

Information submitted by some CPCs in Section 5 of their Annual Report

Part II, Section 5 of the 2023 Annual Report invites CPCs to inform the Commission of primary difficulties encountered in the implementation of and compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures.

The ICCAT Secretariat has summarized these issues and provided complete Section 5 information as reported in document COC_311/2023 and its addenda. The goal of this summary is to assist the Compliance Committee (COC) in its consideration of the need for technical assistance that may be useful to Contracting Parties in Compliance matters. **Table 1** provides a thematic summary of the issues encountered by each CPC. For further ease of reference, **Annex 1** includes the full excerpts that were extracted from all submitted Section 5 Annual Report information in their original version.

Reported challenges

As in previous years, some CPCs continue to report the following challenges in implementing and meeting ICCAT requirements:

- *Limited administrative and technical resources:*
Côte d'Ivoire, Curaçao, Namibia, Senegal, South Africa, Suriname, and United Kingdom.
- *Financial limitations:*
Cabo Verde, St Vincent & Grenadines, Suriname, and United Kingdom.
- *Limited knowledge for administration, observers, or inspections:*
Curaçao, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana, Namibia, Senegal, Suriname, and United Kingdom.
- *Unsuitable IT or data management systems that diminish the quality of reported data:*
Cabo Verde, Curaçao, Equatorial Guinea, and Ghana.
- *Required data and use of the existing tools:*
Algeria, Chinese Taipei, Tunisia, and United Kingdom.
- *Bycatch reporting:*
Chinese Taipei and Russia.

Some CPCs still report the need to build capacity that will improve implementation of monitoring programmes and compliance with conservation measures. The following CPCs have requested assistance from ICCAT for the following:

- *Training, technical, or financial support:*
Cabo Verde, Egypt, Ghana, Guyana, Suriname, and Syria.

Some major events could affect the management and implementation of ICCAT requirements resulting in necessary changes in work methods and procedures due to each event's consequences.

- *The unstable situation:*
Libya, Syria.
- *Noted that this year, only one CPC has reported challenges that arose due to the COVID-19 pandemic:*
Japan.

Notable efforts

Many CPCs reiterated firm commitments to ensuring satisfactory implementation and compliance with the Commission's adopted measures and programmes despite the following challenges:

- *High workload:*
Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana, and Tunisia.
- *Coordination and staff availability:*
Cabo Verde, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Curaçao, Gabon, Senegal, and South Africa.

Commendably, despite high workloads and limited staff availability, the following CPCs dedicated efforts to improve monitoring, scientific programmes, national laws, and greater collaboration (Algeria, Barbados, Brazil, Costa Rica, Curaçao, Egypt, Guatemala, Guyana, Liberia, Morocco, Namibia, Panama, Russia, St Vincent & Grenadines, Suriname, United Kingdom, and Venezuela).

New advances

In 2022, the ICCAT Secretariat introduced the Integrated Online Management System (IOMS) as a new technical feature developed for the purpose of efficiently streamlining the submission of Part I/Annex 1 and Part II/Section 3 annual reporting data with support and guidance from the ICCAT Secretariat. Only one CPC (France-Saint Pierre et Miquelon) mentioned that it had encountered difficulty in becoming familiar with the IOMS system (due to recent turnover).

No difficulties

Of the 45 CPCs that submitted Annual Reports that included Section 5, 14 reported not encountering difficulties, or no activities (Albania, Canada, China, El Salvador, European Union, France-Saint Pierre et Miquelon, Korea (Rep.), Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, Philippines, Russia, Türkiye United States of America, and Uruguay). Additionally, two CPCs expressed gratitude for the support of the ICCAT Secretariat and other collaborations (Albania and Egypt).

Table 1. Thematic summary of the problems encountered by the CPCs in their implementation of and compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures for the year 2022.

CPC	DIFFICULTIES													IMPROVEMENTS/REQUESTS				OTHERS										
	Administrative, Technical and/or Financial means	Required & quality data	Bycatch issues	Sport/Recreational fishing	Small or isolated territories	Artisanal fleet monitoring	Coordination / Availabilities / Staff	Limited knowledge	Fleet /Catches /Landings increasing	Requirements Application/Rules transposition	Deadline and workload	IOMS	Unsuitable system and/or IT issues	Pandemic/Severe weather/Major crisis	Observers: program, management, accommodation	Monitoring program	Observers program	Inspection & Control	Management measures, national jurisdiction, requirement	Dedicated staff or program/ Collaboration	Training: implementation or request	Financial or technical support	No fleet / No activities	No difficulties	No comments	Acknowledgment		
Albania																									X			X
Algeria		X													X	X	X	X										
Barbados									X										X									
Brazil																X				X								
Cabo Verde	X	X					X															X						
Canada																										X		
China																									X			
Chinese Taipei		X	X																									
Costa Rica						X	X								X		X		X	X								
Côte d'Ivoire	X			X			X			X																		
Curaçao	X	X				X	X	X								X	X	X	X	X								
Egypt									X	X							X			X		X						X

