



27th regular ICCAT Meeting Final Plenary Statement by Pro Wildlife

Pro Wildlife regrets that **Recommendation PA4-807** has not been accepted, as only a fins-naturally-attached policy enables proper enforcement in shark fisheries.

With regards to **Recommendation PA4-809D**:

Pro Wildlife applauds Canada, Gabon, Senegal and the UK for their engagement to finally achieve measures to enable a rebuilding of the North Atlantic shortfin mako shark. This is a huge step forward into the right direction – after years of controversial debates.

While a maximum landing quota of 250 tons is an impressive achievement, compared to catch volumes in the past, we are, however, disappointed that Panel 4 did not follow the scientific advice for an immediate retention ban or at least a maximum catch quota, which would ensure a 70% probability of success by 2070.

We fear that a maximum total catch of 250 tons per year is hardly to enforce. However, we welcome an interim retention ban for 2022, especially as the CITES Authorities of the European Union since January 2021 already have banned a landing of North Atlantic mako sharks introduced from the Sea, in the absence of solid Non-Detriment Finding.

We also wish to highlight that without a proper reporting of discards any future sustainable management of the mako shark will fail. Accordingly, the main mako fishing CPCs in the North Atlantic, Morocco and the EU (for Spain and Portugal) are urged to report their discard data.

Finally, we urge CPCs to continue efforts to achieve a science-based TAC for South Atlantic mako sharks.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our views.