



Madrid – April 21, 2010

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 1246/10

SUBJECT: JOINT T-RFMOs MEETING OF EXPERTS TO SHARE BEST PRACTICES ON THE PROVISION OF SCIENTIFIC ADVICE – ANNOTATED AGENDA

Further to the request of Dr. Alain Fonteneau, Chairman of the meeting and further to Circular #1105/10, dated April 13, 2010, I have the honor to transmit to you the attached Annotated Agenda and Proposal for the Organization for the Joint t-RFMOs Meeting on the provision of scientific advice that will be held in Barcelona, Spain, from May 31 to June 2, 2010.

This information has been translated into French and Spanish by the ICCAT Secretariat.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.



Driss Meski
Executive Secretary

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Head Scientists and t-RFMOs

Cooperating Parties, Entities, or Fishing Entities (English):

Chinese Taipei T.Y. Tsay, H.Y. Huang, D.R. Lin
Guyana D. Permaul, V. Joshi
Neth. Antilles S. Mambi

Attachments: Annotated Agenda and Proposal for the Organization of the meeting.

**Annotated Agenda and Proposal for the Organization of the
Joint Meeting of Tuna RFMOs on the Provision of Scientific Advice**

(Barcelona, Spain, May 31 to June 2, June 2010)

The meeting will be focussed on the following six major scientific points:

1. Reasons for the workshop.
2. Data requirements for scientific advice, *i.e.* catch, effort and size data, and other data useful for scientific diagnosis.
3. Biological data used in stock assessment.
4. Tuna stock assessment methods and dealing with uncertainties.
5. Communication within and between tuna RFMOs and with stakeholders around the world.
6. Enhanced co-operation among tuna RFMOs.

Following herewith is the suggested tentative schedule for the meeting (with flexibility):

- (1) **May 31:** Points 1 to 6 of the Agenda
- (2) **June 1:** Points 7 & 8 of the Agenda
- (3) **June 2:** Points 9 to 12 of the Agenda

The workshop is planned to be of an inter-disciplinary nature, *i.e.*, participants to include scientists, as well as significant participation by managers, representatives of the tuna RFMOs, representatives of the fishing sectors, and NGOs, etc.

The plan is to organise the work of the workshop along the following lines:

- a) First, each of the six major items of the Agenda will be introduced during a 30 to 40 minute synthesis of the topic to be presented by the following scientists:

- Item 1: Alain Fonteneau
- Item 2: Ziro Suzuki
- Item 3: John Hampton
- Item 4: Victor Restrepo
- Item 5: Gerald Scott
- Item 6: Hilario Murua

These broad presentations and syntheses should have a strong scientific basis, but yet not be too technical (because of the audience). They should show the global pattern of the tuna issues and problems discussed, without going into detail on the current situation in each region.

- b) It is recommended that drafts for each of these six presentations be finalised one week before the workshop and be circulated between the six presenters with a view towards improving the presentation, eliminating redundancy or conflicts between them, and identifying important missing points.
- c) Each presentation will be followed by a general discussion among all the participants, scientists and non scientists. The floor will then be given to representatives from the various RFMOs. If participants in the meeting or representative of RFMOs wish to make a specific short presentation to the meeting this should be first submitted to the Chair for approval.

- d) The Chairs of the various Scientific Committees of the RFMOs will play an important role in the discussions
- e) Six rapporteurs will be selected to prepare reports, in real time, on each of these six points of the Agenda, with each rapporteur being responsible for making a summarized presentation of his topic.
- f) An additional rapporteur will be selected to handle all the major recommendations that will come from the meeting.
- g) It is planned that the drafts of these reports will be prepared during the meeting and discussed/approved during the afternoon of June 2.

Considering that simultaneous interpretation in the three official languages of ICCAT (English, French and Spanish) will be provided during the meeting, the presentations may be made in any of these languages. However, all the documents generated during the meeting will be translated by the ICCAT Secretariat during the course of the meeting and circulated in the three ICCAT languages.