



EUROPECHE and UAPF STATEMENT Fins naturally attached policy

November 23rd, 2025

Europêche and UAPF support strong conservation measures for sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by ICCAT, including the obligation to provide enhanced data to scientists and to land sharks with fins naturally attached — a requirement already fully implemented within the European Union.

To strengthen ICCAT's framework and ensure full alignment with best international practices, Europêche and UAPF propose amending the current ICCAT conservation measure to explicitly prohibit shark finning and to require that all fins of any shark caught in association with ICCAT-managed fisheries that cannot be released alive remain naturally attached through the point of first landing.

This approach will improve the quality of scientific information, reinforce compliance and monitoring, and is fully consistent with the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolutions on sustainable fisheries, adopted annually since 2007.

Europêche and UAPF remain committed to constructive cooperation within ICCAT to ensure effective, science-based conservation of shark species.