: 2010 adjusted quota is 21450 t due to the underage of 2008 exceeding 30% of 2010 catch limit (21450=16500+16500*30%).

CHINESE TAIPEI: 2011 adjusted quota is 20257.9 t due to the underage of 2009 exceeding 30% of 2011 catch limit. (20257.9=15583+15583*30%).

WHITE MARLIN

	Initial landings					Reference years		Current landings				Balance			
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1996	1999	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010
						(PS+LL)	(PS+LL)	LL+PS	LL+PS	LL+PS	LL+PS	LL+PS	LL+PS	LL+PS	LL+PS
BRAZIL	51.81	51.81	51.81	51.81	51.81	70.00	158.00	52.20	46.60	52.30	34.97				
CANADA	2.60	2.60	2.60	2.60	2.60	8.00	5.00	2.20	2.60	0.60	1.90	0.40	0.00	2.00	0.70
CHINA	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9	30	9.90	4.50	8.50	8.00	0.00	5.40	1.40	1.90
CÔTÉ D'IVOIRE	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	1.00	7.00	0.00	1.60	0.65	7.17	2.31	0.71	1.66	-4.86
EU	46.50	46.50	46.50	46.50	46.50	148.00	127.00	48.40	67.60	56.32	29.20	-1.90	-21.10	-9.82	17.30
JAPAN	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	112.00	40.00	33.00	28.84	28.80	26.57	4.00	8.16	8.20	10.43
KOREA	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	59.00	0.00	8.00	18.00	8.00	0.00	11.50	1.50	11.50	19.50
MEXICO	3.63	3.63	3.63	3.63	3.63	0.00	11.00	13.00	13.00	19.00	20.00	-9.37	-9.37	-15.37	-16.37
PHILIPPINES	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	0.00	12.00		1.20		1.70		2.76		2.26
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.30	8.20	13.00	12.10	10.30	11.00	15.00	-7.80	-6.00	-6.70	-10.70
VENEZUELA	50.04	50.04	50.04	50.04	50.04	152.00	43.00	24.00	10.00	49.00	46.00	26.00	40.04	1.04	4.04
CHINESE TAIPEI	186.80	186.80	186.80	186.80	186.80	586.00	465.00	54.00	38.00	28.00	20.00	132.80	148.80	158.80	166.80
TOTAL								256.80	242.24	262.17					
USA(# of fish whm+bum)	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00			98.00	117.00	97.00	100.00	152.00	133.00	153.00	150.00
<i>Recommendation number</i>	<i>06-09</i>	<i>06-09</i>	<i>06-09</i>	<i>06-09</i>	<i>06-09</i>										

BRAZIL: Reported catches in 2008 include live and dead releases.

JAPAN: 2010 figures are provisional.

MEXICO: The quotas were determined before Mexico became an ICCAT member, which therefore requires a review. The landings are dead by-catches retained. Live billfish are released.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO: landings are only by-catches.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO: catch limits have been adjusted in accordance with Rec. 06-09 and revised historical statistics accepted by the SCRS at its 2009 meeting.

USA: in numbers of fish landed, white marlin and blue marlin combined; in 2010, in addition, 19 roundscale spearfish were landed.

BLUE MARLIN

	Initial limits				2011	Reference years		Current landings				Balance				
	2007	2008	2009	2010		1996	1999	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	
						(PS+LL)	(PS+LL)	LL+PS	LL+PS			LL+PS	LL+PS	LL+PS		
BARBADOS	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	0.00	19.00	69.00	100.00	36.00	8.60					
BELIZE						0.00	0.00	3.77			3.00	-3.77				-3.00
BRAZIL	254.40	254.40	254.40	254.40	254.40	308.00	509.00	252.90	169.20	149.10	130.10					
CHINA	100.50	100.50	100.50	100.50	100.50	62	201	65.00	12.70	77.00	77.00	35.50	87.80	23.50	23.50	
CÔTÉ D'IVOIRE										119.62	42.67				-119.62	-42.67
EU	103.00	103.00	103.00	103.00	103.00	206.00	200.00	174.30	158.60	165.77	146.80	-71.30	-55.60	-62.77	-43.80	
JAPAN	839.50	839.50	839.50	839.50	839.50	1679.00	790.00	911.00	704.14	553.46	404.89	-71.50	135.36	286.04	434.61	
KOREA	72.00	72.00	72.00	72.00	72.00	144.00	0.00	94.00	78.00	57.00	55.00	-22.00	-6.00	15.00	17.00	
MAROC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00					
MEXICO	17.50	17.50	17.50	17.50	17.50	13.00	35.00	91.00	81.00	92.00	88.00	-73.50	-63.50	-74.50	-70.50	
PHILIPPINES	35.50	35.50	35.50	35.50	35.50	0.00	71.00		7.80		3.00		27.70		32.50	
SOUTH AFRICA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.60	0.00	0.00	0.50	-1.60	0.00	0.00	-0.50	
T & TOBAGO	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	13.90	19.70	14.50	34.00	19.00	22.00	-4.60	-24.10	-9.10	-12.10	
UK-OT								0.72	0.09	0.17		-0.72	-0.09	-0.17		
VENEZUELA	30.40	30.40	30.40	30.40	30.40	60.74	29.99	21.00		106.00	42.00	9.40		-75.60	-11.60	
CHINESE TAIPEI	330.00	330.00	330.00	330.00	330.00	660.00	486.00	233.00	148.00	195.00	153.00	97.00	182.00	135.00	177.00	
TOTAL								1931.79	1493.53	1570.12						
USA(# of fish whm+)	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00			98.00	117.00	97.00	100.00	152.00	133.00	153.00	150.00	
<i>Rec. number</i>	<i>06-09</i>	<i>06-09</i>	<i>06-09</i>	<i>06-09</i>	<i>06-09</i>											

BARBADOS: the values listed under "blue marlin" for years prior to 2010 are total catches of all billfish species (except swordfish) including blue marlin, white marlin and sailfish, as reported to ICCAT under the category "BIL".

BRAZIL: Reported catches for 2008 include live and dead releases.

JAPAN: 2010 figures are provisional.

MEXICO: The quotas were determined before Mexico became an ICCAT member, which therefore requires a review. The landings are dead by-catches retained. Live billfish are released.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO: landings are only by-catches.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO: catch limits have been adjusted in accordance with Rec. 06-09 and revised historical statistics accepted by the SCRS at its 2009 meeting.

USA: in numbers of fish landed, white marlin and blue marlin combined; in 2010, in addition, 19 roundscale spearfish were landed.

Compliance with size limits in 2010

Species Area	SWO		BFT						
	AT.N	AT.S	AT.E	AT.E	AT.E	Med	Adriatic	Med	AT.W
Recommendation Number	06-02	06-02	08-05 for BB, TROL, TRAW <17 m	08-05 for BB, TROL, TRAW >17 m	08-05 all other gears	08-05 Artesanal coastal fisheries	08-05 Catches taken for farming purposes	08-05 all other gears	08-04
Min Weight (kg)	25 or 15		6.4	8	30	8	8	30	30
Min Size (cm)	125 or 119		--	--	--	--	--	--	115
Tolerance (% of total)	15% 125cm - 0% 119cm		Up to 7% of quota with max 100 t	0%	Max 5% between 10-30 kg	Not more than 2% of quota for fresh fish	Not more than 90% of quota	Tolerance of 5% between 10-30kg at landing	Average of 2009 and 2010 not beyond 10%
Albania									
Algeria						<2%		<5%	
Angola									
Barbados	0.0%	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Belize	1%	2%	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Brazil		<15%							
Canada	<1%								<1%
Cap Vert									
China	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Côte d'Ivoire	11.71%	0.0%							
Croatia							0.0%	0.0%	
Egypt									
EU	14%	6%		4.20%	1%	1.60%		3.50%	
France (St.P & M)	0.0%								0.0%
Gabon									
Ghana		3%	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Guatemala									
Guinea Ecuatorial									
Guinée République									
Honduras			0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Iceland			n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	
Japan	<15%	<15%	n.a	n.a	0.0%	n.a	n.a	n.a	0.0%
Korea	<1%	<1%	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	0.0%	n.a
Libya									
Maroc	<15%	n.a	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	n.a	0.0%	n.a
Mauritania									
Mexico			n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	0.0%
Namibia		0.0%							
Nicaragua									
Nigeria									
Norway	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Panama									
Philippines		3%							
Russia	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Sao Tome									
Senegal		4.15%							
Sierra Leone									
South Africa	n.a	2% (<2t)	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
St. Vincent & G	<1%	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Syria									
Trinidad & Tobago									
Tunisie								3.8%	
Turkey	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	1.7%	n.a
UK-OT									
USA	0.80%	0.0%							3.2%
Uruguay									
Vanuatu									
Venezuela									
Chinese Taipei	1.94% (<12 5cm) 0% (<119c m)	1.09% (<125cm) 0% (<119cm)	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Colombia									
Curaçao									
Guyana									

Compliance Summary Tables

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
ALBANIA	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No statistical data received. No annual report received.	Not present to respond	Letter of concern in relation to deficiencies in E-BFT control and monitoring measures and data reporting. Encourage participation in future meetings. Indicate that failure to respond may result in further actions being considered by the Commission in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No annual report, no Task I or Task II data received.	Not present to respond	Serious infractions detected require a letter of identification requesting to fully implement the measures of BFT plan. Mention the seriousness of not submitting BFT plans and mention that no BFT fishing allowed in 2012 since no plans have been submitted.
	Conservation and Management Measures:			Conservation and Management Measures: <i>Rec. 10-04 and 09-11.</i> No implementation of fishing plan or of Rec. 10-04 received. No BFT fishing etc. plan for 2012 received. By-catch of BFT taken but no BCD issued/submitted.		
	List of bluefin tuna active vessels 2009 not submitted.			Quotas and catch limits: No compliance tables submitted.		
	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions recorded.			Other issues:		
	Other issues: No infractions recorded.					

2010

2011

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
ALGERIA	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Statistical data late and not submitted in accordance with SCRS requirements.	Not present to respond.	<p>Maintain identification. Send letter to request data improvement plan and plan for MCS measures taking into account Recommendations adopted in 2010. Encourage participation in future meetings. Indicate that failure to reply or to address issues could lead to the consideration of sanctions by the Commission in 2011.</p> <p>Algeria responded 9 October 2011 outlining measures taken to improve reporting.</p>	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No Task I catch data or Task II data submitted. No BFT fishery in 2010.	<p>Task I and Task II reports were submitted on time.</p> <p>Only Task II data show some limited deficiencies.</p>	<p>Lift identification and send letter of concern asking for timely and regular submission of Task I and Task II data.</p>
	Conservation and Management Measures:			Conservation and Management Measures:		
	No internal actions (vessels 20m +) report received.					
	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions recorded.			Quotas and catch limits: No infractions recorded.		
	Other issues: No infractions recorded.			Other issues: No infractions recorded.		

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
ANGOLA	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No fleet characteristics, no size data. Other data submitted after deadline	Not present to respond.	Maintain identification and send letter requesting data improvement plan. Encourage participation in future meetings. Indicate possible sanctions in 2011 if no response is received.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No Task I or Task II data, No Annual Report received.	Delays in data submission are due to current reorganisation of Ministry of Fisheries which has been merged with the Ministry of Agriculture.	Maintain identification and send letter requesting data reporting improvement plan.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No compliance tables received. It is unclear which other elements are applicable to Angola.	According to Angola Annual Report, there are no Angolese vessels targetting tunas. Late Task I data indicates catches of small tuna. Further clarification needed.		Conservation and Management Measures: It is unclear which elements are applicable to Angola.		
	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.			Quotas and catch limits: No compliance tables received.		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues:		

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
BARBADOS	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Some data received after deadline. YFT size data received.	Not present to respond.	Lift identification and send letter of concern in relation to overharvest of billfish. Encourage participation in future meetings and indicate that failure to reply may lead Commission to consider further actions in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics:	Not present to respond but no infractions detected.	No action needed.
	Conservation and Management Measures: It is unclear which elements are applicable to Barbados.	Question about authorised vessel list.		Conservation and Management Measures:		
	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.			Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.		
	Other issues: None recorded.		Reply from Barbados received 07 November 2011.	Other issues: None recorded.		

2010				2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
BELIZE	Annual Reports/ Statistics: BET Task I data received after deadline. (All other statistical data received on time)		Send letter of continuing concern in relation to data reporting deficiencies. Indicate that failure to reply may lead	Annual Reports/ Statistics:		Maintain letter of concern mentioning the seriousness of overharvesting. Ask for a management plan including a pay-back of the overharvest.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No report on internal actions (vessels 20m+) received.	Internal actions and Vessels list provided late.	Commission to consider further actions in 2011.	Conservation and Management Measures: No infractions detected.		
	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.			Quotas and catch limits: Overharvest of N. ALB.		
	Other issues: None recorded		Replied 21 February 2011 indicating that Belize will take steps to correct any data reporting deficiencies.	Other issues: [for information: participation in ROP since May 2011]. Fishing in Senegal EEZ (see COC-310).	Authorities from Belize and Senegal are in bilateral contacts to address and solve the alleged cases of fishing in the Senegalese EEZ by Belize vessels. However it seems that the issue does not concern stocks under the purview of ICCAT. Sanctions are being considered.	

2010

2011

CPC	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
BRAZIL	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Some data received after the deadline.	Problem of late data submission rectified, stock assessment data provided late.	Lift identification. Send letter of concern in relation to remaining reporting deficiencies. Indicate that failure to reply may lead the Commission to consider further actions in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics:		Maintain letter of concern, asking for clarifications concerning existing chartering arrangements and for submission of chartering summary report.
	Conservation and Management Measures: Vessel chartering summary report not submitted.	Will rectify non-submission of vessel chartering summary in future. Reply to letter received late.		Conservation and Management Measures: Vessel chartering summary report not submitted. LSTLV and Internal Actions 20m reports not submitted.	The concerned Ministry is undergoing a major restructuring which caused the delay in submission. These will be submitted as soon as possible, in the future will ensure future timely production of reports.	
	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.			Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: None recorded.		

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
CANADA	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Some data received after deadline.	BCD report was sent late due to confusion with deadlines.	Send letter of concern in relation to timely provision of SDP data and other data deficiencies. Indicate that failure to reply may lead the Commission to consider further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics:	Some inconsistencies have appeared during the last year and corrective actions are being undertaken internally so to solve them and revert to a timely and correct submission from next year.	Maintain letter of concern on the full and correct implementation of the BCD programme, in particular on the identification number.
	Conservation and Management Measures:			Conservation and Management Measures: several BCDs are sent with incorrect identification number/not corresponding to year of catch. Rec. 09-11: BCD annual report does not cover period of reference. Revised version received late.		
	Report on SDP data for first semester 2010 not received.					
	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.			Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.		
	Other issues: none recorded			Other issues: none recorded.		
			Reply received 02 November 2011.			

2010				2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
CAPE VERDE	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Catch and effort data not available (not submitted). BET data submitted after deadline.	Not present to respond.	Maintain identification and send letter requesting data improvement plan. Encourage participation in future meetings. Indicate further action in 2011 if no response is received.	Annual Reports/ Statistics:	Not present to respond.	Lift identification and send letter to express concern on data reporting.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No internal actions (vessel 20m+) received.			Conservation and Management Measures: No internal actions (vessel 20m+) received.		
	Quotas and catch limits: No compliance table submitted.			Quotas and catch limits: No Compliance table submitted.		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: None recorded.		

	2010			2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
CHINA, People's Rep.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Some data submitted after deadline. Most data submitted but some size missing (BFT and sharks)	Data collection system being improved.		Annual Reports/ Statistics:		
	Conservation and Management Measures:	Reply to letter received November 2010. Legislation was submitted November 2010.		Conservation and Management Measures:		Send letter of concern requesting clarification on the implementation of the BCD scheme in Hong Kong.
	<i>Rec. 09-11 implementation</i> : BCD legislation submitted on 5 November 2010.	BFT fishing season begins end of September/ beginning October and ends about the end of November, difficult to provide list of BFT observers at the beginning of the year.	Send letter lifting identification but indicating concerns relating to continued data deficiencies. Indicate that failure to reply may lead the Commission to consider further actions in 2011.			
		National observer programme is still currently under way, China was not able to provide data prior to SCRS meeting. Will provide it once available.	Reply received from China 9 October 2011 indicating progress made.			
	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected			Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.		
	Other issues: None recorded.	Observer reports delayed as fishing year closes after deadline.		Other issues: report under Rec. 08-09 concerning the BCD programme (WWF).	The concerned BFT was found in the Hong Kong market but ICCAT Convention and rules do not apply to Hong Kong which has a special status vis-à-vis China.	

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
CÔTE D'IVOIRE	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Task I fleet characteristics not submitted. Some data submitted after the deadline and some size data not available.	Complex requirements cause difficulties. Every effort will be made to submit missing data by end of meeting.	Maintain identification and send letter requesting data improvement plan and indicate possible sanctions in 2011 if no response is received. Recognise efforts made to date and encourage continued improvement.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Task I fleet characteristics not submitted. Task II size data not submitted.	Fisheries are mainly artisanal and it is difficult to sensitize small operators on the need and obligation of submitting data. However, actions are being taken (national workshops to raise awareness and adoption of a "national data collection plan"). Furthermore, because of the restructuring within the Ministry of Fisheries, reports were not submitted on time but they will be submitted as soon as possible.	Lift identification considering the improvements in data collection. Send letter of concern with respect to some remaining shortcomings in data reporting (artisanal sector also needs to report) and ask for cooperation with Ghana on port inspections/Abidjan.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No updated information authorized vessels. No internal actions (20m+) report.	Will provide list/update of authorized vessels.		Conservation and Management Measures:		
	Quotas and catch limits: Overharvest of N-SWO.	Overharvest linked to by-catch in artisanal fisheries. Will work to improve provision of data.	Replied dated 7 June 2011 sending a plan for the improvement of data collection.	Quotas and catch limits: None detected.		
	Other issues: None recorded.	Port inspection reports will be provided.		Other issues: None recorded.		

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
CROATIA	Annual Reports/ Statistics: BFT size data submitted after deadline.	Written response provided (COC-313/2010)	Send letter of continuing concern in relation to reporting deficiencies. Request further clarification on landings of dead bluefin at Croatian ports. Indicate that failure to reply may lead the Commission to consider further actions in 2011. Croatia replied dated 17 February 2011 outlining steps being taken to rectify and improve data reporting and BFT control.	Annual Reports/ Statistics:		Maintain letter of concern with respect to some reporting issues on BFT farming operations and lack of compliance with para 87 of Rec. 10-04.
	Conservation and Management Measures: <i>Rec. 08-05.</i> Report on implementation of annual plan not submitted. No data from national programmes received. No information on growth/mortality methodology.	Information on growth and mortality submitted to SCRS in 2009. BFT fishing plan implementation report and data from observer programmes submitted after deadline.		Conservation and Management Measures: <i>Rec. 10-04.</i> Vessels fished previous year (para 60) received late. <i>Rec. 09-04.</i> List of pelagic longliners fishing in the Mediterranean in the previous year received late.		
		Reply to letter received November 2010.				
	Quotas and catch limits: Minor overharvest of E-BFT reported for 2008.	Voluntary reduction of quota in 2009 as payback.		Quotas and catch limits: None detected.		
	Other issues: EU inspection reports. <i>Observer reports</i> - transfers made without video footage and possible at-sea transshipments? No VMS messages from one operative towing vessel (AT000HRV00135).	VMS data received at FMC and will be provided.		Other issues: BFT-ROP - Observer reports (COC-306) Lack of pilot study under para. 87 of Rec. 10-04.		

		2010		2011			
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	
EGYPT	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No Annual report received. No statistical data received.	Written response submitted during Annual Meeting.		Annual Reports/ Statistics: No annual report received. No Task I or Task II data received.			
	Conservation and Management Measures: Rec. 08-05. List of authorized BFT vessels not received (informed 10 vessels of approx 15m). Report on Annual fishing plan not submitted, report on implementation of Rec. 08-05 not submitted. Rec. 09-04. List of SWO-MED vessels not submitted, nor implementation or 2009 vessels.	Egypt provided all weekly reports in one late submission. [Names of vessels included in catch report, but not on ICCAT Record of vessels].	Letter of concern in relation to deficiencies in E-BFT control and monitoring measures and data reporting. Indicate that failure to reply may lead the Commission to consider further actions in 2011.		Conservation and Management Measures: Rec. 10-04: No implementation of fishing plan or of Rec. 10-04 received. No BFT fishing etc. plan for 2012 received. No internal actions report on vessels 20m+ received. Rec. 09-11. No BCD annual report received.	Reports concerning the 2011 BFT seasons will be submitted at this meeting. Egypt thought that fishing, inspection and capacity plans for the 2012 season should have been submitted after the Commission meeting. They will be submitted as soon as possible.	Maintain letter of concern with respect to data reporting and lack of submission of BFT plans and lack of implementation of para. 87 of Rec. 10-04. Acknowledge progress made since joining ICCAT and encourage further improvements.
	Quotas and catch limits: No compliance tables received.	Quota allocated only to vessels less than 15 m and refused to large scale vessels.	Egypt replied 21 Jan 2011 indicating that outstanding reports would be provided.		Quotas and catch limits: Compliance tables received late.		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues:			

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
EUROPEAN UNION	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Some data received after deadlines.	Some data late due to verification processes.	Maintain identification. Send letter requesting data improvement plan and actions taken to remedy billfish overharvests. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Task I fleet characteristics incomplete (no data for EU-Malta fleet characteristics).	The EU needs to collect and elaborate a huge amount of data from several Member States and this inevitably caused delays in the past. However, the European Commission has created a centralised service for "integrated fisheries data management" which will improve future reporting.	Lift identification and send letter of concern with respect to delays in reports submission, Blue Marlin overharvest. Express continued concern on the evidence of driftnets use.
	Conservation and Management Measures: Rec. 08-05: no list of observers received; no data from national observer programmes received.	Reply to identification letter received in October 2010. Recruitment still in progress at time of deadline. Difficult to provide consistent data from observer programs on time.		Conservation and Management Measures: —History of SWO fishery and development/management plan received late. BCD annual reports received only for some Member States (CY, EL, ES, IT, ML).		
	Possible infraction following the receipt of allegedly illegal fish in an EU farm facility.	Vessel authorization received following EU inspection report.				
	Quotas and catch limits: Overharvest of billfish 2009 detected.			Quotas and catch limits: Overharvest of BUM	Catches of BUM are involuntary by-catches. As of 2011 the EU has allocated its quota among its Members States through legally binding measures, therefore the problem should not occur again in the future.	
	Other issues: 1. Information from PEW. 2. <i>Observer reports</i> - instance of no video available, and possible instance of crew disturbing work of observer. One support vessel not on ICCAT list (may be confusion of names), VMS messages not received from 3 towing vessels (ATEU0ESP01217; ATEU0MLT00121; ATEU0ESP01253). Imports from parties which have not reported their validating authorities. Landing of BFT in unauthorized port.	Written response to be provided on all possible issues of non-compliance arising from observer reports. Proceeding being taken against 6 vessels for non-provision of VMS data. Landing of BFT in Dakar an exceptional case. To be discussed with port State- No intention to violate ICCAT rules.	EU replied 28 July 2011 indicating the measures which had been taken to avoid late data submission and overharvest of BIL.	Other issues: observer reports-BFT-ROP; reports under Rec. 08-09 (PEW, WWF).	Anomalies and irregularities noted in these reports are being investigated and appropriate actions taken when infractions are detected.	

CPC	2010			2011		
	Potential issues of non-compliance-2010	Response / explanation by CPC	Actions Taken	Potential issues of non-compliance-2011	Response / explanation by CPC	Actions Taken
FRANCE (St. Pierre & Miquelon)	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Some data received after deadlines.	Response to letter received November 2010. Difficulties with timely data submission due to chartering arrangements.	Lift identification. Send letter of concern in relation to remaining data deficiencies. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics:		Maintain letter of concern with respect to some deficiencies in data reporting.
	Conservation and Management Measures:			Conservation and Management Measures: no data submitted under Rec. 10-03.	France (SPM) only acquired its first tuna vessel in March 2011 (notified in June) and therefore only had to report from June 2011. Reporting for the period June-October 2011 was submitted at the meeting.	
				SWO history received late.		
	Quotas and catch limits: None detected.			Quotas and catch limits: None detected.		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: None recorded.		

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
GABON	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No Annual report received, no statistical data submitted.	Not present to respond.	Maintain identification. Send letter to request data improvement plan and report on MCS measures. Encourage participation in future meetings. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No annual report received. No Task I or Task II data received.	Gabon does not have a tuna fishing fleet but only access arrangements to its waters with EU and Japan. These CPCs declare catches under their quotas. No other catches are made.	Lift identification and send letter of concern to request data improvement plan and improved reporting on MCS measures.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No information received.			Conservation and Management Measures: No information received.		
	Quotas and catch limits: No compliance tables received.			Quotas and catch limits: No Compliance tables received.		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: None recorded.		

2010

2011

CPC	Potential issues of non-compliance-2010	Response / explanation by CPC	Actions Taken	Potential issues of non-compliance-2011	Response / explanation by CPC	Actions Taken
GHANA	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No Task I fleet characteristics submitted.	All Task I data provided on time.	Maintain identification and send letter indicating concern over continuing over-harvest of bigeye tuna and request the submission of a pay back plan in the context of measures adopted in 2010, and information on capacity management plan. Welcome recent efforts to improve data collection and provision, and urge continued efforts. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Task I fleet characteristics not submitted.	Ghana made important efforts in improving data collection and data reporting. An MoU was signed with Côte d'Ivoire so to account for catches landed by Ghanaian vessels in Abidjan port. Task I fleet characteristics were submitted on time.	Lift identification and send letter of concern requiring implementation of effective measures to prohibit at-sea transshipments. Call for compliance with fleet capacity provisions with BET measures. Implement the payback plan on overharvest of BET. Acknowledge the tangible efforts and concrete improvements but ask for equivalent efforts for the future.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No internal actions (20m+) report received; LSTLV mgmt standard not submitted. Possible violation of 04/01 Capacity limitation.	No vessels > 20m+ , list requirement not necessary. Capacity issue not related to Ghana alone but whole Gulf of Guinea. Link to fishing opportunities.		Conservation and Management Measures: Internal actions (20m+) report received.	No LSTLV in Ghana (as already mentioned last year).	
	Quotas and catch limits: 2009 overharvest of BET and SWO.	Rec. 09-01: No requirement to payback BET overharvest. SWO overshoot in mixed artisanal fishery, hard to respect fishing limit.		Quotas and catch limits: Overharvest of S. SWO and BET (Task I data). Compliance Tables received late.	The overharvest of S. SWO is due to small artisanal coastal fisheries. Ghana presented a payback plan for the BET overharvest and not further overharvest has occurred since 2010.	Need of a Recommendation to endorse repayment plan, including a fleet capacity reduction plan.
	Other issues: Rec. 06-12 (09-10): Information from PEW on use of ports by IUU vessel.	IUU vessel in Benin port at the same time as reported in Ghanaian port, not possible. Written response to PEW.		Other issues:		

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
GUATEMALA	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No Annual report submitted; no statistical data submitted.	Data provided late. Not a compliance issue. Information not provided when not applicable.	Maintain identification. Send letter regarding concerns on data reporting	Annual Reports/ Statistics:		Send letter to lift identification recognizing improvements made in meeting ICCAT obligations.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No internal report (20m+) received, no LSTLV management received.	Reply to letter received November 2010.	deficiencies. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Conservation and Management Measures:		
	Quotas and catch limits: Compliance tables not submitted.		Guatemala responded 15 October 2011	Quotas and catch limits: None detected.		
	Other issues: None recorded.		indicating improvements made in data reporting.	Other issues:		

2010				2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
GUINEA ECUATORIAL	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No Annual report received. No size data available. Some (few) data received after deadline.	Data was provided and responded to letter of concern. Difficulties in meeting compliance obligations as no national vessels fish for ICCAT soecies and there are no chartering arrangements.	Send letter of continuing concern in relation to possible data deficiencies. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No annual report received. No Task I or Task II data received.	There is no national fleet fishing for tuna species under the purview of ICCAT. Staff improvements are being made to improve data collection and reporting. Catches derive from artisanal fisheries which send data with important delays.	Send letter of concern with respect to continued deficiencies in data reporting (in particular lack of timely submission and lack of complete Task I and Task II).
	Conservation and Management Measures: Difficult to determine which elements applicable to Guinea Ecuatorial.		Equatorial Guinea replied on 31 January 2011 and reiterated its request for capacity building assistance in order to be in a position to fulfil all data requirements.	Conservation and Management Measures: the data sent for the Compliance Tables do not correspond to the request of Rec. 98-14.		
	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.			Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues:		

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
GUINEA Rep.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No Annual report submitted; no statistical data submitted.	Not present to respond.	Maintain identification and send letter requesting notification of MCS measures and information on actions taken with regard to IUU listed vessel. Encourage participation in future meetings. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No annual report received. Task I fleet characteristics and Task II data not received.	Not present to respond.	Maintain identification with respect to data reporting and ask for clarifications on actions taken against IUU listed vessel.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No internal report (20m+) submitted.			Conservation and Management Measures: No internal report (20m+) submitted.		
	Quotas and catch limits: Compliance tables not submitted.			Quotas and catch limits: Compliance tables not submitted.		
	Other issues: One vessel on IUU list. No report of actions taken.			Other issues: One vessel on IUU list. No report of actions taken.		

2010

2011

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
HONDURAS	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No Annual report received. No statistical data received.	Not present to respond.		Annual Reports/ Statistics: No Annual report received. No Task I or Task II data received.	Important efforts are being made by Honduras to meet ICCAT obligations. Reporting was sent on 14 October (however the Secreteriat does not acknowledge this). Honduras does not fish for tunas under the purview of ICCAT. Furthermore, fisheries are undergoing a major reform in the country in order to improve compliance.	Lift identification and send letter of concern with respect to ongoing data reporting deficiencies and need to inform about fisheries management.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No internal action (20m+) report received. Possible not reporting of VMS messages by one vessel. Possible infraction vessel not providing VMS and not on authorised vessel list.	Non-reporting of VMS rectified and vessel placed on auth vessel list following EU inspection report.	Encourage participation in future meetings. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Conservation and Management Measures: No internal action (20m+) report received. Compliance Tables were submitted late and may be incomplete.		
	Quotas and catch limits: No compliance tables received.			Quotas and catch limits:		
	Other issues: None detected.			Other issues:		

	2010			2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
ICELAND	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No infractions recorded as no fisheries to report. Minor by-catch of SHK reported.	SHK bycatch in EEZ in non-ICCAT fishery. If in association with ICCAT fishery will be reported to SCRS. Will clarify reporting requirement to simplify reporting.	No action necessary.	Annual Reports/ Statistics:		No action necessary.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No infractions recorded.			Conservation and Management Measures:		
	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions recorded.			Quotas and catch limits: No infractions recorded.		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: None recorded.		

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
JAPAN	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Some data submitted after the deadline. Some size data not submitted.	Data provision to be improved. Delayed reporting of SHK data due to verification process.	Missing size and shark data submitted in February 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics:		Maintain a letter of concern with respect to chartering operations with Brazil (doubts on data collection: catches and effort).
	Conservation and Management Measures: No infractions detected.		Lift identification and send letter of concern regarding some remaining data deficiencies. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further actions in 2011.	Conservation and Management Measures:	Japan is currently investigating to obtain more information on the existing chartering arrangements with Brazil.	
	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.		Japan replied 8 Feb 2011 confirming that data deadlines would be respected in 2011.	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions recorded.		
	Other issues: Transshipment declaration not submitted by vessel masters; imports from parties which have not reported their validating authorities.	Transshipment declarations from fishing vessels provided before deadline, and carrier vessels also claimed to have done so.	Some outstanding declarations received in February 2011.	Other issues:		

2010

2011

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
KOREA, Rep. of	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Some data received after deadline.	Secretary receipt of data 18 October 2010. Following revised national legislation, data provision to be improved from 2011. S-ALB Overharvest continued in 2009. Fishing for S-ALB prohibited on 15/10/2010 to avoid this. By-catch discarded from that time. No transshipments authorised.	Maintain identification. Send letter requesting management plan or other measures taken to address over harvest of S-ALB and WHM, and request pay back plans. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011. Korea responded 13 January 2011 requesting clarification and reporting that steps to improve data reporting would be taken and the Commission informed.	Annual Reports/ Statistics:		Lift identification and send letter of concern, in accordance with Rec. 06-14, with respect to activities and involvement of its nationals on Ghana flagged purse seiners fishing for BET in Gulf of Guinea.
	Conservation and Management Measures: None detected.			Conservation and Management Measures:		
	Quotas and catch limits: Overharvest of S-ALB detected.			Quotas and catch limits: Overharvest of S. ALB and N. SWO.	Payback programme implemented. No further overharvest occurred since 2010.	
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: involvement of Korean nationals in alleged IUU activities on Ghana flagged purse seiners fishing for BET in Gulf of Guinea.	Korea does not have jurisdiction on national operating outside the country but will still investigate the concerned issues.	

2010

2011

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
LIBYA	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Some data received after deadline. No C&E Task II data received.	Delays due to translation related problems. Problem for ICCAT, not Libya.	Maintain identification and send letter requesting data and MCS improvement plans in the context of the measures adopted in 2010. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No Task I fleet characteristics or Task II data received.	The unprecedented political situation which began in February 2011 caused major disruptions in the working activities of the Ministry of Fisheries (and not only). Additionally, all kind of telecommunications were cut off during that period making therefore the transmission of any kind of document impossible.	Lift identification and send letter of concern with respect to data reporting and MCS in the coming years.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No infractions detected.			Conservation and Management Measures: No 20m+ internal actions report received.		
	Rec. 08-05: No data from national observer programme submitted.	Reply to letter received November 2010.		No information concerning Rec. 10-04.		
	Rec. 09-11. Domestic legislation not received.	Provided late, just prior to meeting.				
	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected			Quotas and catch limits: Compliance tables received during the meeting.		
	Other issues: Information from PEW (response attached); Observer reports: VMS messages not received from one towing vessel, no video footage of transfer available.	VMS problem rectified. Transmitted directly to Secretariat. Video footage provision errors to be addressed. Action will be taken if seen to be illegal behaviour.		Other issues:		
		Libya replied 13 February 2011 indicating steps taken and reiterating language difficulties.				

<i>CPC</i>	2010			2011		
	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
MAURITANIA	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No Annual Report received. No statistical data received.	Lack of reporting due to lack of understanding of ICCAT. Not all reporting requirements applicable. Tuna fleets operating under bilateral agreements. No tuna landings in Mauritania.	Send letter of continuing concern in relation to reporting deficiencies and request further information. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No annual report received. No Task I or Task II data received.	Mauritania does not have a tuna fishing fleet but only access arrangements to its waters with the EU, Senegal and Japan. These CPCs declare catches under their quotas. No other catches are made. Some tuna by-catches are taken by pelagic industrial fisheries.	Letter of concern on continued lack of compliance with reporting obligations.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No information received.	National monitoring/control legislation in place. National observers system in place.		Conservation and Management Measures: No information.		
	Quotas and catch limits: No compliance tables received.		Mauritania acknowledged receipt of letter 19 January 2011 and sent a report on small tuna fishery.	Quotas and catch limits: No Compliance tables received (only small tunas taken by national fleet).		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: None recorded.		

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
MEXICO	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Part II of Annual report not received. Some data received after deadline.	Late submission after deadline, to be rectified in future.	Lift identification and send letter of concern in relation to billfish overharvests, recognising that remedial action cannot be taken until 2011 Panel 4 meeting. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics:		Send a letter of concern with respect to continued overharvesting of WHM and BUM and to lack of submission of W-BFT reporting.
	Conservation and Management Measures: LSTLV mgmt standard not submitted; Internal actions (20m+) not submitted.	2 LL vessels registered. LSTLV and 20+ m reports sent after deadline.		Conservation and Management Measures: no data submitted under Rec. 10-03.	The Recommendation entered in force in June 2011. Five reports are due and should be sent during this meeting.	
	<i>Rec. 09-11:</i> BCDs/BCD report not submitted.	By-catch data provided by observers programme, necessary releases carried out.		Quotas and catch limits: Continuation of overharvest of WHM and BUM.	Quotas were established before Mexico was a member of ICCAT and are very low. Mexico has reiterated several time its request for more equitable quotas. Furthermore, the catches of BUM and WHM are by-catches. Targeted fishing of these species is forbidden by law.	
	Quotas and catch limits: 2009 overharvest of BUM & WHM.			Other issues: None recorded.	Other issues: None recorded.	

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
MOROCCO	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Task I fleet data not submitted. Task II for some species not submitted.	Confirmation that all Task II data provided .	Lift identification and send letter of concern in relation to remaining data submission problems. Acknowledge that use of driftnets will be prohibited from 2 August 2011 and to be definitively eliminated by the end of 2011. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics:		No action necessary.
	Conservation and Management Measures:			Conservation and Management Measures:		
	Rec. 08-05: Catch reports not received weekly; 2009 actually fished vessels not received; Rec. 09-04:SWO-Med vessels previous year not received;	Problem in compiling data for weekly reporting.		Rec. 10-04: some BFT weekly reports incomplete - only trap catches.	Some BFT catches deriving from artisanal fisheries where reported during the week following the catch because of the slower retransmission of data received during weekends.	
	Rec. 09-11: BCD legislation not submitted.			Rec. 09-11: BCD legislation not submitted; BCD annual report does not cover period of reference.	Rec. 09-11 was transposed into Moroccan legal framework through a Ministerial Order and does not need any further action. BCD is fully complied with.	
	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions recorded.			Quotas and catch limits: No infractions recorded.		
	Other issues: None recorded.	Confirmation of the prohibition of driftnets from August 2011.		Other issues:		

2010

2011

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
NAMIBIA	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Annual report not received. Some data received after deadline.	Reporting deficiencies to be rectified.	Lift identification and send letter of concern in relation to continued reporting deficiencies. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics:	The 20m report will be sent.	No action needed
	Conservation and Management Measures: Vessel chartering summary report not submitted, LSTLV mgmt standard not submitted. Internal actions (20m+) not submitted.			Conservation and Management Measures: Vessels 20 m + internal actions report not received.		
	Quotas and catch limits: Compliance tables not submitted.			Quotas and catch limits:		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: None recorded.		

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2011

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
NICARAGUA	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No annual report received. No data to report.	Not present to respond.	Maintain identification and send letter expressing concerns on continued reporting deficiencies. Encourage participation in future meetings. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No annual report received. No data to report.	Nicaragua has reported that ICCAT requirements are not applicable as they have limited tuna fisheries.	Maintain identification and reiterate concerns on continued reporting deficiencies and lack of information on ongoing activities. Encourage participation in future meetings.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No information received. No fisheries.			Conservation and Management Measures: No information received. No fisheries.		
	Quotas and catch limits: No compliance tables received -(no data to report).			Quotas and catch limits: No Compliance tables received - (no data to report).		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: None recorded.	Reply received 03 November 2011. No tuna fisheries.	

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
NIGERIA	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Annual report not submitted, Task I data not submitted, Task II data not submitted.	Not present to respond.	Maintain identification and send letter expressing concerns on continued reporting deficiencies. Encourage participation in future meetings. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No annual report received. No Task I or Task II data received.	Nigeria is still developing its tuna fisheries and has not yet started such activities. Nigeria did not send any declarations and did not think that it was necessary.	Lift identification and send letter of concern with respect to continued reporting deficiencies and general lack of information.
	Conservation and Management Measures: >20m and associated reports vessel list not submitted.			Conservation and Management Measures: >20m vessel list and associated reports not submitted.		
	Quotas and catch limits: Compliance tables not submitted			Quotas and catch limits: Compliance tables not submitted.		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues:		

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
NORWAY	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No infractions recorded.		No action necessary.	Annual Reports/ Statistics:		No action necessary.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No infractions recorded.			Conservation and Management Measures:		
	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions recorded.			Quotas and catch limits: No infractions recorded.		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: None recorded.		

2010

2011

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
PANAMA	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Annual report not submitted.	Vessels list (>20ms) to be provided by end of meeting.	Maintain identification and send letter expressing concerns over continued reporting deficiencies. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011. No reply received.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Annual report submitted late. No Task I fleet characteristics received.	An internal reorganisation within the Ministry of Fisheries has caused the late sending of Task I data.	Maintain identification and send letter expressing concerns over continued reporting deficiencies and lack of action against alleged violations.
	Conservation and Management Measures: Internal action (20m+) not submitted; LSTLV mgmt standard not submitted.			Conservation and Management Measures: Internal action (20m+) not submitted; LSTLV mgmt standard not submitted. Data from BFT national observer programme received late.	Most reports were submitted although late but still in time for the SCRS meeting.	
	Quotas and catch limits: Compliance tables not submitted.			Quotas and catch limits: Compliance tables not submitted.		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: the EU reported that following some inspections at sea to Panama flagged towing vessels, 3 violations where detected, one of which serious (transfer declaration missing).		

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
PHILIPPINES	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Task II size data not submitted. No annual report submitted.	Task II data to be provided as soon as possible, delayed data provision to be rectified.	Maintain identification and send letter expressing concerns over continued reporting deficiencies. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011. Philippines replied dated 20 January 2011 affirming that action had been taken to improve Task II size data reporting.	Annual Reports/ Statistics:		Send letter to lift identification recognizing improvements.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No infractions recorded.			Conservation and Management Measures:		
	Quotas and catch limits:			Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.		
	Other issues:			Other issues: None recorded.		

2010				2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
RUSSIA	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No Task II data submitted.	Reporting delay due to bureaucratic issues, shortcomings to be rectified. Task II submitted but with serious delays	Lift identification and send letter of concern in relation to continued reporting deficiencies. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics:		No action necessary.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No internal actions (20m) submitted.		Russia replied to Chairs' letter on 11 February 2011. Currently no active stable tuna fishery is being carried out.	Conservation and Management Measures:		
	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions recorded.			Quotas and catch limits: No infractions recorded.		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: None recorded.		

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
SOUTH AFRICA	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No annual report submitted.	Internal re-organisation led to reporting difficulties. Steps being taken to resolve this issue. Annual reports late submission. LSTLV mgmt standard submitted late.	Send letter of concern in relation to continued reporting deficiencies. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011. South Africa replied explaining that delays and omissions due to staff shortages expected to be resolved in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Annual report received late.	Internal re-organisation led to reporting difficulties. Steps are still being taken to resolve this issue.	Send letter of concern in relation to continued reporting deficiencies.
	Conservation and Management Measures: Chartering summary received after final deadline. LSTLV mgmt standard not submitted and internal report (20m+) not submitted.			Conservation and Management Measures: internal report (20m+) and LSTLV management report submitted. Chartering summary submitted late. Compliance tables received late.		
	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.			Quotas and catch limits: No infractions relating to overharvests detected.		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: None recorded.		

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
SAO TOME & PRINCIPE	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Annual report not submitted, Task I data not submitted, Task II data not submitted.	Not present to respond.	Maintain identification and send letter expressing concerns over continued data reporting deficiencies. Encourage participation in future meetings. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Annual report not submitted. No Task I fleet characteristics and no Task II data received.	STP does not have a fleet targeting tuna or swordfish. An infrastructure for data collection is being created. A national observer program is ready to be launched.	Lift identification and send letter of concern with respect to continued data reporting deficiencies and asking to establish a closer cooperation with SCRS on catch estimations.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No list of vessels 20m+ or associated reports submitted.			Conservation and Management Measures: No list of vessels 20m+ or associated reports submitted.		
	Quotas and catch limits: Compliance Tables not submitted.			Quotas and catch limits: Compliance tables not submitted. SCRS informed of STP vessels targeting southern swordfish beyond the available quota.	There are no STP vessels targeting for south swordfish.	
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: None recorded.		

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential Issues of Noncompliance - 2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential Issues of Noncompliance -2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
SENEGAL	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Some Task I data submitted after deadline, Some Task II data submitted after deadline.	Reporting deficiencies will be resolved in 2011.	Lift identification and send letter of concern in relation to continued data deficiencies, while noting the improvements made in 2010. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics:		No action necessary.
	Conservation and Management Measures: LSTLV mgmt standard and internal actions report (vessels 20m+) not submitted .			Conservation and Management Measures:		
	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions recorded.			Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues:		
			Senegal reply dated 18 January indicating that data collection was being improved and requesting financial assistance for this endeavour.			

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2011

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
SIERRA LEONE	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Annual report not submitted, Task I data not submitted, Task II data not submitted	Not present to respond.	<p>Maintain identification and send letter expressing concerns over continued lack of data reporting.</p> <p>Encourage participation in future meetings. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.</p> <p>Sierra Leone replied on 16 May 2011 informing the Commission of new licencing measures in place. By-catch data are being collated and will be submitted in the future.</p>	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No annual report received. No Task I or Task II data received.	Not present to respond.	<p>Maintain identification and send letter expressing concerns over continued lack of data reporting and of information on vessels authorization procedures. Encourage participation in future meetings.</p>
	Conservation and Management Measures: LSTLV mgmt standard not submitted; internal actions report (20m+) not submitted.			Conservation and Management Measures:		
	Quotas and catch limits: Compliance tables not submitted.			Quotas and catch limits: No compliance tables received.		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: None recorded.		

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2011

CPC	Potential issues of non-compliance-2010	Response / explanation by CPC	Actions Taken	Potential issues of non-compliance-2011	Response / explanation by CPC	Actions Taken
ST.VINCENT & THE GRENADINES	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Some data received after deadlines. Task II size data not submitted.	Some data not provided, as not applicable. Where necessary, port inspection measures shortcomings will be rectified. 20m internal action and LSTLV reports provided at meeting.	Identified. Send letter in relation to concerns over data deficiencies and late reporting. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Annual report received late. No Task I fleet characteristics received. No size data submitted.	Some staff constraints are behind the late or non submission of some reports. Also, the access to some of the report forms to be used has not always been possible. Corrective measures are being taken towards the improvement of the situation. Size data was submitted, although late.	Lift identification and send letter of concern with respect to late data reporting.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No internal action (20m+) report received. LSTLV mgmt standard not submitted.			Conservation and Management Measures: internal action (20m+) report and LSTLV mgmt standard submitted late.		
	Quotas and catch limits: No compliance tables received.			Quotas and catch limits: Compliance tables received late.		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: None recorded.		

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2011

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
SYRIA	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No annual report received. No statistical data received. (indicated intention not to fish in 2009).	Not present to respond.	Send letter of concern in relation to deficiencies in E-BFT control and monitoring measures and data reporting. Encourage participation in future meetings. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No annual report received. No Task I or Task II data received.	Not present to respond.	Send a letter of identification with respect to deficiencies in data reporting, in BFT control, monitoring measures, and lack of submission of 2012 BFT plans. Indicate that failure to submit such plans will result in the prohibition to take part to the 2012 BFT fishing season.
Conservation and Management Measures: No internal actions (20m+) report received.	Conservation and Management Measures: Rec. 10-04. Report on annual fishing plan or implementation of Rec. 10-04 not received. Fishing etc plan 2012 not received: Data from national observer programs not received. List of authorized ports not received for 2011.					
<i>Rec. 08/05 /09-06.</i> No report on implementation of annual fishing plan or of Rec. 08-05 submitted. No weekly or monthly catch reports received.	<i>Rec. 09-11 implementation:</i> no BCD annual report received.					
<i>Rec. 08-12 /09-11 implementation:</i> BCD annual report not submitted, BCD validation not submitted, Contact points not submitted, Legislation not submitted.	Quotas and catch limits: No Compliance tables received.					
Quotas and catch limits: No compliance tables received.	Other issues: None recorded.					
Other issues: None recorded.						

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Statistical data submitted after deadlines.	Response to Identification Letter to be provided before the end of the Annual Meeting. Human resources shortfalls in the course of being remedied, reporting will improve in the future.	Lift identification and send letter of concern in relation to overharvest of billfish, recognising that remedial action cannot be taken until the meeting of Panel 4 in 2011. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No Task II size data received.	T&T expects to establish a data collection framework as of 2012 with the ICCAT Data Fund and therefore to be able to send necessary data as of next year.	Send letter of concern with respect to some deficiencies in data reporting and to overharvest of WHM and BUM.
	Conservation and Management Measures: No list of vessels 20m+ and associated reports submitted (3 operational according to Annual Report).	Vessels list and related reports to be provided during meeting.		Conservation and Management Measures:		
	Quotas and catch limits: No compliance table submitted. Continued overharvest (BUM WHM).	Marlin overharvest will be discussed in Panel 4.		Quotas and catch limits: Overharvest of WHM and BUM.	Quotas were established before T&T was a member of ICCAT and are very low. Furthermore, the catches of BUM and WHM are by-catches.	
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues:		

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<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
TUNISIA	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Data submitted after deadline.	Data provided by deadline of 9 Oct.	Maintain identification and send letter requesting data improvement and fleet management plans in the context of measures to be adopted in 2010. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Task II size data received for farm harvest, but not for catch.		Send letter to inform on lifting identification and to acknowledge improvements.
	Conservation and Management Measures:			Conservation and Management Measures:		
	Rec. 08-05. List of BFT vessels that fished 2009 not received.	Sent Feb 2009 and again on 16 April 2010				
	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.		Tunisia responded to Chairs' letter on 26 January 2011 addressing the three points raised.	Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.		
	Other issues: EU inspection report - response received. <i>Observer reports:</i> Observers not allowed access to video footage. Incomplete filming of transfer.	No objection to provision, full co-operation with observers, either on vessel or on farms. In complete video footage, not specialist in filming - too expensive to recruit, undertaken by divers without experience. Confirmation of transfer to transfer vessel only, but not for estimation of number and quantity of fish.		Other issues: request to replace BCDs issuing new ones four months later with the observer signature.	This issue is addressed under item 7 of the minutes of the Compliance Committee meeting.	

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2011

CPC	Potential issues of non-compliance-2011	Response / explanation by CPC	Actions Taken	Potential issues of non-compliance-2011	Response / explanation by CPC	Actions Taken
TURKEY	<p>Annual Reports/ Statistics: Some data received after the deadlines. Size data not received.</p>	<p>Data provided 14 Nov 2010. Catch size data requirement impossible to respect as difficult to measure fish once in cage.</p>	<p>Maintain identification and send letter requesting data improvement and MCS plan in the context of measures adopted in 2010. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.</p>	<p>Annual Reports/ Statistics:</p>		<p>Send letter to inform on lifting identification and to acknowledge improvements.</p>
<p>Conservation and Management Measures: Internal actions (20m+) not received.</p>	<p>Submitted after deadline.</p>	<p>Conservation and Management Measures:</p>				
<p><i>Rec. 08-05 /09-06/ 06-07 Implementation:</i> Information on growth factors received after deadline. Driftnet use observed, to be discontinued by 01/07/2011.</p>	<p>Estimated growth using factors approved by SCRS were received before the deadline. Confirmed that driftnets would be prohibited from 1 July 2011.</p>	<p>Turkey sent a detailed response to Chair's letter with supporting documents, dated 18 Feb 2011.</p>				
<p>Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.</p>			<p>Quotas and catch limits: No infractions detected.</p>			
<p>Other issues: Rec. 08-09 and Rec. 03-04 Information from WWF on driftnets. EU inspection report - response received. <i>Observer reports:</i> Observers not allowed access to video footage. Possible incorrect information on transfer declaration.</p>	<p>Responded to WWF on 28 Oct. EU reports responded to on 5 August and 5 November and published on ICCAT web site. Some video footage not provided due to technical difficulties, will be remedied for next season, although CDs of all operations provided to Secr. Discrepancies between ROP estimates and logbook, doubts over experience of observers to undertake this task.</p>		<p>Other issues:</p>			

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<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
UNITED KINGDOM (OTs)	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Annual report received incomplete. Some (few) data received after deadline. No data received on behalf of Turks & Caicos or BVI.	Recognise variable performance of island dependencies. Are working to rectify this.	Identification lifted. Send letter of concern requesting submission of a data improvement plan and a report on progress and implementation of same, with special emphasis on billfish. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Some Task I and Task II data submitted late.	Some difficulties in collecting the data occurred and this caused the late submission. Procedures are being established to ensure that this does not occur again.	Send letter of concern for delays in submission of data reporting but acknowledging improvements.
	Conservation and Management Measures: Rec. 09-11. No BCD annual report of BCDs received (but catch in 2009 only 0.27t and 0 in previous years).	Bycatch issue in sports fishery.		Conservation and Management Measures:		
	Quotas and catch limits: Minor harvests of BUM but limit from base year is 0.	Measures to be introduced to avoid this. Payback to be addressed in Panel 4.	UK-OT replied on 10 June 2011. The harvests of BUM previously indicated as LL are in fact RR catches, and hence limits do not apply.	Quotas and catch limits:		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: None recorded.		

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
URUGUAY	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No infraction detected.			Annual Reports/ Statistics:		
	Conservation and Management Measures: LSTLV management standard not submitted. No internal actions (vessels 20m+) submitted.	Some information contained in Annual Report	Send letter of concern in relation to overharvest of southern albacore and request information taken on improvement of reporting requirements, particularly in relation to bilateral arrangements. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Conservation and Management Measures: Vessels 20 m internal actions report received late. LSTLV management report received during the meeting.	some difficulties in collecting the data occurred and this caused the late submission. Procedures are being established to ensure that this does not occur again.	No further actions required.
	Quotas and catch limits: Overharvest of south albacore detected.	Due to research fishery. Measures taken to reduce capacity by 50%. Results to be provided to SCRS.	Uruguay responded 28 July 2011 explaining difficulties with albacore by-catch but has made every effort to respect quotas.	Quotas and catch limits:		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: None recorded.		

2010

2011

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
UNITED STATES	Annual Reports/ Statistics: All data sent by deadline except C&E for sharks.	C&E data on sharks to be provided.	Letter of concern to be sent in relation to implementation of statistical document programmes and encouraging attempts to improve implementation. Encourage further actions to clarify discrepancies in trade data detected in 2009. Indicate that failure to respond may result in the Commission considering further action in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics:		Letter of concern to be sent in relation to implementation of statistical document programmes and encouraging attempts to improve implementation. Express concern on acceptance of imports SWO and BET from unknown flag and unknown zone.
	Conservation and Management Measures: None detected.	Confirmed that BCD identification numbers have been brought into line with ICCAT requirements.		Conservation and Management Measures:		
	Quotas and catch limits: No infraction recorded.			Quotas and catch limits:		
	Other issues: Imports from NCPs which have not reported validating authorities and / or may not be authorized to fish in ICCAT area.	Imports from Pacific fisheries, not ICCAT related, but will follow-up with countries involved to rectify for the future. Internal measures undertaken to avoid this problem in the future.		Other issues: some problems in the implementation of statistical document programme and concern over acceptance of imports of SWO and BET from unknown flag and zone.	Important improvements were made. A limited share of imports are from unknown flag and zone but ready to work towards the full implementation of the statistical document program in order to completely solve the problem.	

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
VANUATU	Annual Reports/ Statistics: Some data incomplete. Task I fleet data not submitted. Task II size data not submitted.	Recognise problems in data provision due to data collection problems.	Identification maintained. Letter to be sent informing Vanuatu of this and requesting detailed information on data collection improvement plan. Indicate that failure to provide the information requested may result in the Commission considering further actions in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No annual report received. No Task I fleet characteristics nor Task II size data submitted.	Not present to respond.	Identification maintained. Letter to be sent requesting improvements on data collection and submission.
	Conservation and Management Measures: LSTLV management standard and internal actions report (20m+) not submitted.	To be provided shortly.		Conservation and Management Measures:		
	Quotas and catch limits: Compliance tables not submitted.			Quotas and catch limits: No Compliance tables received.		
	Other issues: VMS transmission in process for BFT-other vessels.	VMS data now being provided. Also requested technical assistance with data collection.		Other issues: Some ROP transshipment declarations not submitted.		

		2010		2011		
<i>CPC</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2010</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>	<i>Potential issues of non-compliance-2011</i>	<i>Response / explanation by CPC</i>	<i>Actions Taken</i>
VENEZUELA	Annual Reports/ Statistics: No infractions detected.	Not present to respond	Identification maintained. Letter to be sent informing Venezuela and requesting plan of actions to address over-harvest of northern albacore catches and quota management and report on implementation and payback plan. Encourage participation in future meetings. Indicate that failure to respond to such requests may result in the Commission considering further actions in 2011.	Annual Reports/ Statistics:	Not present to respond.	Identification maintained, in respect of overcapacity and overharvest.
	Conservation and Management Measures: Compliance tables not received. Internal actions (vessels 20m+) not received. LSTLV management not received.	Response to Chairs' letter and incomplete compliance tables received 15 November 2010.		Conservation and Management Measures:		
	Quotas and catch limits: Significant overharvest of N-ALB.	Vessel quotas to be limited to 200t.	Venezuela replied to Chair's letter on 3 points raised on 15 Feb 2011.	Quotas and catch limits: Overharvest of N-ALB and BUM.		
	Other issues: None recorded.			Other issues: None recorded.		

Appendix 4 to ANNEX 10

**Guidelines for an ICCAT Schedule of Actions
to Improve Compliance and Cooperation with ICCAT Measures**

To provide a consistent method for considering appropriate actions to improve compliance and cooperation with ICCAT measures, the following Guidelines for an ICCAT Schedule of Actions will be applied:

Step 1: Determination of non-compliance

Primary areas of focus:

A. Reporting requirements, including:

- Failure to report or delay in reporting statistical and other data
- Failure to provide complete data or data in a usable format
- Failure to submit or delay in submitting reports

B. MCS measures, including:

- Failure to implement MCS measures, including catch documentation schemes/statistical document programs
- Failure to exercise port CPC controls
- Failure to exercise flag CPC controls

C. Conservation and management measures, including:

- Failure to limit catches/landings to agreed limits
- Failure to restrict fleet size to agreed limits
- Failure to respect time/area closures
- Failure to respect minimum size or fishing gear restrictions

Step 2: Determination of the severity of non-compliance

Highest priority should be given to determining and addressing the most significant compliance failures. Actions may also be warranted in cases of infractions with lesser impact.

Significant compliance failures are those that reflect a CPC's systematic disregard of ICCAT regulations or infrequent (and even first time) violations that diminish the effectiveness of ICCAT conservation and management measures and/or the ability of the Commission or the SCRS to do its work. Failures of this nature meet the threshold for identification under the ICCAT Trade Measures Recommendation [06-13].

In general, minor compliance failures are those that are first time or infrequent and which do not materially impact the work of the Commission or SCRS or the effectiveness of ICCAT's conservation and management measures. In most cases, the only necessary action would be to request the relevant CPC to rectify the situation and report back to the Compliance Committee on the actions taken and results. In general, the preferred method for addressing minor compliance failures would be through noting the action requested of the CPC in the Compliance Committee meeting report.

In determining the severity of a compliance failure or failures, and to inform the application of appropriate actions under Step 3 below, both mitigating and aggravating considerations as indicated below should be taken into account.

- Mitigating considerations include, *inter alia*, (1) the extent to which available capacity building and assistance programs have been used by a CPC to improve its ability to meet its ICCAT obligations and (2) actions already taken by the flag state, port state or market state CPC to address the failure.
- Aggravating considerations include, *inter alia*, (1) compliance failures that are frequent, numerous, and/or severe in degree, scope, and/or effect; and (2) lack of effective corrective action by the flag state, port state or market state CPC.

Step 3: Application of actions to address compliance failures

Upon determining a compliance failure pursuant to Step 1 and that further action by ICCAT is warranted pursuant to Step 2, actions should be taken by ICCAT, or required of the involved CPC, in one or more of the following categories: enhanced reporting requirements, restrictions on fishing activities, additional MCS requirements, and/or, as a last resort, market restrictions. Actions should be tailored to address the specific compliance issues taking into consideration the following guidance.

Type 1: Compliance failures involving reporting requirements, including:

- a) Failure to report or delay in reporting statistical and other data
- b) Failure to provide complete data or data in a usable format
- c) Failure to submit or delay in submitting reports

Potential Actions:

- Development/submission of a data improvement plan and/or a reporting plan with progress reports on implementation
- Increased observer coverage requirements for data collection
- Increased port inspections and sampling requirements
- More frequent catch reporting to the Secretariat, such as weekly or monthly
- Allocation or quota/catch limit reductions
- Limitations/reductions in fleet capacity levels
- Trade restrictive measures

Type 2: Compliance failures involving MCS measures, including:

- a) Failure to implement MCS measures, including catch documentation schemes/statistical document programs
- b) Failure to exercise port CPC controls
- c) Failure to exercise flag CPC controls

Potential Actions:

- Development/submission of a performance improvement plan with progress reports
- Increased compliance observer coverage requirements, possibly including use of regional ICCAT observers,
- Increased port controls, such as more frequent port calls, expanded inspection requirements, and/or designation of authorized ports
- Limitations on, or prohibition of, at-sea transshipment
- Enhanced VMS requirements
- Allocation or quota/catch limit reductions
- Limitations/reductions in fleet capacity levels
- Restrictions on posting vessels to the authorized vessel list
- Placement of vessels on the IUU vessel list
- Requirement to specify individual vessel quotas
- Other enhanced monitoring requirements
- Trade restrictive measures

Type 3: Conservation and management measures, including:

- a) Failure to limit catches/landings to agreed limits
- b) Failure to restrict fleet size to agreed limits
- c) Failure to respect time/area closures
- d) Failure to respect minimum size or fishing gear restrictions

Potential Actions:

- Reduction in quota allocation(s)
- Additional quota/catch limit reductions beyond the payback requirements specified in relevant ICCAT recommendations
- Expanded MCS and reporting requirements
- Individual vessel quota requirements
- By-catch retention limit requirements

- Size class limitations
- Fleet capacity limits/reductions with mandatory reporting
- Time and/or area restrictions
- Gear restrictions or requirements
- Trade restrictive measures

Appendix 5 to ANNEX 10

Statement by Mauritania to the Compliance Committee

Mauritania joined to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) in December 2009. In becoming a member of this important Commission, Mauritania has the obligation to comply with the requirements of this international organization concerning the reporting of its statistics and the implementation of its management recommendations on the tuna stocks.

This adherence permitted us to have an initial quota of 2100 tonnes of bigeye tuna, a species which is becoming more and more coveted.

It should be noted that up to now, our country did not have any fleet targeting tunas. The tuna vessels operate in the Mauritanian EEZ, flying the flags of the European Union, Senegal and Japan. These vessels land and tranship close to the Mauritanian EEZ. The catch statistics are sent directly to ICCAT by the flag countries of these vessels which are also members of this organization. It was requested that these countries sent these data to the Ministry of Fishing and Marine Economy which is in charge of the management of high seas resources.

Numerous species of small tunas are present in Mauritanian waters and are taken as by-catches by the national artisanal and industrial fleets and by the foreign fleets. As regards the major tunas (yellowfin, skipjack and bigeye), Mauritania does not have its own catch. The fleet that targets these species in the Mauritanian EEZ fly flags of the European Union, Senegal and Japan and exploit these species based on their own bigeye tuna quota. Five species of the Scombrid family are fished incidentally, more or less regularly, in Mauritanian waters, mainly by the smallt), plain bonito (*Orcynopsis unicolor*) and skipjack (*Euthynnus alletteratus*). These species have more important economic value than the small pelagic species, except anchovy which is marketed fresh.

The exploitation of the major tunas in Mauritania within the ICCAT framework could provide an opportunity to develop a national fleet aimed at the exploitation of these species. To do so, we would like that ICCAT offers a favorable support framework for the developing countries, particularly the new Commission members, which is the case of our country, so that they have the required expertise for the sustainable exploitation of the tuna stocks consistent with management measures of this organization. Training on the methods for managing the statistical data, scientific observation, sampling methods for the monitoring of the tuna stocks are needed.

Notwithstanding, to respond to the ICCAT in our country, our Department through its structures with competence in research, management, and surveillance reiterates the need to have an updated database available. For this, the strengthening of the capacities for the management of the databases is considered necessary in order to be able to efficiently exploit the ICCAT databases. Support is requested for the implementation of a research program to guarantee close and sustained monitoring of the fishing activities targeting tuna species in Mauritania.

Appendix 6 to ANNEX 10

Statement by the Observer from Pew Environment Group to the Compliance Committee

Illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing is one of ICCAT's most pressing problems, threatening the sustainability of stocks under its management and undermining ICCAT's credibility. It affects mostly Atlantic bluefin tuna (BFT) but also other ICCAT species, including bigeye, yellowfin, and skipjack tuna, and many shark species. In recent years, ICCAT and its Contracting Parties have tried to address the loopholes that allow IUU fishing to continue. While some progress has been made, multiple reports released over the last couple of months show that compliance with ICCAT regulations lags far behind the measures put in place in recent years.

The Pew Environment Group released a report last month that found that since 2009, more than 70,000 metric tons of eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean BFT have been caught and traded, an amount more than double the quotas set by ICCAT. Earlier this week, a report was released that indicates the possible presence of bluefin tuna fishing vessels in Libyan waters during the 2011 fishing season. Finally, Pew submitted information in July to ICCAT member countries, showing that violations of ICCAT Recommendation 03-04, which bans the use of driftnets for tuna and swordfish, continue in the Mediterranean. Between 2005 and early 2011, more than 330 Italian vessels were identified as being involved in illegal activities using driftnets in the Mediterranean.

ICCAT must take decisive action to address IUU fishing in its Convention Area. To this end, the Pew Environment Group urges the Compliance Committee to carefully consider the information before them and apply appropriate action to ICCAT members that have clearly violated conservation and management Recommendations. ICCAT must also strengthen its measures and close existing gaps which permit IUU fishing operators to continue their activities unhindered.

Additionally, the Pew Environment Group recommends that ICCAT take the following critical actions at this meeting to strengthen control against IUU fishing:

- Implement and fund an electronic bluefin catch documentation (eBCD) system for bluefin tuna;
- Begin developing a barcode system that will allow the tracking of individual bluefin tuna;
- List vessels known to have engaged in illegal driftnet activities on ICCAT's IUU vessel list;
- Significantly improve its port State measures, which according to a study conducted by the Pew Environment Group include numerous gaps;
- Require that any fishing and support vessels authorized to operate in the Convention Area register with IHS-Fairplay and obtain an IMO number. This number should be on record, used in all relevant communications and be made publicly available.

The Pew Environment Group has available a policy brief and extensive additional materials to assist ICCAT Contracting Parties in their deliberations. They are available on our website and were circulated prior to this meeting. We wish you every success for this ICCAT meeting and look forward to working with all Contracting Parties.

**REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE
PERMANENT WORKING GROUP FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF
ICCAT STATISTICS AND CONSERVATION MEASURES (PWG)**

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting of the PWG was opened by the Chair, Dr. Rebecca Lent (United States).

2. Appointment of the Rapporteur

Ms. Marisa Kashorte (South Africa) was appointed as Rapporteur.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda was adopted with modification as well as with the addition of several items under Agenda item number 10 (Other matters). The revised Agenda is attached as **Appendix 1 to ANNEX 11**.

4. Implementation and functioning of Statistical and BFT Catch Document Programs

The Chair referred to the Secretariat's Report to the PWG for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures as well as reports from the Compliance Committee with reference to provision of data to ICCAT. The Chair noted the Secretariat's observation that data submissions have generally improved in quality as well as completeness.

With regards to the Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation Program (BCD), Japan presented a proposal to amend the *Recommendation by ICCAT on an ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation Program* [Rec. 09-11], and the PWG agreed to the requests by the Secretariat in its Report to the Compliance Committee regarding submission of information under the BCD program. To improve the introduction of data into the database, the Secretariat had indicated it would appreciate receiving the BCD forms: (1) on a server/FTP address; (2) in PDF format rather than picture (JPG) format; (3) with ICCAT vessel or trap registry numbers; (4) with the first page of the BCD where data on catches are shown; (5) when CPCs request correction, replacement or deletion of BCDs, receiving the original BCD and a copy of the new version; (6) unique identification number for re-export certificate shall follow the same sequence as the BCD (CC-YY-123456); and (7) in case of doubt (request for cancellation, correction or replacement of BCDs by CPC), the Secretariat shall consult with the Chair of the Compliance Committee. The *Recommendation by ICCAT Amending Recommendation 09-11 on an ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation Program* (see **ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-20]**) was adopted to amend the BCD program in accordance with requests from CPCs.

A statement was made by an observer group representing sport and recreational fishing stakeholders. The statement is attached to this report as **Appendix 8 to ANNEX 11**.

5. Outcome of the eBCD Working Group

The Report of the Technical Working Group on the eBCD was presented by the European Union and discussed in the PWG. In addition, a presentation was provided by the consultant who had prepared a feasibility study for the eBCD, followed by a question and answer session. Several technical meetings during the week resulted in the development of a Recommendation approved by the PWG that establishes the timeline and remaining steps for implementation of the eBCD. CPCs were urged to participate actively in the drafting and review of the call for tenders, expected to be issued in late January 2012.

6. Review and development of the IUU vessel list and revision of Recommendation 09-10.

The Chair referred to the Provisional IUU list. Following the discussion of certain updates provided by a CPC, the final “2010 List of Vessels Presumed to Have Carried Out Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing in the Convention Area” was adopted and is attached as **Appendix 4 to ANNEX 11**.

The *Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a List of Fishing Vessels Presumed to be Engaged in Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing Activities in the ICCAT Convention Area* [Rec. 09-10] calls for a review of the measures contained. Following discussion of this Recommendation, a number of amendments were proposed to increase the effectiveness of this measure by expanding the scope of applicability (vessels 12 meters and above) and by improving the provisions on inspection of IUU vessels. The *Recommendation by ICCAT Further amending Recommendation 09-10 Establishing a List of Vessels Presumed to Have Carried Out Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing Activities in the ICCAT Convention Area* was adopted and forwarded to the Commission plenary for final adoption (see **ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-18]**).

7. Review of cooperation by non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities and determination of actions to be taken under the 2006 Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Trade Measures [Rec. 06-13]

The PWG reviewed correspondence with non-Parties currently identified or subject to trade-restrictive measures under ICCAT Rec. 06-13. The PWG agreed to the following decisions, reflected in “Actions to be Taken in Relation to Non-Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities” (see **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 11**):

Georgia and Bolivia: The PWG adopted the *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Listing of Trade Restrictive Measures Against Bolivia and Georgia* (see **ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-19]**) lifting sanctions on bigeye tuna from Georgia and Bolivia based on measures taken in these countries to control their vessels, as reflected in the correspondence from these countries. Notwithstanding, the PWG agreed that the identification of both countries pursuant to Recommendation 06-13 should be maintained and that fishery activities should continue to be monitored to ensure that any future activities do not diminish the effectiveness of ICCAT conservation and management measures.

Cambodia: Cambodia’s identification status was maintained due to continued concerns about lack of response to ICCAT correspondence.

Colombia: Due to a lack of provision of data and information required pursuant to ICCAT Recommendation 03-20 and to all applicable ICCAT Recommendations, the PWG identified Colombia pursuant to Recommendation 06-13.

Decisions taken pursuant to review under Recommendation 06-13 are reflected in “Actions to be Taken in Relation to Non-Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities” (see **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 11**).

The Commission Chair’s letters to Bolivia, Cambodia, Colombia and Georgia are attached as **Appendix 3 to ANNEX 11**.

8. Requests for Cooperating Status

The Commission reviewed correspondence received from non-Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities that currently enjoy Cooperating Status and agreed to renew such status for Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Curaçao, and Guyana. Japan expressed gratitude for the report prepared by Chinese Taipei regarding bigeye tuna catches and trade but noted continued concern with the size composition of bigeye tuna exported by Chinese Taipei to Japan.

New requests for Cooperating Status were received from El Salvador and Surinam. Based on correspondence received from the requesting countries, the PWG granted Cooperating Status to Surinam, noting, however, that additional information required under Rec. 03-20 should be submitted prior to the 2012 annual meeting in order to ensure renewal of Cooperating Status. Cooperating Status was not granted to El Salvador due to the lack of sufficient information in its request for such status.

Several CPCs expressed concern about the rigor of ICCAT's review of requests for Cooperating Status in recent years and noted a recurring issue of applications for Cooperating Status that lack information required under ICCAT Rec. 03-20. One CPC suggested that ICCAT should consider the development of a model package to provide to prospective applicants to illustrate what information an application should contain.

Decisions regarding Cooperating Status are reflected in "Actions to be Taken in Relation to Non-Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities" (see **Appendix 2 to ANNEX 11**).

9. Election of Chair

Mr. Taoufik El Ktiri of Morocco was unanimously elected as the next chair of the PWG.

10. Other matters

10.1 Terms of Reference

The Chairs of the Compliance Committee and PWG proposed changes to the Terms of Reference for each of the two groups in order to more effectively conduct the work of the Commission. The Compliance Committee would focus on compliance with existing measures, and would include review of compliance by member CPCs, cooperating non-CPCs and other non-CPCs. The PWG's work would focus on improvements to data reporting and other requirements that are designed to improve the effectiveness of ICCAT conservation and management measures. The PWG approved its new terms of reference through the *Recommendation by ICCAT to Amend the Terms of Reference of the Permanent Working Group on the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG)* and forwarded them to the Commission plenary for adoption (see **ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-12]**).

10.2 Access agreements

The Chair referred to a proposal from the United States and the European Union that would require flag and coastal CPCs engaged in access agreements to provide information about the agreement, such as species, catch levels, identification of the quota to which the catches would apply, data and monitoring, control and surveillance measures under the agreement. While some concerns were expressed about the reporting burden for CPCs and the Secretariat, as well as about confidentiality issues, a number of CPCs noted that the proposal would provide for greater transparency and improved data reporting, particularly for coastal states who had received letters of concern or identification under the Compliance Committee procedures. The proposal was edited to ensure that information provided under the Recommendation would be consistent with domestic confidentiality requirements, and the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Access Agreements* was approved and forwarded to the Commission plenary for adoption (see **ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-16]**).

10.3 By-catch

The Chair referred to a proposal from the United States, Brazil, Canada, and the European Union that would require reporting of discards and bycatch of species caught in association with fisheries managed by ICCAT, with a view to standardizing all such data provision requirements under one recommendation. It was noted that the measure reflects recommendations from the Kobe By-catch Technical Working Group meeting held prior to Kobe III. Some delegations expressed concern about the increased reporting burden required for CPCs as well as the Secretariat, and the need to focus on compliance with existing reporting measures rather than create new ones. Others felt this measure was an important step forward in improving data and implementing an ecosystem approach to fisheries management. The proposal was revised to reflect existing requirements for by-catch reporting, including Recommendation 10-10 on scientific observer programs, and the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Information Collection and Harmonization of Data on By-catch Discards in ICCAT Fisheries* was approved and forwarded to the Commission plenary for adoption (see **ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-10]**).

10.4 Traceability of tuna products

The Chair referred to a resolution proposed by Japan regarding traceability of tuna products. The resolution reflects continued concerns about IUU fishing and the potential use of a traceability system to address loopholes in current catch and trade tracking schemes. While several CPCs recognized that such a system could be useful in certain cases, concerns were expressed about expansion in documentation or traceability schemes to tuna

fisheries where the administrative burdens could exceed the benefits of the program. In addition, it was noted that “one size fits all” does not apply to traceability systems. Although some had doubts that a resolution on this issue was needed as the issue could simply be reflected in the meeting report, the PWG approved the proposal with a view to continuing the discussion of traceability at an intersessional meeting on integrated monitoring measures in 2012. The *Resolution by ICCAT on Traceability of tuna Products* was forwarded to the Commission plenary for adoption (see **ANNEX 6 [Res. 11-22]**).

10.5 Penalties for non-fulfillment of reporting obligations

Given continued concerns about the lack of data reporting by numerous CPCs, a draft recommendation calling for penalties for non-fulfillment of reporting obligations was proposed by the European Union. The recommendation calls for the COC to review cases in which required data were not provided. In cases where CPCs do not or incompletely report Task I data in a given year, retention of the species concerned shall be prohibited in the following year until such data are reported. Although there was general agreement with the measure, in principle, some concerns were expressed that the measure could be difficult to implement effectively and the issue might need to be revisited once the Commission had some experience with its use. The PWG approved the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Penalties Applicable in Case of non-Fulfillment of Reporting Obligations* and forwarded it to the Commission plenary for adoption (see **ANNEX 5 [Rec. 11-15]**).

10.6 Kobe III matters

The Chair recalled the recommendations from the Third Joint Meeting of the Tuna RFMOs (Kobe III) that are most pertinent to the responsibilities of the PWG. It was noted that modifications made to Recommendation 09-10 (see **ANNEX 5 [Rec 11-18]**) were in the spirit of these recommendations for addressing IUU as well as port State measures. Also in furtherance of Kobe III recommendations, a discussion paper entitled “Advancing ICCAT Consideration of the Development of a Unique Vessel Identifier (UVI)” was introduced by the United States. The paper requests the ICCAT Secretariat to update its 2008 paper on UVI to reflect recent developments on this subject, calls on CPCs to assess the feasibility of collecting additional vessel information identified by IHS Fairplay as necessary for producing a UVI, and suggests that further work on UVI could be undertaken at an inter-sessional meeting of ICCAT’s Working Group on Integrated Monitoring Measures (IMM). The paper is appended to the PWG report as **Appendix 5 to ANNEX 11**. With regard to port State measures, also addressed by Kobe III recommendations, the PWG decided to leave this issue open and defer discussion of the 2010 “Draft Recommendation by ICCAT on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing” for the time being. Instead, discussion focused on options for strengthening ICCAT port State measures through amendment of existing ICCAT measures, including ICCAT’s *Recommendation for an ICCAT Port Inspection Scheme* [Rec. 97-10], and a number of CPCs were of the view that consideration of this issue should continue at a 2012 inter-sessional meeting of the IMM Working Group.

11. Adoption of the report and adjournment

Given time constraints, the PWG agreed to adopt its report by correspondence. The Chair noted the very heavy workload of the PWG and thanked the delegations for their constructiveness. She also expressed her warm appreciation to the ICCAT Secretariat and the interpreters for their excellent support of the meeting.

The Chair adjourned the meeting.

The Report of the PWG was adopted by correspondence.

Appendix 1 to ANNEX 11**Agenda**

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Appointment of the Rapporteur
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Implementation and functioning of Statistical and BFT Catch Document Programs
5. Outcome of the eBCD Working Group
6. Review and development of the IUU vessel list and revision of Rec. 09-10
7. Review of cooperation by non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities and determination of actions to be taken under the 2006 *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Trade Measures* [Rec. 06-13]
8. Requests for Cooperating Status
9. Election of Chair
10. Other matters
 - 10.1 Terms of Reference
 - 10.2 Access agreements
 - 10.3 By-catch
 - 10.4 Traceability of tuna products
 - 10.5 Penalties for non-fulfillment of reporting obligations
 - 10.6 Kobe III matters
11. Adoption of the report and adjournment

Actions to be Taken in Relation to Non-Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities

	<i>2010 Actions</i>	<i>Direct response to Secretariat's letter</i>	<i>Catch data reported</i>	<i>SDP validation information provided</i>	<i>Reported as IUU under 09-11</i>	<i>Unreported Atlantic catch estimates from SDP 2010/11</i>	<i>Unreported catch estimate from other trade data</i>	<i>Observations/ other information</i>	<i>2011 Actions</i>
REVIEW OF COOPERATING NON-CONTRACTING PARTIES, ENTITIES OR FISHING ENTITIES UNDER ICCAT REC. 03-20									
CHINESE TAIPEI	Cooperating Status renewed. Secretariat to send letter informing Chinese Taipei of this. Japan and Chinese Taipei to work bilaterally on concerns over bigeye catch size composition.	Chinese Taipei submitted a document to PWG in relation to BET size composition.	Yes	Yes	No	No	No		Cooperating status renewed and Chinese Taipei to continue bilateral work with Japan on remaining concerns of BET size composition.
COLOMBIA	Cooperating Status renewed but concerns expressed over lack of data submission or response from Colombia. Indicate that failure to respond may result in cooperating status being revoked.	Not received.	No	No	Yes, one vessel on IATTC list transposed to ICCAT IUU list.	No	No		Commission renewed cooperating status but reiterated concern about lack of information from Colombia required for consideration of cooperating status under ICCAT Rec. 03-20, and reiterated request for information on ICCAT species caught and third Party vessels authorized to fish for ICCAT species in Colombian waters.
GUYANA	Cooperating Status renewed but concerns expressed over late submission of report and lack of data. Indicate that more information and timely data will be required in 2011 or cooperating status may be revoked.	Not applicable.	No	No/not applicable (no export of these species).	No	No	No		Cooperating status renewed.
CURAÇAO	Cooperating status renewed and transferred to Curaçao (formerly granted to Netherlands Antilles).	Not applicable.	No	Yes	No	No	No		Cooperating status renewed.

SURINAM									Commission granted request for cooperating status but noted that additional information required under Rec. 03-20 should be submitted prior to the 2012 annual meeting in order to ensure renewal of cooperating status.
EL SALVADOR									Commission did not grant request for cooperating status due to the lack of sufficient information required to be submitted under Rec. 03-20.

REVIEW OF NON-CONTRACTING PARTIES, ENTITIES OR FISHING ENTITIES UNDER ICCAT REC. 06-13

	<i>2010 Actions</i>	<i>Direct response to Chair's letter</i>	<i>Catch data reported</i>	<i>SDP validation information provided</i>	<i>Vessel listed as IUU under 09-11</i>	<i>Unreported Atlantic catch estimates from SDP 2010/11</i>	<i>Unreported catch estimate from other trade data</i>	<i>Observations/ other information</i>	<i>2011 Actions</i>
BOLIVIA	Sanctions maintained. Letter to Bolivia asking them for their efforts and responses and request details of all regulations and other controls in place for review in 2011.	Yes (see PWG-403).	No	No	No	No	No		Lift sanctions but maintain identification status during one year to monitor possible activities.
CAMBODIA	Identification maintained. Letter soliciting response. Failure to answer may result in the Commission considering additional actions.	Email acknowledging receipt and requesting copies of Recs., but no response received.	No	No	No	No	No		Maintain identification and request response to concerns and to possible implication in purse seine transshipment activity in the Gulf of Guinea.
GEORGIA	Sanctions maintained. Further letters to Georgia requesting response to Commission's concerns.	Yes (see PWG-403).	No	No	No. Vessel on IOTC IUU list previously flagged to Georgia. Current flag unknown.	No	No		Lift sanctions and maintain identification status for one year.
COLOMBIA			No	No	Yes. <i>Marta Lucia R.</i> listed pursuant to recognition of listing on IATTC IUU list.	No	No		Identified due to the lack of submission of data and reports required of ICCAT CPCs under applicable ICCAT recommendations.

Appendix 3 to ANNEX 11

**Commission Chairman's Letter to
Non-Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities*****1. Bolivia: Lifting of sanctions in 2012***

On behalf of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), I am writing to inform you that, at the 2011 annual meeting, the Commission took the decision to lift its recommendation concerning the prohibition of the importation of bigeye tuna and its products in any form from Bolivia by ICCAT Contracting Parties, as well as those non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities with Cooperating Status. The *Recommendation by ICCAT Regarding Bolivia Pursuant to the 1998 Resolution Concerning the Unreported and Unregulated Catches of Tuna by Large-scale Longline Vessels in the Convention Area* [Rec. 02-17] is therefore withdrawn. This decision was reflected through the adoption of the *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Lifting of Trade Restrictive Measures on Bolivia and Georgia* (copy attached).

Notwithstanding, the Commission also decided to maintain in 2012 the identification status for Bolivia in order to monitor the activities of Bolivia and its vessels and to ensure that these activities do not undermine the effectiveness of ICCAT conservation and management measures. This decision was taken in accordance with the provisions of the *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Trade Measures* [Rec. 06-13].

The Commission therefore requests Bolivia to provide any available information concerning statistical data of catches and of exports of bigeye tuna from the Atlantic, Indian or Pacific oceans, in accordance with the provisions of the *Recommendation Establishing a Bigeye Statistical Document Programme* [Rec. 01-21], and on actions taken to control its vessels to ensure that ICCAT rules are not contravened.

In order to consider the identification status of Bolivia during the Commission's 2012 annual meeting, tentatively scheduled to be held from 12 to 19 November 2012, we would be grateful to receive the required information at least 30 days prior to that meeting. If the Commission is satisfied that Bolivia has demonstrated positive action, the identification may be lifted at that time.

In closing, the Commission would like to invite Bolivia to participate in the aforementioned 2012 ICCAT meeting as an observer. Furthermore, the Commission would remind Bolivia that it can join ICCAT or seek cooperating status if Bolivia maintains an interest in exploiting species under the purview of ICCAT. With respect to requesting cooperating status, I would draw your attention to the provisions of the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Criteria for Attaining the Status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party, Entity, or Fishing Entity in ICCAT* [Rec. 03-20].

Please note that all ICCAT Recommendations and Resolutions can be downloaded from the ICCAT web site, www.iccat.int, or are available from the ICCAT Secretariat on request (info@iccat.int).

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please accept assurances of my highest consideration.

2. Cambodia: Continuing identification status

On behalf of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), I am writing to inform you that, at its 22nd Regular Meeting (11-19 November 2011, Istanbul, Turkey), the Commission decided to continue to identify Cambodia in accordance with the *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Trade Measures* [Rec. 06-13].

As you will recall, Cambodia was identified in 2006 because of concern about possible IUU activities of fishing vessels flying its flag. The Commission was encouraged by the correspondence maintained with the Secretariat in 2009 and is grateful for some efforts made by Cambodia. However, we note that Cambodia did not respond to the additional requests for information contained in ICCAT's letters of 16 December 2009, 4 October 2010 and 18 January 2011. In the absence of a response from Cambodia with additional requested information, the Commission decided to maintain Cambodia's identification.

Furthermore, the Commission expressed its serious concern about possible transshipment activities by Cambodian purse seiners in the Gulf of Guinea.

We would therefore be grateful to receive detailed information regarding these alleged transshipments in the Gulf of Guinea and any responsive actions taken by Cambodia; Cambodia's monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) measures; and Cambodia's process and rules for vessel registration. The Commission will again review the situation of Cambodia at its next meeting, tentatively scheduled to be held from 12 to 19 November 2012. Information relative to these matters should, therefore, be submitted to ICCAT at least 30 days prior to that meeting. The Commission sincerely hopes that the information requested can be supplied by that time, in order to reach a positive decision in relation to Cambodia.

In closing, the Commission would like to invite Cambodia to participate in the 2012 ICCAT meeting as an observer. Information concerning this meeting will be forwarded in due course. Further, the Commission would remind Cambodia that it can join ICCAT or seek Cooperating Status if Cambodia maintains an interest in exploiting species under the purview of ICCAT. With respect to requesting Cooperating Status, I would draw your attention to the provisions of the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Criteria for Attaining the Status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party, Entity, or Fishing Entity in ICCAT* [Rec. 03-20].

Please note that all ICCAT Recommendations and Resolutions can be downloaded from the ICCAT web site, www.iccat.int or are available from the ICCAT Secretariat on request (info@iccat.int).

Thank you for your attention to these important matters. Please accept assurances of my highest consideration.

3. Colombia: Renewal of Cooperating Status; Letter of Identification

On behalf of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), I am writing to inform you that, at its 22nd Regular Meeting (11-19 November 2011, Istanbul, Turkey), the Commission decided to renew the Cooperating Status for Colombia and to identify Colombia in accordance with the *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Trade Measures* [Rec. 06-13].

On renewing Cooperating Status for Colombia, the Commission expressed its concern over the lack of information from Colombia in its response to letters from the Commission in 2011 and previous years. As requested in 2011, the Commission would be grateful to receive detailed information as stipulated in ICCAT Recommendation 03-20 (<http://www.iccat.int/Documents/Recs/compendiopdf-e/2003-20-e.pdf>) and, in particular, on ICCAT species caught as well as on third Party vessels authorized to fish for ICCAT species in Colombian waters.

Notwithstanding the Commission's decision to renew Colombia's Cooperating Status, the Commission also decided to identify Colombia in accordance with the *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Trade Measures* [Rec. 06-13] due to the Commission's determination that Colombia did not provide all necessary data and reports required of ICCAT CPCs under other applicable ICCAT recommendations, including:

- Task I and Task II data not submitted
- Annual report not submitted
- Compliance tables not submitted

Problems with lack of reporting, late submission, incomplete reporting, and poor data quality continue to impede the work of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) in performing stock assessments and in formulating management advice. Late or incomplete reporting causes difficulties for the Secretariat in preparing documents for the Commission and its panels and committees, and reduces the efficiency of the Commission. Furthermore, lack of compliance with statistical reporting obligations often reflects CPC deficiencies in enforcing, reporting, and monitoring their fisheries.

The Commission will reconsider Colombia's Cooperating Status and identification under the trade measures recommendation at the Commission's next meeting, scheduled tentatively to be held from 12 to 19 November 2012.

With regard to cooperating status, information requested by the Commission and required pursuant to the provisions of Rec. 03-20 should be submitted to ICCAT at least 30 days prior to that meeting. In the event that

this information is not received, the Commission may re-consider its decision and revoke Colombia's Cooperating Status at its 2012 meeting.

With regard to Colombia's identification under the trade measures recommendation, information required by ICCAT should be submitted in accordance with the format and deadline stipulated in applicable ICCAT recommendations. In the case of continued failure to report required information to the Commission, the Compliance Committee may recommend more serious actions at its 2012 meeting, including the revocation of cooperating status, restriction of fishing opportunities, and trade prohibitions.

Please note that all information required by the Commission, as well as the reporting formats can be found on the ICCAT web site on <http://www.iccat.int/en/SubmitCOMP.htm> and <http://www.iccat.int/en/submitSTAT.htm>. In addition, all ICCAT conservation and management measures currently in force can be consulted on <http://www.iccat.int/en/RecsRegs.asp>, or are available from the ICCAT Secretariat on request (info@iccat.int).

Please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat for any additional clarifications you may require in this regard. Thank you for your attention to these important matters. Please accept assurances of my highest consideration.

4. Georgia: Lifting of sanctions, maintaining identification status

On behalf of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), I am writing to inform you that, at its 22nd Regular meeting (11-19 November 2011, Istanbul, Turkey) the Commission took the decision to lift its recommendation concerning the prohibition of the importation of bigeye tuna and its products in any form from Georgia by ICCAT Contracting Parties, as well as those non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities with Cooperating Status. The *Recommendation by ICCAT Regarding Bigeye Tuna Trade Restrictive Measures on Georgia* [Rec. 03-18] is therefore withdrawn. This decision was reflected through the adoption of the *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Lifting of Trade Restrictive Measures on Bolivia and Georgia* (copy attached).

Notwithstanding, the Commission also decided to maintain in 2012 the identification status for Georgia in order to monitor the activities of Georgia and its vessels and to ensure that these activities do not undermine the effectiveness of ICCAT conservation and management measures. This decision was taken in accordance with the provisions of ICCAT's *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Trade Measures* [Rec. 06-13].

The Commission therefore requests Georgia to provide any additional available information relating to fishing activities for ICCAT species by its vessels or in its waters and actions taken to control its vessels at least 30 days before the next Commission meeting, tentatively scheduled to be held from 12 to 19 November 2012, to enable the Commission to reconsider this status at its next annual meeting. If the Commission is satisfied that Georgia has demonstrated positive action, the identification may be lifted at that time.

The Commission would like to thank Georgia for its attendance at the 2011 ICCAT meeting and invite Georgia to participate in the 2012 ICCAT meeting as an observer. Information concerning that meeting will be furnished in due course. Furthermore, the Commission would remind Georgia that it can join ICCAT or seek cooperating status if Georgia has an interest in exploiting species under the purview of ICCAT. With respect to requesting cooperating status, I would draw your attention to the provisions of the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Criteria for Attaining the Status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party, Entity, or Fishing Entity in ICCAT* [Rec. 03-20].

Please note that all ICCAT Recommendations and Resolutions can be downloaded from the ICCAT web site, www.iccat.int or are available from the ICCAT Secretariat on request (info@iccat.int).

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please accept assurances of my highest consideration,

Appendix 4 to ANNEX 11

List of Vessels Presumed to Have Carried out IUU Fishing Activities in the ICCAT Convention Area and Other Areas *

<i>Serial Number</i>	<i>Lloyds/IMO Number</i>	<i>Reporting CPC/RFMO</i>	<i>Date Informed</i>	<i>Reference #</i>	<i>Current Flag</i>	<i>Previous Flag</i>	<i>Name of Vessel (Latin)</i>	<i>Name (Previous)</i>	<i>Call Sign</i>	<i>Owner/Operator Name</i>	<i>Owner/Operator Address</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Gear</i>
20040005	Not available	JAPAN - sighting of tuna longliner in the Convention area, not on ICCAT Record of Vessels.	24/08/2004	1788	Unknown	Unknown	BRAVO	No info	T8AN3	No info	No info	ATLAN	
20040006	Not available	JAPAN - Reefer company provided documents showing frozen tuna had been transhipped.	16/11/2004	PWG-122	Unknown	Unknown	OCEAN DIAMOND	No info	No info	No info	No info	ATLAN	
20040007	Not available	JAPAN - Communication between fishing vessel and reefer company indicated tuna species had been taken in the Atlantic.	16/11/2004	PWG-122	Unknown	Unknown	MADURA 2	No info	No info	(P.T. PROVISIT)	(Indonesia)	ATLAN	

* The background information concerning the IATTC and IOTC IUU lists are available in electronic format, downloadable from the password protected ICCAT web site.

<i>Serial Number</i>	<i>Lloyds/IMO Number</i>	<i>Reporting CPC/RFMO</i>	<i>Date Informed</i>	<i>Reference #</i>	<i>Current Flag</i>	<i>Previous Flag</i>	<i>Name of Vessel (Latin)</i>	<i>Name (Previous)</i>	<i>Call Sign</i>	<i>Owner/ Operator Name</i>	<i>Owner/ Operator Address</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Gear</i>
20040008	Not available	JAPAN - Communication between fishing vessel and reefer company indicated tuna species had been taken in the Atlantic	16/11/2004	PWG-122	Unknown	Unknown	MADURA 3	No info	No info	(P.T. PROVISIT)	(Indonesia)		
20050001	Not available	BRAZIL - fishing in Brazilian waters with no licence.	03/08/2005	1615	Unknown	Saint Vincent & Grenadines	SOUTHERN STAR 136	HSIANG CHANG	No info	Kuo Jeng Marine Services Limited	Port of Spain Trinidad & Tobago	ATLAN	
20060001	Not available	SOUTH AFRICA - vessel had no VMS, suspected of having no tuna licence and of possible at-sea transhipments.	23/10/2006	2431	Unknown	Unknown	BIGEYE	No info	FN 003883	No info	No info	Unknown	
20060002	Not available	SOUTH AFRICA - vessel had no VMS, suspected of having no tuna licence and of possible at-sea transhipments.	23/10/2006	2431	Unknown	Unknown	MARIA	No info	FN 003882	No info	No info	Unknown	
20060003	Not available	EU - Vessel greater than 24m not included in ICCAT Record of Vessels. Seen fishing in the MED during closed season.	16/10/2006	2259	Unknown	Panama	NO. 101 GLORIA	GOLDEN LAKE	No info	No info	No info	MEDI	

<i>Serial Number</i>	<i>Lloyds/IMO Number</i>	<i>Reporting CPC/RFMO</i>	<i>Date Informed</i>	<i>Reference #</i>	<i>Current Flag</i>	<i>Previous Flag</i>	<i>Name of Vessel (Latin)</i>	<i>Name (Previous)</i>	<i>Call Sign</i>	<i>Owner/ Operator Name</i>	<i>Owner/ Operator Address</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Gear</i>
20060004	Not available	EU - Vessel greater than 24m not included in ICCAT Record of Vessels. Seen fishing in the MED during closed season.	16/10/2006	2259	Unknown	Panama	MELILLA NO. 103	No info	No info	No info	No info	MEDI	
20060005	Not available	EU – Vessel greater than 24m not included in ICCAT Record of Vessels. Seen fishing in the MED during closed season.	16/10/2006	2259	Unknown	Panama	MELILLA NO. 101	No info	No info	No info	No info	MEDI	
20060007	Not available	EU – Vessel greater than 24m not included in ICCAT Record of Vessels. Seen fishing in the MED during closed season.	16/10/2006	2259	Unknown	Panama	LILA NO. 10	No info	No info	No info	No info	MEDI	
20060008	Not available	EU – Vessel greater than 24m not included in ICCAT Record of Vessels. Seen fishing in the MED during closed season.	16/10/2006	2259	Unknown	Honduras	NO. 2 CHOYU	No info	No info	No info	No info	MEDI	

<i>Serial Number</i>	<i>Lloyds/IMO Number</i>	<i>Reporting CPC/RFMO</i>	<i>Date Informed</i>	<i>Reference #</i>	<i>Current Flag</i>	<i>Previous Flag</i>	<i>Name of Vessel (Latin)</i>	<i>Name (Previous)</i>	<i>Call Sign</i>	<i>Owner/Operator Name</i>	<i>Owner/Operator Address</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Gear</i>
20060009	Not available	EU – Vessel greater than 24m not included in ICCAT Record of Vessels. Seen fishing in the MED during closed season.	16/10/2006	2259	Unknown	Honduras	ACROS NO. 3	No info	No info	No info	No info	MEDI	
20060010	Not available	EU – Vessel greater than 24m not included in ICCAT Record of Vessels. Seen fishing in the MED during closed season.	16/10/2006	2259	Unknown	Honduras	ACROS NO. 2	No info	No info	No info	No info	MEDI	
20060011	Not available	EU – Vessel greater than 24m not included in ICCAT Record of Vessels. Seen fishing in the MED during closed season.	16/10/2006	2259	Unknown	Honduras	NO. 3 CHOYU	No info	No info	No info	No info	MEDI	
20060012	Not available	EU – Vessel greater than 24m not included in ICCAT Record of Vessels. Seen fishing in the MED during closed season.	16/10/2006	2259	Unknown	Honduras	ORIENTE NO.7	No info	No info	No info	No info	MEDI	

<i>Serial Number</i>	<i>Lloyds/IMO Number</i>	<i>Reporting CPC/RFMO</i>	<i>Date Informed</i>	<i>Reference #</i>	<i>Current Flag</i>	<i>Previous Flag</i>	<i>Name of Vessel (Latin)</i>	<i>Name (Previous)</i>	<i>Call Sign</i>	<i>Owner/ Operator Name</i>	<i>Owner/ Operator Address</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Gear</i>
20080001	Not available (previously on ICCAT record as AT000GUI00002).	Japan- Bluefin tuna caught and exported without quota	14/11/2008	COC-311/2008 and Circular 767/10	Guinea Rep	Rep. of Guinea	DANIAA	CARLOS	3X07QMC	Alpha Camara (Guinean company)	No info	E-ATL or MEDI	LL
20080004	Not available (former ICCAT Register number AT000LIB00039).	ICCAT Chairman information	27/06/2008	1226	Unknown	Libya (previously British)	SHARON 1	MANARA 1 (previously POSEIDON)	No info	Manarat Al Sahil Fishing Company	Al Dahrs. Ben Walid Street	MEDI	PS
200800005	Not available (former ICCAT Register number AT000LIB00041).	ICCAT Chairman information	27/06/2008	1226	Unknown	Libya (Previously Isle of Man)	GALA I	MANARA II (previously ROAGAN)	No info	Manarat Al Sahil Fishing Company	Al Dahrs. Ben Walid Street	MEDI	PS
20090001	7826233	IOTC. Contravention of IOTC Resolutions 02/04, 02/05 and 03/05.	13/04/2009	E09-1304	Unknown	Equatorial Guinea	OCEAN LION	No info	No info	No info	No info	IN	
20090002	Not available	IOTC Contravention of IOTC Resolution 07/02.	13/04/2009	E09-1304	Unknown	Georgia	YU MAAN WON	No info	No info	No info	No info	IN	

<i>Serial Number</i>	<i>Lloyds/IMO Number</i>	<i>Reporting CPC/RFMO</i>	<i>Date Informed</i>	<i>Reference #</i>	<i>Current Flag</i>	<i>Previous Flag</i>	<i>Name of Vessel (Latin)</i>	<i>Name (Previous)</i>	<i>Call Sign</i>	<i>Owner/ Operator Name</i>	<i>Owner/ Operator Address</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Gear</i>
20090003	Not available	IOTC Contravention of IOTC Resolution 07/02.	13/04/2009	E09-1304	Unknown	Unknown	GUNUAR MELYAN 21	No info	No info	No info	No info	IN	
20100004	Not available	IOTC Contravention of IOTC Resolution 09/03.	07/07/2010	E10-2860	Unknown	Malaysia	HOOM XIANG 11			Hoom Xiang Industries Sdn. Bhd.			
20110001		IATTC	30/08/2011	E11-5762	Bolivia	Unknown	MAR CANTABRICO		CPA-554	Ocean Pacific Fishing Company, Inc	Urb. Obarrio Edificio Marfil, Panamá	PACIFIC	PS
20110002		IATTC	30/08/2011	E11-5762	Colombia		MARTA LUCIA R			Tuna Atlantic, Ltd.		PACIFIC	PS
20110003		IATTC	30/08/2011	E11-5762	Georgia		NEPTUNE		4LOG	Space Energy Enterprise Company, Ltd.		PACIFIC	LL
20110004		IATTC	30/08/2011	E11-5762	Indonesia		BHINEKA		YGJY			PACIFIC	LL
20110005		IATTC	30/08/2011	E11-5762	Indonesia		HIROYOSHI 17					PACIFIC	LL
20110006		IATTC	30/08/2011	E11-5762	Indonesia		JIMMY WIJAYA 35					PACIFIC	LL
20110007		IATTC	30/08/2011	E11-5762	Indonesia		PERMATA 1					PACIFIC	LL
20110008		IATTC	30/08/2011	E11-5762	Indonesia		PERMATA 2					PACIFIC	LL

<i>Serial Number</i>	<i>Lloyds/IMO Number</i>	<i>Reporting CPC/RFMO</i>	<i>Date Informed</i>	<i>Reference #</i>	<i>Current Flag</i>	<i>Previous Flag</i>	<i>Name of Vessel (Latin)</i>	<i>Name (Previous)</i>	<i>Call Sign</i>	<i>Owner/ Operator Name</i>	<i>Owner/ Operator Address</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Gear</i>
20110009		IATTC	30/08/2011	E11-5762	Indonesia		PERMATA 6					PACIFIC	LL
20110010		IATTC	30/08/2011	E11-5762	Indonesia		PERMATA 8					PACIFIC	LL
20110011		IATTC	30/08/2011	E11-5762	Unknown	Indonesia	BHASKARA NO. 10					PACIFIC	LL
20110012		IATTC	30/08/2011	E11-5762	Unknown	Indonesia	BHASKARA NO.9					PACIFIC	LL
20110013		IATTC	30/08/2011	E11-5762	Unknown		CAMELOT					PACIFIC	LL
20110014		IATTC	30/08/2011	E11-5762	Unknown	Belize	CHIA HAO NO. 66	CHIA HAO NO. 66	V3IN2	Song Maw Fishery, S.A.	Calle 78E Casa No. 30 Loma alegre, San Francisco, Panamá	PACIFIC	LL

Photograph available: Serial number 20050001



Appendix 5 to ANNEX 11**Advancing ICCAT Consideration of the Development
of a Unique Vessel Identifier (UVI)**

Outcomes of all three joint meetings of T-RFMOs (Kobe process) reflect a commitment by members of the five T-RFMOs to work towards a consolidated list of authorized tuna-fishing vessels through the development of unique vessel identifiers (UVIs). Relevant Kobe outcomes are attached in **Appendix A**^{*}. In furtherance of Kobe outcomes, this paper suggests steps that could be taken by ICCAT to advance discussions of the development of an ICCAT Unique Vessel Identifier scheme.

ICCAT's consideration of this issue can be informed by two papers previously circulated to ICCAT CPCs that outline a series of steps that could be taken by ICCAT in coordination with IHS Fairplay:

- *Unique Vessel Identifier (UVI) for Tuna Fishing Vessels and Harmonization of t-RFMO Vessel Lists*, Jointly Prepared by the Five Secretariats (2009), attached as **Appendix B**^{*}
- *Draft Harmonization of Unique Vessel Identifiers among RFMOs*, ICCAT Secretariat (2008), attached as **Appendix C**^{*}

As a first step, ICCAT could request the Secretariat to update the 2008 ICCAT paper to reflect any changes in relevant measures adopted by ICCAT and other T-RFMOs, and to add information on relevant international developments on this issue in recent years. Next, over the 2011-2012 inter-sessional period ICCAT CPCs could review the additional data fields identified by IHS Fairplay in the 2008 ICCAT paper to determine the feasibility of collecting those data that are not currently collected by ICCAT under existing vessel list measures. CPCs could then take up a more detailed, technical discussion of UVI at a 2012 inter-sessional meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Monitoring Measures and/or at the 2012 ICCAT annual meeting.

Appendix 6 to ANNEX 11**The Electronic Bluefin Tuna Catch Document Programme (eBCD)
Discussion Points and the Next Steps**

Following the work of the eBCD Group and system design and costs estimates presented in the feasibility study, the following discussions points are presented to the PWG concerning the next steps in the implementation of the eBCD Programme.

All technical options and their associated financial costs have been explored in terms of functionality required, work loads and existing systems of the Secretariat and user simplicity, data security and cost efficiency.

Suggested approach and summary of system specifications:

- A centralised database system shall be hosted on behalf of the ICCAT Secretariat accessed by all respective users by secure web-based technology. Management of the system shall be responsibility of the Secretariat.
- User access and, what each user is able to do in the system will be restricted, such that an authorised fisherman can only enter catch data for the vessel to which they are registered and only a validating authority can validate. The system will be based on standard web based technology and users need only an internet connection and the relevant security access (allocated by his/her CPC authority).

^{*} Appendices A, B and C can be downloaded from: <http://www.tuna-org.org/Kobe3.htm>

- The final system will cover all aspects and traceability requirements based on the BCD programme and have the facility for error detection and alerts when ICCAT conservation and management measures have been breached and automatic generation of other ICCAT reporting requirements.
- Entries will be made by users directly into the system through an online interface requiring a digital validation by their respective CPC authorities. Regional Observers will be able to sign digitally in the system in accordance with the tolerances provided under Recommendation [10-04].
- In the event that internet access is interrupted on a fishing vessel or a vessel/trap does not have access, the system shall allow the information to be entered by the representative of the operator ashore. The system will also accommodate the particularities of sport and recreational catches and by-catch.
- In the case of live transfers operations, the system would allow for multiple transfers of fish. When no internet access is available at the tug vessel again entries can be undertaken prior to caging by the tug master / representative.
- The system will simplify entries relating to transfer and farming activities including carry-over and the various combinations of imports, exports and lot shipments.
- CPCs shall designate and transmit to the ICCAT Secretariat or upload directly into the system the list of entitled users.

Implementation:

- On the basis of the specifications and costs estimates provided in the feasibility report the Secretariat shall create the technical Terms of Reference and launch an open tender for system development before 1 January 2012.
- Tenders shall be assessed technically and financially by an evaluation Committee comprising interested CPCs and the ICCAT Secretariat.
- Following a period of initial software development estimated to be around four months, and in parallel with further system development over a period of up to two years, a pilot testing phase will be undertaken throughout 2012 and early 2013.
- Pilot testing will be with CPCs on a voluntary basis across the range of actions required in the programme. All CPCs concerned shall submit concerned data sets in electronic formats to enhance this phase.
- The full implementation of the eBCD system shall therefore be extended from 1 March 2012 as laid down in Recommendation [10-11] so as to be fully operational for the 2013 purse seine fishing season. A level of flexibility will need to be maintained based on the results of the pilot phase.
- In the meantime, the current BCD programme provided by Recommendation [09-11] will continue to be fully implemented by all CPCs.

Costs:

- Options for development and maintenance costs between importing/exporting CPCs were discussed including a division of costs by those CPCs concerned with bluefin tuna in accordance with the TAC allocation scheme.
- The pilot testing phase could be paid by CPCs through the establishment of an eBCD fund in accordance with the allocation scheme used for the bluefin tuna TAC.
- The payment system shall be uniform across CPCs to minimize administration for the Secretariat to the extent possible.

Appendix 7 to ANNEX 11**Statement by the Observer from Surinam to PWG**

On behalf of the Republic of Surinam, I would like to use this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to the government and people of Turkey for hosting the 22nd Regular Meeting of the Commission in the beautiful city of Istanbul. The Republic of Surinam would also like to express our deepest sympathy and sorry to the families and loved ones of those who were killed in the recent earthquakes in the eastern province of Van. Our thoughts are with the Turkish people during this difficult time.

Surinam's interest in Cooperating Party status is based on the fact that several foreign-flagged longline vessels have begun to land tuna and tuna-like species at our main landing port in the capital of Paramaribo. Hence, Surinam submitted an application for Cooperating Party status to ICCAT via letter of 11 July 2011, which was sent to ICCAT Secretariat. ICCAT then requested additional information, and such information was transmitted to ICCAT by official letter dated 1 November 2011. In particular, Suriname provided further details on our catches, data collection and fisheries inspections.

Regarding data collection, at present, yellowfin tuna is the most important species landed. It should be noted that two fisheries inspectors are permanently based at the central fisheries port of Paramaribo for data collection purposes. The Institute for Fisheries Inspection (VKI) conducts inspections on all fish landings, which are exported.

The Customs Authority is also based permanently at the central harbour. Surinam hereby declares our willingness and commitment to cooperate fully with ICCAT in your endeavours for improvement of data collection and your efforts to achieve sustainable management of tuna and tuna-like species.

Appendix 8 to ANNEX 11**Joint Statement by the Observers from CIPS and IGFA to PWG**

The International Confederation of Sport Fishing (CIPS) has taken careful note of the SCRS Report, in particular the recommendations of the Sub-Committee on Statistics about recreational and sport fishing, noting that despite requests from SCRS, a lot of data concerning this fishery is still not known today.

Furthermore, it is obvious in the Annual Reports of the CPCs that, in spite of the request from ICCAT, the reports of data for this fishery still have not evolved sufficiently, either because some CPCs do not have necessary infrastructures to collect these data, or they have the infrastructures but they do not use them.

Thus, it is important that the information requested by the Sub-Committee on Statistics be provided as soon as possible to better know the impact of the retrievals made by these fisheries.

We believe that the working group has offered its knowledge to the CPCs that have difficulties collecting the data requested.

In our view, the collection of these data and the socio-economic importance of this fishery would show, as some studies have already found, that the retrievals are minor but their socio-economic weight is important. It should be noted that it participates in tagging campaigns and therefore should be integrated in the management of the seas and oceans. We urge all CPC to co-operate with ICCAT for better understanding the real impact of this fishery.

This statement was made in partnership with the IGFA.