

**Explanatory note on the Draft Recommendation by ICCAT amending Recommendation 21-04 by ICCAT on conservation and management measures, including a Management Procedure and Exceptional Circumstances protocol, for north Atlantic albacore**

*(submitted by the United Kingdom)*

This proposed Recommendation establishes the new TAC for North Atlantic albacore for 2024-26, in accordance with ICCAT Recommendation 21-04 Paragraph 17, and the Management Procedure results as set out in the Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) for 2023. The TAC for 2024-2026 will be 47,251 t, i.e. a 25% increase. As a consequence, each CPC's quota allocation also increases by 25%, and the allowance for other CPCs, as previously established by Recommendation 21-04 Paragraph 7, increases to 302.5 t.

This proposal includes the UK's share in the allocation table as established by the Trade and Cooperation Agreement between the UK and the EU, and replaces the transfer footnote included in Recommendation 21-04, Paragraph 6, as previously endorsed by Panel 2.

Finally, the proposal also incorporates the catch limit previously accessible by the UK Overseas Territories as established by Paragraph 7 of Recommendation 21-04 and earlier Recommendations, further to the request made by the UK at the Intersessional Meeting of Panel 2 in March 2023 (see Document PA2\_24/i2023). This is drawn from the unallocated portion of the TAC. The percentage allocations of Contracting Parties are therefore unaffected.

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*(submitted by the United Kingdom)*

*RECOGNISING* that certain provisions of Recommendation 21-04 will expire at the end of 2023;

*FURTHER RECOGNISING* the 2023 Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) and the management procedure results for north Atlantic albacore contained therein;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE  
CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. Paragraph 6 of Recommendation 21-04 shall be replaced with:

“Pursuant to the application of the procedures established in **Annex 1** and **Annex 3**, a constant annual TAC of 47,251 t is established for the management period 2024-2026. This annual TAC shall be allocated as follows:

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Quota (t) for the period 2024-2026</i>
EU	35,815.75
Chinese Taipei	5,521.13
United States	889.38
Venezuela	421.88
United Kingdom	855.31

[\*Transfers:

- Chinese Taipei is authorized to transfer [xxx t] of North Atlantic albacore to Belize for [yyyy].]”

2. Paragraph 7 of Recommendation 21-04 shall be replaced with:

“CPCs other than those mentioned in paragraph 6 shall limit their annual catches to 302.5 t.”

3. Paragraph 9 of Recommendation 21-04 shall be replaced with:

“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>
2021	2023
2022	2024
2023	2025
2024	2026
2025	2027
2026	2028

However, the maximum underage that a CPC may carryover 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 by more than 20%, the Commission will re-evaluate this Recommendation at its next Commission meeting, including taking into account any advice of the SCRS pursuant to its evaluation of the existence of exceptional circumstances as reflected in Annex 2, and may, as appropriate, recommend further measures.”