

**REPORT OF THE INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING
OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE AND PANEL 2
(Seville, Spain - February 18 to 20, 2013)**

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by the Chair of Panel 2, Mr. Aronne Spezzani (EU) and the Chair of the Compliance Committee, Dr. Chris Rogers (USA).

2. Adoption of Agenda

The Agenda was adopted and is attached as **Appendix 1**.

At the opening of the session, a CPC requested to include in the Agenda a discussion on the issue of the entry into force of Recommendations in the case of objections. The Chair, however, considered that the issue was not relevant to the work of either Panel 2 or the Compliance Committee. One CPC suggested that this issue should be taken up by the Working Group on Convention Amendment.

3. Appointment of Rapporteur

Ms. Diana Kramer (United States) was designated Rapporteur.

4. Consideration of fishing, inspection and capacity management plans for 2013 presented by CPCs with E-BFT quota

Albania

Albania was not present at the meeting but submitted a plan by the required deadline of February 15, 2013. The CPCs present reviewed Albania's plan, with one party requesting a data table in the standard format showing details of the plan, with information on capacity reduction targets and catch potential. A letter will be sent to Albania requesting such a table in due time for the information to be presented to Parties for review and eventual adoption of the plan before the 31 March deadline. Endorsement of Albania's plan is pending submission and review of the requested information.

Algeria

Algeria submitted an initial plan at the 2012 ICCAT annual meeting in Agadir, Morocco. Given the new catch limits designated during that meeting, Algeria subsequently presented a revised plan. Algeria noted its plan includes the provisions and mechanisms successfully implemented in the 2012 fishing season, and incorporates some improvements. One such improvement addresses potential gaps identified in inspections measures of the 2012 plan. Fishing periods for 2013 were adjusted according to ICCAT specifications the updates included in national legislation. Algeria presented a plan according to the historical allocation key it considers being due, based on a quota of 684.85 tons, opened to 15 authorized vessels. Some CPCs expressed concerns about the overcapacity compared with the actual ICCAT quota allocation of 243.83 tonnes for 2013. Algeria assured the Panel that, despite its objection, it would comply with its actual ICCAT quota allocation for 2013, and limit the number of its active vessels to six, four purse seiners and two longliners. Algeria noted that although only six of its 15 vessels are currently authorized, it may wish to designate additional vessels for fishing. In this case the catch limit for each vessel would be reduced to remain within 2013 total catch limits, and ICCAT would be appropriately notified within the required timelines and procedures. Algeria noted there was a typographical error in item 6, and that the actual by-catch maximum permitted percentage should be 5%. However, despite its objections, Algeria assured the Panel it would comply with its actual ICCAT quota allocation. With no further questions, the Algerian plan was endorsed.

China

China was not present at the meeting. One party raised an issue of potential overcapacity in the Chinese plan calculations, with two longline vessels authorized to fish. Another party recalled in the past that China had justified the use of two vessels for safety reasons due to the distance of the fishing area, and the quota allocation was divided between the two vessels. A letter will be sent to China to clarify if this is the case for 2013 in due time for the information to be presented to Parties for review and eventual adoption of the plan before the 31 March deadline. Endorsement of the Chinese plan is pending submission and review of the requested information.

Croatia

Croatia was not present at the meeting. The EU stated that since Croatia will join the EU as from 1 July 2013, its capacity and inspection plans were drawn up in conjunction with the EU, and that a unique compliance report will be presented by the EU at the annual meeting. One party raised issues last year in the Compliance Committee regarding VMS transmission problems, and asked if this had been resolved. The EU said it has been working with Croatia to address the issues, and the problems now appear to be resolved. With no further questions, the Croatian plan was endorsed.

Egypt

Egypt presented its plan noting that it was similar to its 2012 plan, but will have two purse seine vessels for the 2013 season. In response to concerns expressed by some CPCs about the overcapacity consequent to these two vessels, Egypt stated that one vessel will be authorized for Egypt's full quota (67.08 t) and the second vessel will be authorized only for the 10 t quota transferred from Chinese Taipei. Egypt provided its assurances that the second vessel was not an expression of overcapacity and would not exceed the 10t quota. Answering a specific demand by a CPC, Egypt also committed itself to communicate to the SCRS through the Secretariat the results of the pilot study referred to in paragraph 88 of Rec. 12-03. The Egyptian plan was endorsed.

European Union

The European Union highlighted that it has exceeded its capacity reduction target. The EU noted that Croatia will join the EU in July 2013, and as such Croatia's inspection plan will be integrated into the EU plan, and the EU in November will present a single consolidated report. In response to a question from another party on management of traps, the EU recalled discussions at the 2012 ICCAT annual meeting where the approach to be followed for traps and inspections was clarified, with its commitment to implement these recommendations. The EU stated it would implement each specific provision and is fully committed to all provisions and obligations of Rec. 12-03. The EU added that its annual farming management plan has not been modified since 2009, and thus it was not required to submit a new plan. Answering a specific demand by a CPC, EU also committed itself to communicate to the SCRS, through the Secretariat, the results of the pilot study referred to in paragraph 88 of Rec. 12-03. The EU plan was endorsed.

Iceland

Iceland presented its 2013 plan, highlighting the main change is the identification for the first time of a sub quota of 2 t for recreational fisheries as a potential tourism opportunity. Iceland stated it has one longline vessel, and all catches will be landed in Iceland in the designated port with no transshipment allowed. Iceland's plan was endorsed.

Japan

Japan presented its plan noting fishing operators are required to affix tags to each tuna, authorized and distributed by the Japanese government before the fishing season begins. This means all fish caught by Japanese fishermen are tagged officially. Japan has designated 8 domestic ports, and landing of bluefin tuna overseas is prohibited. The Fisheries Agency of Japan will have enforcement officers at the eight designated ports to inspect all landings. The Japanese fishing season begins in August 2013, so for now Japan has not yet decided the number of longline vessels that will be authorized for Atlantic fishing, but will designate such authorized fishing vessels no later than one month before the Japanese fishing season begins. Japan expected the decision might be made in June 2013, and reaffirmed its commitment to follow its allocated quota. The Chair noted submission of

authorized vessels and quota for each vessel is not required at this time, and so submitting it at a later date is acceptable. The Japanese plan was endorsed.

Korea

Korea explained there are no changes in the 2013 except for Korea's quota. There is no reduction in capacity as Korea has since 2008 only one purse seine vessel. That vessel is already equipped with the stereoscopic camera. Korea committed to respect all the applicable provisions of Rec 12-03. With regard to by-catch management, the longline vessels active in the East Atlantic are not authorized to fish bluefin tuna and should release bluefin tuna caught as by-catch. Any BCD made by these Korean longline vessels will not be validated by the Korean authority. The released fish indicating live or dead status will be reported in real time to the Korean authority and forwarded to ICCAT. All by-catch of bluefin tuna will be deducted from the quota of Korea. Joint fishing activities will continue with Libya, and Korea will inform the Secretariat of the details at least 10 days before commencement. Vessels engaged in this joint fishing operation will conduct video recordings at the point of capture and transfer, as required and results will be sent to SCRS through the Secretariat. The Korean plan was endorsed.

Libya

Libya presented its plan with few changes from 2012 aside from the allocated quota. Libya will have 15 vessels authorized for fishing, 14 purse seiners and one longline. Libya's total quota will be distributed between the 15 vessels and when quotas for each vessel are determined, this will be reported to ICCAT. For joint fishing operations, Libya will follow all provisions of relevant recommendations, in particular the level of quota for 2013. In response to a question on fishing season dates, Libya expressed its commitment to comply with specified fishing seasons for purse seiners. Answering a specific demand by a CPC, Libya also committed itself to communicate to the SCRS through the Secretariat the results of the pilot study referred to in paragraph 88 of Rec. 12-03. The Libyan plan was endorsed.

Morocco

Morocco presented its plan emphasizing its commitment to meet in full all requirements of Recommendation 12-03. Quotas will be allocated in accordance with ICCAT provisions and submitted in line with deadlines required. The Moroccan bluefin tuna fishery is largely a trap fishery, and Morocco plans to go beyond the recommendations of ICCAT for traps, reducing the number to 10 for the 2013 season, using the specific potential catch rate recognized by the SCRS for Moroccan traps of 112.3 t/year as mentioned in the ICCAT biannual reports 2008/2009 and 2010/2011. Morocco additionally set up a system for trap fishing operations not required by ICCAT but to enhance good governance, which includes video monitoring of all operations. Morocco is conducting a test phase of eBCD and will run tests in order to fully adopt it in 2014, as decided at the 2012 ICCAT annual meeting in Agadir. Morocco noted that in 2012, one Moroccan purse seine vessel conducted joint fishing with Turkey and the relevant sampling data for that vessel was reported by Turkey as part of its report. This will continue in 2013. The Moroccan plan was endorsed.

Norway

Norway was not present at the meeting, but submitted a plan stating it does not intend to fish its allocation of bluefin tuna in 2013. This was endorsed.

Syria

Syria was not present at the meeting and did not submit a plan. The Chair noted in this case the rules of Recommendation 12-03 are applied and Syria is not authorized to fish bluefin tuna in 2013.

Tunisia

Tunisian submitted a plan at the 2012 ICCAT annual meeting, which was then updated based on allocated quota. In 2013, Tunisia will follow recommendations of ICCAT and its obligations to ensure implementation of provisions of the bluefin recovery plan. The Tunisian plan was endorsed.

Turkey

Turkey presented its plan at the 2012 ICCAT annual meeting in Agadir. The plan incorporates all provisions of Recommendation 12-03, which were also incorporated into national legislation. Turkey stated on capacity management, the given quota allocation was not acceptable to Turkey, and Turkey lodged a formal objection. However, Turkey will not exceed the quota assigned to it, despite the formal objections. Turkey thus authorizes 10 purse seine vessels for fishing in 2013. Turkey will have 75 inspection boats, and will cooperate with other CPCs on inspection. The main focus for Turkish authorities will be on vessel monitoring and quota management. Sampling requirements will be followed during the 2013 season as in past years. In response to an additional question on sampling data, Turkey recalled on 8 April 2012, Turkey presented a formal letter to the Secretariat and SCRS on details of the pilot project, which was implemented in 2012, and the results of the pilot project were presented in SCRS/2012/052. It will be printed and published in the report of the SCRS. Turkey urges its fishing vessel operators to apply the same methodology and report the results of such pilot studies this year, and will report results as in the previous years. The Turkish plan was endorsed.

Chinese Taipei

Chinese Taipei was not present at the meeting, but submitted a plan stating it does not intend to fish its allocation of bluefin tuna in 2013. This was endorsed.

The fishing plans which were endorsed are attached as **Appendix 3**.

5. Determination of actions to be taken with respect to the plans presented under item 4.

Fishing, capacity and inspection plans for the following CPCs were endorsed: Algeria, Chinese Taipei, Croatia, Egypt, European Union, Iceland, Japan, Korea, Libya, Morocco, Norway, Tunisia, and Turkey.

It was decided to send a letter:

- (1) to China requesting clarification of its capacity management plan,
- (2) to Albania requesting a table in the standard format for calculating fishing capacity, and
- (3) to Syria to inform that fishing for bluefin tuna in 2013 is not authorized due to lack of submission of a plan within the deadline.

All CPCs which have traps, purse seiners or farm facilities involved in farming activities to were requested to implement all new requirements introduced by the Recommendation 12-03, in particular pilot studies and/or the programme using stereoscopic system or alternative techniques in order to refine the number and weight of the fish at point of capture and/or caging and annually report the results of the pilot studies and the programme to SCRS, via the Secretariat, in accordance with paragraph 88 of the said Recommendation.

6. Procedures for implementing the ROP-BFT in 2013

6.1 Clarifications for EBFT ROP Consortium

Responses to the requested clarifications are included in **Appendix 4**.

It was agreed by all CPCs that validation of the relevant section of the BCD will take precedence over the non-signing of the BCD by the regional observer and be considered as in full respect of ICCAT conservation and management measures.

6.2 Clarification for the Secretariat on the evaluation of the EBFT ROP referred to in paragraph 12 of Rec. 12-03

The Chair noted that CPCs should consult with their experts and provide their views and cost estimates to the Secretariat by the end of March 2013. The Secretariat will then circulate this information, together with the draft terms of reference for the Call for Tenders to CPCs for their evaluation of the ROP programme. Once replies have been received and evaluation completed, the Secretariat will launch the tender for implementation of the programme in 2014. Some CPCs proposed revising the ROP system in order to maintain its efficiency at a lower cost by using the new technologies available. Such revision would be discussed at the annual meeting for eventual follow-up in an ad-hoc Working Group in 2014.

7. Operational considerations for withholding fishing authorizations in situations of data deficiencies (Recs. 10-06, 10-08, 11-08 and 11-15)

Following a discussion of the guidelines developed by the EU and attached to the report of the 2012 annual meeting on implementation of Rec. 11-15, it was determined that the guidelines will be provisionally applied by the Compliance Committee at the 2013 annual meeting and subsequently reevaluated. One party noted that the review of shark catch data submissions should take into account difficulty in species identification for sharks including silky sharks. It was also stressed CPCs are required to provide negative reports for fisheries in which they do not participate or have no catches.

8. Clarification of other requirements under ICCAT measures

8.1 ICCAT species taken as by-catch in fisheries directed at non-ICCAT species

All parties were in agreement that ICCAT species taken as by-catch or incidental catch are subject to ICCAT rules, regulations and reporting. This was agreed to be a serious issue and will be taken up at the 8th Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Monitoring Measures (IMM), and the Chair will prepare a short document to be introduced at the IMM meeting reflecting relevant ICCAT measures that are applicable to situations of by-catch.

8.2 Obligations with respect to chartering arrangements and access agreements

The Compliance Chair noted in the past there have been reporting issues in relation to chartering operations. The Chair reminded parties that although the chartering state shall apply its catches against its quotas and allocations, and reports this to the Commission; flag states are still required to maintain records of catch and effort for vessels under the charter. Parties participating in the IMM Working Group should review the measure and decide if any revisions are necessary.

The Chair reminded the delegates of the reports on access agreements required under Rec. 11-16. The Secretariat indicated that few CPCs were using the form it had developed for reporting on access agreements. The EU noted that the issue addressed by the Recommendation was that of improving transparency about flag state fishing arrangements in the coastal zones of other CPCs, not recording catches as that information was already reported in Task I data provided to SCRS. The Chair noted that several coastal CPCs had been unable to respond to the Compliance Committee about activities under access agreements and could not confirm that catches were made in accordance with the agreements or had been reported to ICCAT. The Recommendation addresses that deficiency by requiring reports from both parties to the agreements. It was concluded that no changes to Rec. 11-16 were needed but CPCs participating in access agreements were advised to review the obligations and make use of the reporting format developed by the Secretariat.

8.3 Revised annual report format and annual list of requirements

The Chair noted changes to the annual report format and provided by the Secretariat as agreed at the 2012 Commission meeting and requested parties include the new reporting tables in their annual reports. The new format should facilitate review by the Compliance Committee.

8.4 New requirements resulting from measures adopted in 2011 and 2012

Provisions of Rec. 12-03

a) Annex 8 - ICCAT scheme of joint international inspection

Clarification was provided on different deadlines for inspection plans required under paragraph 11 and Annex 8 of Rec. 12-03. The Chair suggested flexibility by considering that the inspection plan for CPCs participating in the joint at-sea inspection program to be presented by 1 January is de facto included in their inspection plans provided under paragraph 11 of Rec. 12-03.

It was acknowledged that the Secretariat has an important role to play in the ICCAT scheme of international inspection, in particular through the continuing provision of VMS data to the vessels participating in the Joint Inspection Scheme.

The carbon-copy forms produced by the Secretariat were confirmed to be appropriate and the Secretariat should continue to produce and distribute them in the current format.

b) Paragraph 58 - ICCAT list of authorized vessels

The Secretariat should continue to add late submissions or those not sufficiently justified or incomplete to the ICCAT Record of Vessels and forward the vessel information and justification to the Compliance Committee for review at its next meeting.

c) Paragraph 89 - VMS

The Group agreed on a clarification on the intent of paragraph 89 of Recommendation 12-03 that provision of VMS messages to CPCs involved at at-sea inspection which request these data should include information received by the Secretariat “for all fishing vessels”, rather than “to all fishing vessels”.

On request from the Secretariat on what should be contained within the monthly / weekly reports it was agreed that they should contain, at a minimum, the vessel name, the ICCAT number and the last date on which they reported VMS messages.

d) Paragraph 88 and Annex 9 – video records

The Group invited the ICCAT Secretariat to consult with the SCRS Chair about the reporting procedure on the results of the pilot studies and the programme described in paragraph 88 of Rec. 12-03, and propose draft reporting requirements and a submission schedule to all CPCs by the end of March 2013.

The concept of initialize was clarified to mean that observers should fix some unique identifying marks on the video recordings.

In addition to the request for clarifications discussed in the document on “Request for Clarification of Procedures for EBFT-ROP” and that on “Clarification of Requirements Under ICCAT Measures”, a CPC raised two related points in order to confirm a consistent interpretation of measures laid down in Re. 12-03. Firstly, in the context of “control authorities” referred to in Point ix) in Annex 9, it was agreed that this refers only to the flag state authorities of the catching vessel(s) concerned in the case of transfer operations and only to the flag state of the farming farm state in the case of caging operations. Secondly, with respect to the procedures laid down in paragraph 88, it was agreed that cooperation between catching and farming flag CPCs is essential to ensure the full respect of this provision. Especially if revisions of the catching sections of BCDs are made by catching flag CPCs based on the quantities derived from the programmes using stereoscopic cameras systems or alternative techniques implemented at the time of caging by farming flag CPCs.

8.5 Discussion of Recommendation 10-10 regarding minimum standards for scientific observer programs

The Chair recalled at the 2012 annual meeting the SCRS was to review plans and comment on ways to improve observer programs and guidelines, however, not enough information was submitted by the CPCs for the SCRS to conduct such a review. CPCs were encouraged to review the requirements of Recommendation 10-10 and provide the required reports. This will be a subject of review at the 2013 annual meeting. The Secretariat noted it developed the report form in conjunction with the SCRS, and CPCs are encouraged to use it in order to facilitate the work of the SCRS.

9. Other matters

There were no other matters raised.

10. Adoption of report and adjournment

The Report was adopted.

Appendix 1**Agenda**

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of Agenda and meeting arrangements
3. Nomination of Rapporteur
4. Consideration of fishing, inspection and capacity management plans for 2013 presented by CPCs with E-BFT quota
5. Determination of actions to be taken with respect to the plans presented under item 4.
6. Procedures for implementing the ROP-BFT in 2013
7. Operational considerations for withholding fishing authorizations in situations of data deficiencies (Recs. 10-06; 10-08; 11-08; 11-15)
8. Clarification of other requirements under ICCAT measures
 - ICCAT species taken as by-catch in fisheries directed at non-ICCAT species
 - Obligations with respect to chartering arrangements and access agreements
 - Revised Annual Report format and annual list of requirements
 - New requirements resulting from measures adopted in 2011 and 2012
 - Discussion of Recommendation 10-10 regarding minimum standards for scientific observer programs
9. Other matters
10. Adoption of Report and adjournment

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BLUEFIN FISHING, INSPECTION AND CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

ALGERIA

Pursuant to paragraph 11 of Recommendation 12-03, we have the honour to present herewith the fishing, inspection and management plan for 2013 relative to the exploitation of bluefin tuna in waters under Algerian jurisdiction.

The fishing plan presented takes into account the provisions of ICCAT Recommendation 12-03 and those in the decree of 15 May 2012 amending and supplementing the decree of 19 April 2010 establishing bluefin tuna fishing quotas for national flag vessels that fish in waters under national jurisdiction and setting out the procedures for quota allocation and implementation.

I. Fishing plan for 2013

1. Quotas

Algeria's bluefin tuna quota for 2013 amounts to 243.83 metric tons (t). Thus, six Algerian tuna vessels will participate in the fishing champagne for this year. The criteria for the individual quota allocation will be decided by the Fishing Administration based on the SCRS estimates of the potential catches by vessel type and vessel length.

Further, the definitive list of the Algerian vessels authorized to fish bluefin tuna in 2013, as well as their individual quotas will be notified to ICCAT, at the latest, a month before the start of the fishing season, in accordance with paragraph 58 of Recommendation 12-03.

It should also be noted that no sport or recreational fishery will target bluefin tuna during this fishing season.

2. Trade agreements and joint fishing

Private trade agreements and/or the transfer of quotas/catch limits with other CPCs are not authorized by the national regulations in force.

Joint fishing operations involving among five or more Algerian vessels are prohibited.

3. Granting of fishing permits

Individual fishing permits will be granted to the vessels authorized by the Algerian Fishing Administration to participate in the 2013 fishing campaign, pursuant to Article 3 of the above-mentioned ministerial decree of 15 May 2012.

4. Fishing periods

The fishing periods will be those set forth in paragraphs 21 and 22 of ICCAT Recommendation 12-03 and the provisions of the national regulations. Consequently, these will be established as follows:

- For longliners over 24 meters, from 1 January to 31 May 2013
- For purse seiners, from 26 May to 24 June 2013

5. Minimum size

In accordance with the provisions of Executive Decree No. 08-118 of 9 April 2008, which amends and supplements the Executive Decree of 18 March 2004, the minimum size for bluefin tuna will be fixed at 30 kg or a fork length of 115 cm.

6. Incidental catches/by-catches

Only a proportion not exceeding 8% of the by-catches less than 30 kg or a size of 115 cm per fish will be allowed.

7. Use of aircraft

National regulation does not authorize the use of airplanes or helicopters to detect bluefin tuna schools during the fishing operations.

8. Transshipment

The transshipment of fishing products at sea is prohibited, pursuant to Algerian regulation, in particular, Article 8 of Law No. 01-11 of 3 July 2001 relative to fishing and aquaculture.

9. Transfer operations

In accordance with national regulation, before each transfer operation from the fishing vessel to the towing vessels, the vessel captain must transmit to the competent authorities a prior notification of transfer. Authorization of the transfer can only be carried out only after receiving authorization from the competent authorities. Besides, after each transfer operation, the vessel captain must transmit a transfer declaration to the administration in charge of fishing after finalizing each transfer operation (Article 15bis of the decree of 15 May 2012).

The transfer operations will be monitored by an under-water video camera. The recording will show the date and the time of the transfer.

10. Market measures

All bluefin tuna trade must be accompanied by a bluefin tuna catch document (BCD).

11. Sampling requirement

At the time of the transfer of live fish caught by Algerian purse seiners to a towing cage for fattening purposes in another CPC, a specific percentage of live fish must be sacrificed for sampling purposes, as required by paragraph 88 of Rec. 12-03. The samples selected randomly must be sacrificed, measured and weighed.

II. Monitoring and inspection plan**1. Joint international inspection plan**

As Algeria only has 15 bluefin tuna fishing vessels, it does not envisage participating in joint international inspection.

2. Requirements of a vessel monitoring system

The tuna vessels that will be authorized to take part in the fishing campaign will be equipped with a detecting beacon, which will be operational during the entire campaign. The transmission of VMS data is mandatory for all the tuna vessels and will commence 15 days before the period of the authorization and will continue 15 days after the fishing campaign (Article 7 of the decree of 15 May 2012).

3. National observers program

The bluefin tuna fishing operations that will be carried out in 2013 will be monitored throughout the fishing season by Algerian controllers/observers deployed on board each purse seine and longline vessel authorized to participate in the fishing campaign and who will represent the Fishing Administration (fishing inspectors) and the Coast Guard services (Article 8 of the decree of 15 May 2012).

The mission of the national controllers/observers who will be deployed on board the Algerian tuna vessels will be, among others, to collect all the information related to bluefin tuna fishing, to complete the forms that will be delivered to them before the start of the fishing season, and to monitor compliance with the ICCAT Recommendations regarding bluefin tuna fishing.

The controllers will remain in permanent contact with the Fishing Administration and will transmit all the information related to the fishing and transfer operations.

4. Regional observers program

The owners of the tuna purse seiners authorized to fish bluefin tuna in 2013 will be required to deploy an ICCAT observer on board.

5. Landing ports

The bluefin tuna vessels can only land their catches at the ports designated by the competent authorities, which are as follows:

- Alger, Annaba, Bejaïa, Cherchell, Oran, and Ténès

6. Implementing measures

National legislation, particularly the provisions of Law No. 01-11 of 3 July 2001 relative to fishing and aquaculture, foresees sanctions and penalties in cases of non-compliance with the regulatory provisions concerning fishing activities.

Further, for non-compliance with the closed fishing seasons, Article 89 of the aforementioned law foresees prison sentences and/or fines.

As regards non-compliance with the minimum size and the proportion of by-catches, the same law in its Articles 90, 92 and 93 also foresees prison sentences and/or fines.

In addition, the Fishing Administration will withdraw the fishing permit granted to the vessel owner in cases of non-compliance with the provisions of the decree of 15 May 2012 (Article 21)

III. Capacity management plan

The annual fishing capacity, represented by a fleet of 15 tuna vessels, is perfectly adapted to Algeria's historical catch limit, i.e., 684.85 t (5.073% of the TAC) (see **Table 1**). Thus, over-capacity does not affect Algeria.

Table 1. Algeria's fishing capacity.

<i>Vessel category</i>	<i>Best catch rates established by SCRS</i>	<i>2013</i>	
		<i>Number of vessels</i>	<i>Capacity (t)</i>
PS between 24 and 40 metres	49.87	13	648.31
LL between 24 and 40 metres	5.68	1	5.68
LL less than 24 metres	05	1	5

Table 2. Algerian tuna fleet.

<i>Vessel type</i>	<i>Length overall</i>	<i>Individual quota (t)</i>
PS	33.60	49.865
PS	31.25	49.865
PS	31.25	49.865
PS	30	49.865
PS	30	49.865
PS	26	49.865
PS	26.2	49.865
PS	25.5	49.865
PS	25.2	49.865
PS	25	49.865
PS	25	49.865
PS	30	49.865
PS	25	49.865
LL	31.6	5.68
LL	15.8	5

CROATIA

Bluefin Tuna Fishing Plan for 2013

Croatia has transposed into national legislation the provisions of the Rec. 12-03. Transposition was achieved by way of the Ordinance on catch, farming and trade of bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*), swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) and Mediterranean spearfish (*Tetrapturus belone*) published in Official Journal No. 15/2013 (http://narodnenovine.nn.hr/clanci/sluzbeni/2013_02_15_248.html).

In 2013, a total of 9 vessels shall be authorized to participate in the bluefin purse seine fishery. The list of vessels is provided below, as well as the table on vessel capacity. Individual quotas are assigned to each vessel regardless of its length (individual quotas are assigned to vessels less than 24 meters as well) and vessels shall operate in groups. Data on these operations shall be communicated to the Secretariat in accordance with the provisions of Para 20. of ICCAT Rec. 12-03.

Croatia has introduced the ITQ system in the bluefin purse seined fishery, allowing the participants to exchange the fishing possibilities and pool them together. Should there be any subsequent changes to the list of vessels, these shall be communicated to the ICCAT Secretariat immediately, in accordance with the ICCAT Recommendations and at least 48 hours before the exercise of the activity corresponding to the potential modification.

The total quota allocated to the PS gear group in 2013 is 380.59 t, and the total quota allocated to the HL gear group is 7.5 tons. The allocation criteria were determined taking into account historical participation in fishery and the overall quota.

Respecting of the individual quota shall be secured by way of the MSC measures, as has been stipulated in the inspection plan, as well as by way of ROP cross-checks and verifications of data and other relevant measures (underwater video, stereoscopic cameras, etc.). Since each vessel needs to communicate with the FMC in order to be given the authorization for caging, it shall be ordered into port when it is deemed that its individual quota has been exhausted. Cross-checks of from all sources shall be made.

Quota has been allocated to 12 hooks and line vessels. Only one hook and line vessel is over 12 m long, while all the other fall into the category of small coastal fleet. Given the size of this fleet and its artisanal character, the total quota of 7.5 tons was allocated to this segment and individual quotas are assigned to each vessel. The quota allocated was based on previous records and intensity of the activity. The fishing for hooks and line vessels has been closed from 1 January until 1 April.

The list of all vessels per gear group authorized to participate in the BFT fishery in 2013 with individual quotas is provided below.

Bluefin Tuna Fishing Plan ??

<i>BFT PS LoA</i>	<i>No. of BFT PS</i>
<24m	4
24 -40 m	5
>40 m	0

List of PS vessels with individual quotas

<i>No.</i>	<i>Vessel Name</i>	<i>ICCAT No.</i>	<i>LoA</i>	<i>Individual quota – 2013 (t)</i>
1	SARDINA I	AT000HRV00133	39,90	50,90
2	PREKO	AT000HRV00021	27,74	41,43
3	LAGUNA	AT000HRV00063	23,71	34,05
4	HRVATSKI USPJEH	AT000HRV00007	29,44	44,29
5	NEPTUN I	AT000HRV00134	39,90	44,29
6	PONOS	AT000HRV00058	23,71	44,29
7	CARICA	AT000HRV00234	30,18	40,45
8	EVA	AT000HRV00049	23,71	40,45
9	KALI	AT000HRV00037	23,71	40,45

Fishing Groups (Croatian vessels)

<i>Vessel Name</i>	<i>ICCAT No.</i>	<i>Individual quota – 2013 (t)</i>	<i>Quota for the group – 2013 (t)</i>
<i>Group 1</i>			
SARDINA I	AT000HRV00133	50,90	126,38
PREKO	AT000HRV00021	41,43	
LAGUNA	AT000HRV00063	34,05	
<i>Group 2</i>			
HRVATSKI USPJEH	AT000HRV00007	44,29	132,87
NEPTUN I	AT000HRV00134	44,29	
PONOS	AT000HRV00058	44,29	
<i>Group 3</i>			
CARICA	AT000HRV00234	40,45	121,35
EVA	AT000HRV00049	40,45	
KALI	AT000HRV00037	40,45	

List of hook and line vessels

<i>No.</i>	<i>Vessel Name</i>	<i>ICCAT No.</i>	<i>LoA</i>	<i>Individual quota – 2013 (Kg)</i>
1	700-VD	AT000HRV00142	9,98	1108,00
2	797-BG	AT000HRV00106	10,10	1049,00
3	214-DB	AT000HRV00241	10,15	1012,00
4	563-VD	AT000HRV00098	12,70	877,50
5	212-TI	AT000HRV00237	9,00	718,50
6	90-TI	AT000HRV00165	8,68	495,00
7	89-MU	*	8,20	415,50
8	82-TI	AT000HRV00233	11,90	376,50
9	96-TI	**	7,17	374,00
10	132-TI	AT000HRV00148	11,28	365,00
11	8-TP	AT000HRV00100	8,90	356,00
12	103-TI	AT000HRV00240	9,14	353,00

Inspection Plan for 2013

Fishing inspection is performed by the fishing inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture (MAFRD), the officials of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), inspectors of the Ministry of maritime affairs and transport as well as Coast Guard. Specific fisheries inspection tasks are planned on an annual basis, with revisions and modifications every three months.

Recent activities of the DoF involve the development of electronic reports after each control, which are then integrated in a data base, with a possibility to consult the summary in this base. The report forms may be used by all authorized inspection (maritime police, coast guard, port authorities), enabling hence a centralized system to follow-up the infringements and keep a good record of number of controls and infringements recorded. The database is linked with the fleet and license register, register of first buyers and database on catch and landing data, as well as with the VMS, which then assures the quality of the cross-checks. The database is currently being created and structured, and its initial test phase envisages test for dedicated fisheries inspection services.

Croatia has implemented the VMS obligation in terms of all vessels involved in the bluefin tuna operations. The VMS is controlled at all times in the FMC, allowing the operators to check and verify points of operation, landing or transfer that will secure full coverage of activities. VMS data are accessible by relevant services authorized to perform inspection and control under strict confidentiality protocols. Furthermore, electronic logbook has been installed on vessels over 24 m.

Resources to be used in bluefin tuna control in 2013

A total of 20 dedicated fisheries inspectors aided with six patrol vessels shall be operational in 2013. Furthermore, a total of four Coast Guard vessels with their crews shall be operational as well as Maritime police patrol vessels with their crews. A total of seven vessels belonging to the maritime police shall be operational, involving a total crew of 42. A total of 18 port authorities' inspectors shall participate in the bluefin tuna control, and four vessels from the MSTI.

The list of designated ports for bluefin tuna landings has been communicated to the Commission. The ports shall be covered in full by relevant inspectors from port authorities and in addition by directed controls by fisheries inspectors.

Farms

All farm activities (caging, harvesting) shall be covered at all farms. These are:

- AT001HRV00003 „Kali tuna“ d.o.o.
- AT001HRV00006 „Sardina“ d.o.o.
- AT001HRV00008 „Jadran tuna“ d.o.o.

List of vessels – fisheries inspection MA

<i>Name</i>	<i>Registration</i>	<i>Area of deployment</i>
Jastog	RH-100-ST	Adriatic
Inćun	RH-99-ZD	Adriatic
Periska	RH-20-PU	Adriatic
Srdela	RH-900-ST	Adriatic
Škamp	RH 1100 ŠB	Adriatic
Tunj	RH 40 RK	Adriatic

Control of the PS catches

<i>Area of control</i>	<i>Control objective</i>	<i>Control targets</i>
CRO territorial waters	documentation and catches, stowage areas, mortality rates	20
Outside CRO territorial waters	documentation and catches, stowage areas, mortality rates	20

Towing

<i>Control objective</i>	<i>Target No. of controls</i>
Size in towing cage	20
Mortality in towing	20
Documentation	30

Farms

<i>Control objective</i>	<i>Target No. of controls</i>
Transfer to cage	50
Origin of fish	50
Quantity and size	50
BCD and other documentation	50

Sport and recreational fishery

<i>Control objective</i>	<i>Target No. of controls</i>
Competition events	10
ICCAT requirements	50
License controls	50
Controls of catches	50

Catch control – hook and line gears

<i>Control objective</i>	<i>Target No. of controls</i>
ICCAT requirements	50
Licenses and authorizations	50
Catches	50

Markets

<i>Control objective</i>	<i>Target No. of controls</i>
Catch documentation	100
Other (size, origin)	100

EGYPT***Adjusted E-BFT Fishing, Inspection and Capacity Reduction Plan for 2013***

Fishing, activities for eastern bluefin tuna will be conducted in compliance with applicable ICCAT Recommendations. According to paragraph 9 (Rec. 12-03) that was adopted in the 18th Special meeting of ICCAT in Morocco (November 2012), Egypt has an annual quota of 67.08 t of bluefin tuna and 10 t transferred from Chinese Taipei to Egypt. This bluefin tuna amount (77.08 t) will be caught by two fishing vessels. These

vessels are “Seven Seas”, which is listed on the ICCAT list (No. AT000EG00003) (67.08 t) and a new vessel to be listed on the ICCAT list of authorized vessels “Khaled” (10 t).

General Authority for Fish Resources Development (GAFRD) announced the above-mentioned decision to all sector stakeholders in accordance with the General Authority for Fish Resources Development resolutions regarding bluefin tuna.

A joint fishing operation will be allowed between these two vessels, but joint fishing operations with other CPC vessels will not be allowed.

Potential Fishing Grounds

The potential fishing ground for the E-BFT fishery will be off the fishing area along the Egyptian territorial and EEZ water, Mediterranean Sea (26-32 E).

List of Authorized BFT Catching Vessels

The General Authority for Fish Resources Development (GAFRD) issued a special fishing permit to only two bluefin catching vessels for 2013. The vessels shall be equipped and monitored with a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS).

Licensing

A special fishing permit, which will be issued by the provincial directorates of GAFRD for the eligible purse seiners to conduct the bluefin tuna fishery, is mandatory for bluefin tuna catching vessels to operate for 2013 season.

There are no towing licenses will be issued, as the transshipment operations are not allowed.

Allocation of BFT Catch Quota

According to paragraph 9 (Rec. 12-03) that was adopted in the 18th Special meeting of ICCAT in Morocco - Nov 2012, Egypt has an annual quota of 67,08 tons of Bluefin Tuna (BFT) that will be caught by one fishing vessel, this vessel is “Seven Seas” that listed on ICCAT list number AT000EG00003. The transferred 10 tons from Chinese Taipei to Egypt will be caught by another fishing vessel, this vessel is “Khaled” that will be listed on ICCAT list of authorized vessel for 2013.

Coastal, Recreational, Sport Fisheries

No coastal, recreational, sport fisheries will be allowed.

Regulations for 2013 bluefin tuna fishing season

Fishing Period

The authorized period for fishing is from 26 May to 24 June 2013. The bluefin tuna fishing activities prohibited along the period from 25 June to 25 May of the next years. Moreover, the closed season for BFT fisheries will be announced by Fisheries agency once the allowed quota is caught even during the authorized fishing period.

Joint Fishing Operations

A joint fishing operation will be allowed between the two authorized Egyptian vessels “Seven Seas & Khaled”. No joint fishing operation (JFOs) with any other CPC is allowed.

BFT Landing/Transshipment Ports

Bluefin tuna fishing vessels shall only transship/land bluefin tuna catches in the ports designated for that purpose.

The following ports have been designated by the relevant Fisheries Authority (GAFRD) for the purpose of bluefin tuna landing:

1. ElMeAdia fishing port for bluefin tuna landing during the fishing season only
2. Alexandria commercial port for export.

Vessel Monitoring System Requirements

The authorized fishing vessels requesting a bluefin fishing and transport permit for 2013 shall be equipped with a full-time operational satellite tracking device (or vessel monitoring system, VMS) onboard, as required by GAFRD.

Recording and Reporting

Recording and reporting obligations laid down by relevant ICCAT Recommendations shall be implemented.

Towing Operations

No towing operations will be allowed for the Egyptian vessels.

Caging Operations

No caging operations will be allowed.

Transfer Operations

In case of transfer of a live fish caught by the Egyptian authorized purse seiners to a towing cage for farming purposes in other CPCs, a percent of selected live fish caught randomly shall be killed at time of capture, sized and weighted for sampling as required in paragraph 8 of ICCAT Rec. 10-04. The size of the sample that is intended to be killed for representative sampling will be the same as the percentage used by the CPCs in the Mediterranean in pilot studies for better estimation and sampling programs at time of caging, under paragraph 88 of Rec. 12-03.

Transshipment

Transshipment at sea is prohibited as required in paragraph 64 of Recommendation 12-03.

Cross check

The relevant information recorded in the logbooks of the fishing vessel, in the transfer documents and in the catch documents shall be verified by GAFRD by using available inspection reports, observer reports onboard vessels and at ports, VMS data.

GAFRD shall carry out cross checks on all landings, between the quantities by species recorded in the fishing vessel logbook or quantities by species recorded in the transfer declaration and the quantities recorded in the landing declaration, and any other relevant document, such as invoice and/or sales notes. As will document cross checking with the other CPCs be carried out by GAFRD in the case of transfer of live fish for farming purpose in this CPC.

Enforcement

The GAFRD has issued a number of resolutions for the conservation of bluefin tuna.

Resolution Number (827) for the year 2011

Article (1) the prohibition of bluefin tuna fishing with any fishing craft during the period from 15 of June to 15 of May as from the next year. This resolution will be amended yearly according to the closed season adopted by ICCAT.

Article (2) the prohibition of the transfer of any bluefin tuna fishing at sea unless for the purposes of farming and development.

Resolution Number (828) for the year 2011

Article (1) the prohibition of fishing of bluefin tuna that is less than 30 kilograms.

Article (2) all the fishing operations shall be documented through videos documentaries for all fishing operations and transfer to cages and shall be delivered to observers of fishing operations without any restrictions.

Resolution Number (829) for the year 2011

Article (1) the prohibition of using any ports for landing or exportation of bluefin tuna except for the port of ElMeAdia for bluefin tuna landing and Alexandria commercial port for exportation.

Article (2) prohibition of vessels licensed to fish bluefin tuna to go fishing unless there are observers who are assigned by the GAFRD onboard.

In the case of non compliance with the Egyptian resolutions or any of ICCAT Recommendations by the fishing vessel, the penal code will be applied, and the vessel will not be allowed to work in bluefin tuna fishing for the next season, and in case of repetition of non compliance, this vessel will not be prohibited from bluefin tuna fisheries.

Market Measures

Foreign and domestic trade, transport, landing, imports, exports, placing in cages for farming, re-exports and transshipments of eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna and its products as well as keeping them onboard without validated documentation from the relevant authority shall be prohibited.

Observer Requirements

Five national observers will inspect the fishing operations.

Three observers of fisheries specialists will be on board during the fishing operations for monitoring the catch, recording the required data and insuring the compliance of the fishing vessel with the ICCAT Recommendations and GAFRD resolutions.

Two observers will be in the ports to follow up the landed catch and reviewing the on board observers reports.

Concerning the “ICCAT regional observers” Egypt will send a request to the ICCAT Secretariat to have an Arabic speaker observer and to have his data early in order to issue him the necessary permissions to work in Egypt.

Use of aircraft

There is no aircraft.

Minimum size

Provisions regulating minimum size laid down by relevant ICCAT Recommendations shall be implemented.

Sampling Requirements

In the case of transfer of a live fish caught by the Egyptian authorized purse seiners to a towing cage for farming purpose in other CPCs, part of the live fish caught shall be killed for sampling as required in paragraph 87 of ICCAT Recommendation 10-04, where randomly selected samples of fish shall be killed, sized and weighted, the size of the sampling percentage that is intended to be killed at time of capture for representative sampling will be the same as the percentage used by the CPCs in the Mediterranean in the pilot studies for better estimation and the sampling program at time of caging, under paragraph 88 of Rec. 12-03.

Owners/operators of the fishing vessels, managers/operators of farming facilities and exporters shall be responsible from the proper implementation of all provisions mentioned above, as well as other applicable rules and recommendations imposed by ICCAT.

Framework of MCS for Bluefin Tuna Fishery, Transfer and Trading**Catch**

- Individual Quota (IQ) allocation,
- BFT catching/two vessel to be registered in ICCAT record,
- Legal fishing season,
- No BFT Joint Fishing Operation (JFO) will be allowed with other CPC, JFO can be allowed between the two authorized Egyptian vessels “In case of their request”
- BCD Scheme requirements,
- Logbook requirements,
- 100% ICCAT ROP-BFT coverage,
- Video footage,
- Cross-checks for verification.

**Transfer**

- Prior Transfer Notification & Authorization,
- Video Footage,
- Cross-checks for verification,
- 100% ICCAT Regional Observer Coverage (for all catching vessel),
- 100% National Observer Coverage (for all towing vessels),
- BCD Scheme requirements,
- ICCAT Transfer Declaration (ITD) requirements.

**Export**

- 100 % GAFRD with the Egyptian Veterinary Services organization representatives coverage
- BCD Scheme

**Inspections**

- Full inspection coverage shall be ensured during 2013 BFT fishing season by GAFRD inspectors

EUROPEAN UNION**1. Annual Fishing Plan 2013****1.1 Background**

The European Union (EU) adopted Council Regulation (EC) No. 302/2009¹ on 6 April 2009 transposing into Community Law ICCAT Rec. 08-05 to establish a Multiannual Recovery Plan for Bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean. Following ICCAT Rec. 10-04 amending ICCAT Rec. 08-05 adopted at the 2010 ICCAT annual meeting in Paris, the EU has amended Council Regulation (EC) 302/2009 transposing ICCAT Rec. 10-04 into Union law.

Following ICCAT Rec. 12-03 amending ICCAT Rec. 10-04 adopted at the 2012 ICCAT annual meeting in Agadir, the EU will fully implement the new Recommendation in 2013.

In accordance with the current Total Allowable Catch (TAC) provided under Rec. 12-03, the quota for the EU in 2013 is 7.548,061 t.

1.2 Details

In accordance with ICCAT Rec. 12-03 the European Union has:

- Drawn up an annual fishing plan. Individual quotas are still being allocated by EU Member States authorities however will be applicable to all purse-seiners irrespective of their length.

¹ OJ L 96,15.04.2009, p.1

- Allocated an individual vessel quota to all purse seine vessels over 24 metres, higher than the SRCS catch rates, as adopted by the Commission for estimating fleet capacity.
- Allocated quotas to the following sectors:
 - Longliners (>24m),
 - Purse seiners,
 - Baitboats and trolling boats,
 - Pelagic trawlers and
 - Recreational and sport fisheries
- Authorised 'catching vessels' and 'other' vessels in accordance with paragraph 57 of ICCAT Recommendation [12-03],
- Submitted a complementary inspection plan covering all bluefin tuna fisheries capable of addressing the control requirements of the fishery.

The EU undertakes a real-time monitoring of the bluefin tuna fishery and is committed to taking the necessary measures to ensure full respect of ICCAT Rec. 12-03 and other Recommendation concerning the management of E-BFT fisheries including Recs. 06-07, 11-20 and 11-21.

The EU will submit the lists of authorised vessels that will participate in the fishery in 2013 in accordance with the reporting deadlines laid down under paragraph 58 of Rec. 12-03.

2. Inspection Plan 2013 (revised February 2013) submitted by the European Union (EU)

2.1 Introduction

The European Union actively fishes eastern bluefin tuna (E-BFT) with a range of fishing gears with the majority of the quotas being attributed to the purse seine and trap sectors.

The EU includes 7² Member States actively fishing BFT across a number of sectors. The authorities for control and inspection belong to different entities across Member State and in many cases involve a combination of competent authorities.

ICCAT introduced a comprehensive set of conservation and management measures for E-BFT under the 2006 multi-annual recovery plan. Amendments in 2008, 2010 and more recently in 2012 have significantly reinforced the recovery plan which operates in parallel with an extensive catch documentation programme introduced in 2007 and subsequently amended in 2009 and 2011. The full implementation of the new electronic BCD programme (eBCD) throughout 2013 and 2014 will further strengthen this suite of management and conservation measures.

The European Commission coordinates with the Member States to ensure that the provisions laid down by ICCAT are reflected in EU and Member States law and fully enforced.

2.2 Overview of inspection measures adopted in 2013 by the EU

2.2.1 Specific Control and Inspection Programme

Working under the framework of the ICCAT Scheme of Joint International Inspection and building on experiences from recent years, the EU has put in place a Specific Control and Inspection Programme in 2011 covering the period 15 March 2011 to 15 March 2014 to monitor and enforce the implementation of the bluefin tuna recovery plan. This programme is a joint initiative bringing together the resources of the European Commission, the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) and the Member States involved in the fishery.

This programme is currently being amended to reflect the new conservation and management measures under Rec. 12-03.

² On 1 July 2013 Croatia will join the EU and the number of Member States actively fishing E-BFT will increase to 8.

2.2.2 Joint Deployment Plan (JDP) for Bluefin tuna

The resources of the European Commission are complemented by the EFCA who will adopt its 2013 Joint Deployment Plan for bluefin tuna (JDP-BFT) in the Eastern Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea bringing the Specific Control and Inspection Programme into effect. It covers all stages of the market chain as well as controls at sea, on land and traps and farms. As in previous years the 2013 plan brings together the European Commission, Member States and the EFCA and draws on the resources of the seven EU Member States involved in the fishery.

Operationally the EU will coordinate joint inspection and control activities in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean involving a number of fishery patrol vessels and aircrafts. Whilst the operational strategies and precise areas of operation remain confidential, the general areas covered by the 2013 JDP-BFT will be the Eastern Atlantic (ICES Areas VU, VIII, IX X and COPACE 34.1.1, 34.1.2 and 34.2.0) and the Mediterranean (Western, Central and Eastern).

The Steering Group, composed by representatives of the EFCA, European Commission and Member States, provides advice on the overall strategy of inspection activities and supervises the JDP implementation.

The joint control, inspection and surveillance activities carried out under the JDP are coordinated by the Technical Joint Deployment Group (TJDG), whose headquarters are based at the EFCA seat in Vigo, Spain.

The TJDG is composed of national coordinators designated by the Member States and supported by the EFCA's own coordinators.

All cases of potential non-compliance will be forwarded to the flag state of the vessel/operator concerned and to the ICCAT Secretariat where required under Rec. 12-03.

In order to enhance the monitoring and control strategy used in the JDP, the EFCA is also cooperating with other EU Agencies including EMSA (European Maritime Safety Agency) through the Marsurv-3 project. Marsurv-3 is an application that provides an integrated maritime picture based on the real-time fusion of VMS, AIS and other maritime related data, such as sightings. It is proving to be a useful tool that greatly contributes to the operational risk assessment.

Following the positive results of the pilot project in 2012, the development of the Marsurv-3 application will be continued in 2013 with a view to having an enhanced operational version of the application during the 2013 bluefin tuna JDP.

2.2.3 Member States National Control Action Programmes

Under the Specific Control and Inspection Programme, EU Member States have each developed and submitted a National Control Action Programmes for 2013. These are extensive programmes containing the resources and inspection strategy they intend to implement within their jurisdiction. These programmes as required under the Specific Control and Inspection Programme (Commission Decision No.246/20 12) contain a series of inspection 'benchmarks', which include in particular:

- a) the full monitoring of caging operations taking place in EU waters;
- b) the full monitoring of transfer operations;
- c) the full monitoring of joint fishing operations;
- d) the control of all documents required by the legislation applicable to bluefin tuna, in particular verifying the reliability of the information recorded.

Such Specific Control and Inspection Programmes are in full accordance with the conservation and management measures adopted in Rec. 12-03. The full list of benchmarks to which the programmes are conforming are contained in **Annex I**.

2.2.4 European Commission inspections

Under the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), the primary responsibility for control and enforcement lays with the Member State Authorities and specifically their fisheries inspectors. Whilst different in their powers and mandate, the European Commission also has its own permanent team of inspectors, whose role is monitoring and

evaluating Member States fulfilment of their duties and obligations, including those under the bluefin tuna recovery plan and associated ICCAT recommendations concerning BFT.

Although the inspection plan is still subject to change in response to the particularities of the 2013 fishing seasons, European Commission Inspectors will once again be very active in 2013.

2.2.5 Vessel monitoring system and Operations team

The team responsible within the European Commission for catch reporting and satellite Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) will monitor submissions on an hourly basis and undertake extensive cross-checks to avoid any potential quota overshoot.

All vessels will be continually monitored by VMS and any interruption in the transmission of VMS data be immediately followed up with the Member State concerned.

2.2.6 Cooperation with other CPCs

As in previous years, the EU in 2013 will once again seek to establish and further promote cooperation and coordination with other Contracting parties (CPCs) in the Mediterranean concerning the exchange of monitoring, control and surveillance information.

Annex 1

Benchmarks for EU Member State National Control Action Programmes

<i>Place of inspection</i>	<i>Benchmark</i>
Caging activities (including harvest)	<p>All caging operation into a farm must have been authorized by the flag Member State of the catching vessel within 48 hours following the submission of the information required for the caging operation;</p> <p>All caging for farming or fattening of BFT shall be accompanied by accurate, complete and validated documentation as required by ICCAT (as provided for by point 86 of ICCAT Rec. 12-03);</p> <p>All caging and harvesting operations shall be inspected, by the competent authorities of the farm Member State in view of the relevant control obligations laid down ICCAT Recommendation [06-07] and [12-03], including the requirement under point 88 to implement a programme using stereoscopic cameras systems or alternative techniques that provide the equivalent precision covering 100% of caging operations in order to refine the number and weight of BFT caged;</p> <p>Fish shall be caged before 15th August unless a valid reason exists as per Rec. 12-03 (as provided for by paragraph 85).</p>
Inspection at sea	<p>Benchmark set following detailed risk analysis in each area;</p> <p>Benchmarks at sea shall refer to the number of patrol days at sea in the bluefin tuna recovery specific area and shall refer as well to the number of patrol days identifying the fishing season and the type of fishing activity targeted.</p>

Transfer operation	<p>Any transfer operations must have been authorized previously by the flag States on the basis of a prior transfer notification (as provided for by point 77 of ICCAT Rec. 12-03);</p> <p>An authorization number shall be assigned to each transfer operation (as provided for by point 78 of ICCAT Rec. 12-03);</p> <p>A transfer shall be authorized within 48 hours following the submission of the prior transfer notification (as provided for by point 78 of ICCAT Rec. 12-03);</p> <p>An ICCAT transfer declaration shall be sent to the flag State at the end of the transfer operation (as provided for by point 79 of ICCAT Rec. 12-03);</p> <p>All transfer operations must be monitored by video camera in the water (as provided for by point 81 and Annex 9 of ICCAT Rec. 12-03).</p>
Transshipments	<p>All concerned vessels shall be inspected on arrival before the transshipment operations start, as well as before departure after the transshipment operations. Random checks shall also be made in non-designated ports based on risk analysis;</p> <p>A transshipment declaration shall be transmitted to the Flag States no later than 48 hours after the date of transshipment in port (as provided for by point 66 of ICCAT Rec. 12-03).</p>
Joint fishing operation	<p>All joint fishing operations must have been authorized previously by the flag States concerned;</p> <p>Member States shall establish and maintain a record of all joint fishing operations authorized by them.</p>
Aerial surveillance	Benchmark set following detailed risk analysis in each area taking into consideration the available resources at the Member State's disposal.
Landings	<p>All vessels entering a designated port for the purpose of landing bluefin tuna shall be controlled and a percentage shall be inspected based on a risk assessment system, involving quota, fleet size and fishing effort;</p> <p>Random checks shall also be made in non-designated ports;</p> <p>The relevant authority shall send a record of the landings to the flag State authority of the fishing vessel within 48 hours after the landing has ended (as provided for by point 70 of ICCAT Rec. 12-03).</p>
Marketing	Flexible benchmark, to be set after a detailed analysis of the marketing activity conducted.
Sport and Recreational Fisheries	Flexible benchmark, to be set after a detailed analysis of the sport and recreational fisheries activities conducted.
Traps	All trap operations, including transfer and harvesting, shall be inspected.

3. EU Capacity Plan 2013

Category	Catch rate	Number of vessels and traps		capacity (t)	
		2008	2013*	2008	2013*
PS large (> 40 m)	70.7	35	20	2473	1343
PS med. (24-40 m)	49.8	61	18	3037	896
PS small (\leq 24 m)	33.7	81		2728	
<i>PS total</i>		177	38	8238	2309
LL med. (24-40 m)	5.7 t	7	6	40	34
LL small (\leq 24 m)	5.0 t	329	89	1645	445
<i>LL total</i>		336	95	1685	479
Baitboat	19.8 t	64	68	1264	1343
Hand line	5.0 t	85	31	425	155
Trawl	10.0 t	160	57	1600	570
Other artisanal	5.0 t	253	135	1265	675
Total		1075	424	14477	5531
Trap	130	15	12	1950	1560
Total		1090	436	16427	7091

* Three medium sized purse seiners may be replaced by line vessels. (as many as needed to achieve corresponding capacity).

ICELAND

Bluefin Tuna Fishing, Inspection and Capacity Management Plan 2013

There is no designated bluefin tuna fishing fleet in Iceland.

In 2013 the Icelandic bluefin tuna quota will be allocated as follows:

- One longline vessel will be allocated 26 tonnes of bluefin tuna.
- 2 tonnes of bluefin tuna will be reserved for recreational fisheries.
- 2.97 tonnes of bluefin tuna will be reserved for incidental by-catch by the Icelandic fishing fleet.

When the individual quota of the longline vessel is fished the bluefin tuna fishing licence of the vessel expires for the year. In 2013 the Icelandic fisheries authorities will only issue a fishing licence for directed bluefin tuna to one Icelandic longline fishing vessel.

All catches shall be landed in Icelandic designated ports, no transshipments will be allowed.

Inspectors from the Directorate of Fisheries in Iceland shall be present onboard for at least 20% of the fishing operations.

The Marine Research Institute in Iceland supplies the Directorate with relevant information for the inspectors.

All landings will be monitored by the Directorate.

The longline fishing season starts 1 August and ends 31 December 2013. The fishing area is south of Iceland. The vessel is required to have a general fishing licence and a sufficient quota for other species within in the Icelandic EEZ to allow for incidental by-catch. When the vessel intends to utilize the bluefin tuna quota shall notify the Directorate of Fisheries in Iceland and thereby undergo the management regime of ICCAT. As soon as the individual quota is fished the bluefin tuna fishing licence expires, else the licence expires 31 December 2013

The vessel cannot be regarded as a designated tuna vessel as it has a quota for other fish species in Icelandic waters and only engages in bluefin tuna fisheries part of the year.

The recreational fisheries will be allowed from June 16 to October 14. Those intending to fish bluefin tuna shall notify the Directorate of Fisheries.

All landings by recreational fishers shall be notified to the Directorate of Fisheries before landing and shall be monitored and registered into the central database of the Directorate.

All discards are banned on the Icelandic fleet, all by-catch are to be landed and recorded. Shark finning is prohibited. Should the bluefin tuna longline vessel catch shark species that are under special provisions by ICCAT, stipulating that retaining, storing, landing and selling are prohibited, these catches are to be submitted to the Icelandic Marine Research Institute for scientific research. The Marine Research Institute will then report relevant information to the ICCAT Scientific Committee.

JAPAN

1. Fishing Plan

a) Fishing Vessel Type

All Japanese fishing vessels catching bluefin tuna (BFT) in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean are large scale tuna longline fishing vessels (LSTLVs).

b) Management Period

The Fisheries Agency of Japan (FAJ) will continue to manage its allocation based on the Japanese fishing season, which is, in the case of the 2013 allocated quota, from August 1st 2013 to July 31st 2014.

c) Quota and Number of Authorized Fishing Vessels

Japan's quota for the 2013 fishing season is 1139.55 t. The Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, having been entrusted competence by the Fisheries Law, has amended the Ministerial Ordinance to introduce a legally binding individual quota system.

The Minister will license LSTLVs to catch BFT for 2013 fishing year as soon as those vessels are selected. FAJ will, upon Minister's licensing, inform the names, amount of individual quotas and other necessary information to the ICCAT Secretariat one month before the Japanese fishing season begins. (Paragraph 58 of Rec. 12-03).

2. Enforcement Plan

a) Catch Report

The Minister will continue to require fishing operators to affix tags to each BFT which have been authorized and distributed beforehand, and to report daily BFT catch (including zero catch report) by the end of next day of their catch in accordance with the Ordinance. Such report has to contain information/data including the date, area of catch, number of catch, time of catch, individual BFT weight and tag numbers. (Paragraph 72 of Rec. 12-03)

b) Transshipment

The Minister will continue to prohibit transshipping BFT at sea and allow transshipment only at ports registered to ICCAT by the Ordinance and conditions on the licenses. (Paragraph 64 of Rec. 12-03)

c) Landing

The Minister will continue to prohibit overseas landing of BFT, and allow landing only in eight domestic ports which the Minister has designated by the Ordinance for enforcement purpose. FAJ will continue to have its enforcement officers inspect all BFT landings at the designated ports. (Paragraph 69 of Rec. 12-03)

d) Closed Fishing Season

The Minister will continue to prohibit the operators from BFT fishing in the area delimited by West of 10°W and North of 42°N during the period from 1 February to 31 July, and in other areas during the period from 1 of June to 31 December by the Ordinance (Paragraph 21 of Rec. 12-03). FAJ will continue to ensure the compliance of these closed seasons by monitoring VMS data. (Paragraph 89 of Rec. 12-03)

e) Observers

FAJ will place observers onboard LSTLVs (Paragraph 90 of Rec. 12-03).

f) Inspection Vessel

FAJ will dispatch one inspection vessel to the Atlantic Ocean in 2013 (Paragraph 101 of Rec. 12-03).

g) Imposition of Sanctions

In the case that violation is discovered, the Minister will impose a penalty on the fishing operator, which could include both port confinement and five year suspension to allocate BFT individual quota.

3. Capacity Management Plan**(1) Reduction of Fishing Capacity**

The number of Japanese LSTLVs and the corresponding gross registered tonnage (GRT) during the period from January 2007 to July 2008 were 49 vessels and 21,587 tons.

Japan reduced its fishing capacity by buy-back schemes in 2009. The number of vessels and the GRT in the 2009 fishing year were 33 vessels and 14,427 tons (33% reduction at both number and tons from 2008 fishing year).

Japan further reduced its fishing capacity to 22 vessels and 9,831 tons in 2011 and 20 vessels and 8,953 tons in 2012 so that its fishing capacity continues to be commensurate with its allocated quota.

(2) Adjustment of fishing capacity

The Minister will continue to allocate each LSTLV an individual quota more than the capacity (25 t per LSTLV) estimated by SCRS. Thus, Japan, having accomplished the obligation on capacity reduction provided in paragraph 48 of Rec. 12-03, will continue to ensure that its fishing capacity will be commensurate with its allocated quota in accordance with paragraph 49 of Rec. 12-03.

	<i>Year 2011</i> <i>(August 2011~July 2012)</i>	<i>Year 2012</i> <i>(August 2012~July 2013)</i>	<i>Year 2013</i> <i>(August 2013~July 2014)</i>
Allocated quota (ton)	1097.03	1097.03	1139.55
Number of large scale longline Vessel (Total GRT)	22 (9,831)	20 (8,953)	to be decided by June 2013
An individual quota per vessel per year allocated by the government of Japan (ton)	49.865	54.850	to be decided by June 2013

KOREA

In accordance with Rec. 12-03, the Republic of Korea has its bluefin tuna quota of 80.53 tons in 2013 and has only one purse seine vessel (*Sajomelita*) targeting bluefin tuna since 2008. In terms of capacity management plan, it is not applicable for Korea as it only has one purse seine vessel. Thus, the fishing capacity for Korea is commensurate with its quota. This vessel will be operating in the Mediterranean Sea during the authorized fishing period (5.26-6.24, 2013).

Joint fishing operation with Libya will be conducted this year with its consent. Korea will inform the Secretariat of the details at least ten days before the start of the joint fishing operation, including names of Libyan catching vessels and their quota respectively allocated by the Libyan authority.

An ICCAT Regional Observer will be deployed on board. It is allowed to catch only bluefin tuna weighing over 30kg. Adjustment of farming capacity is not applicable as Korea has no farming facilities. Bluefin tuna transshipments at sea are prohibited. Recording requirements, communications of catches, reporting of catches will be complied with. The Korean authority will verify, including the use of inspection reports and observer reports, VMS data, the submission of logbooks and relevant information recorded in the logbooks of its fishing vessel, in the transfer document and in the catch documents. Transfer operation of live bluefin tuna will be authorized by our authority in advance.

In accordance with Korea's Distant Sea Fisheries Act, the vessel should comply with other requirements and provisions in the Recommendation 12/03. If there are any infractions or the vessel fails to comply with any regulations in the Recommendation, our authority will investigate the case and take measures in accordance with the Recommendation and, as appropriate, sanctions against the vessel depending on the level of violations.

Please refer to the information on the Korean vessel as follows:

- *Nationality:* Republic of Korea
- *Vessel Name:* SAJOMELITA
- *ICCAT No.:* AT000KOR00211 (Bluefin Tuna Active Vessel)
- *Register No.:* 1104001-6261403
- *Call Sign:* DTBV2
- *GRT:* 105.00
- *LOA:* 22.25m
- *Type of Vessel:* Purse seine
- *Mode of Operation:* Joint Fishing Operation in Mediterranean
- *Authorized Fishing Period:* 26 May-24 June 2013
- *Bluefin Tuna Quota:* 80.53 tons

LIBYA

Libyan EBFT Fishing Plan for 2013 Season

1. Fishing fleet

- The number of fishing vessels which will participate in E-BFT catching for the 2013 season in the East Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea are 15 catching vessels (14 PS, 24-40m and 1 LL, over 40m), no vessels less than 24m, no recreational or sport fishery will participate in the 2013 fishing season.
- The total number of other vessels that will participate in the 2013 bluefin tuna fishing season are 8 (eight) vessels with no fishing gear on board, except transfer cage or services supplies.
- Since the total allocated quota (TAC) assigned to Libya in Rec.12-03 is 937.65 t, therefore the individual quota for Libyan vessels authorized to participate in season 2013 will distribute as:

- 14 purse seine over 24 m and one longliner over 40 m authorized to fish bluefin tuna in 2013 have been allocated an individual vessel quota taking into consideration SCRS best catch rate, where 90 t will be allocated to one LL vessel over 40 m and 845 t allocated between 14 PS (24-40 m) with 2.66 t to be kept as a reserve for any incidental or by-catch that might occur in the artisanal fleet. The list of authorized vessels and their individual quota is shown in **Table 2**, and any changes to this fishing possibilities allocation or vessels list will be transmitted to the ICCAT Secretariat immediately and in accordance with recommendations adopted by ICCAT Recommendation 12-03.
- The authorized vessels expected to carry over fishing activities during the 2013 season in working groups and the details of these groups and the allocation key will be notified to the ICCAT Secretariat within the required time frame.
- Respecting individual quota limits shall be monitored by fishery authorities and cross checking with ROP and National observers on board fishing vessels.
- All vessels deemed that its individual quota has been exhausted, it shall be ordered into port immediately.

2. Joint Fishing Operations

- JFOs will be only authorized with other CPC authorities that have less than 5 PS authorized to fish BFT and registered in ICCAT list.
- If any request for JFO received from CPCs which have less than 5 PS, Libya will study this request very carefully and will consent the JFO after making sure that all the requirements of JFO required by Rec. 12-03 adapted by last meeting 2012 are fulfilled, and inform the ICCAT Secretariat with its consent within the time frame required.

3. Enforcement of Fishing Plan

3.1 Regulations

- Ministerial Decree #61/2010, transposing Recommendation 09-04, which amends Recommendation by ICCAT to establish a Multiannual Recovery Plan for Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic [Rec. 08-05].
- Law #14/1989 which organizes the Fishery and Aquaculture.
- Other acts organize and manage bluefin tuna licenses.

3.2 Licensing

- Individual fishing permit shall be issued by fishery authority based upon Decree, 61/2010 (Articles 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7) for each vessel authorized to fish bluefin tuna in 2013 specifying the following condition as required by Rec. 12-03:

- * Area of fishing: (East Atlantic and med-sea, Article 3/Decree #61/2010)
- * Individual Quota: (Art. 11/Decree, #61/2010)
- * Log Book on board: (Art. 28/Decree, #61/2010)

3.3 VMS

- All fishing vessels and other vessels active in bluefin tuna fishing shall not be authorized unless equipped with a full active VMS (Art. 18/Decree #61/2010).
- Fishery authority will monitor the status of VMS transmission and any interruption of transmission will be followed immediately to investigate and solve the problem.

3.4 Observers

- Regional and National observers shall be placed on board all PS and LL vessels authorized to fish bluefin in 2013 (Art. 14/Decree, #61/2010).

3.5 Reporting of Catch

- The Catch vessel Master shall communicate by electronic or other means to competent authorities a weekly catch report, with information on location of catch, date, number of fish, total weight, (Art.20 / Decree#61/2010).
- weekly and monthly catch report of all authorized Libyan vessel active in bluefin tuna catch shall be transmitted to ICCAT Secretariat in accordance with the format set for this purpose.

3.6 Transfer

- The catch vessel master shall request from the competent authorities an authorization to transfer bluefin tuna catch by email or fax, specifying, date, area and position of catch, number of fish and estimated weight and expected date, time of transfer, towing vessel information, number of cages and their final destination conformed and signed by Regional observer and National observer.
- A numbered transfer authorization shall be sent to the catching vessels after checking that all requirements by Para. 77, 78, 79, 80, of Rec. 12-03 is met.
- In case there are indication of differences in estimated weight of fish including number died during transfer operation between ROP onboard the catching vessel and vessel master by more than 10%, or 5% in case of number of fish less than 30kgs an investigation will take place according to procedure stated by Para. 87 of Rec. 12-03.
- All bluefin tuna transfers to tugs shall be documented by video camera and copy shall be on board of tug boat and another copy shall be handed to ROP and Vessel Master (Art24/decree#61/2010).
- Vessel Master shall complete the transfer declaration and BCD forms and transmit these forms to the fishery authority after confirming the data from ROP (Art.25/Decree#61/2010).
- Master of Tug Boat shall not leave transfer site before he receives the original documents which proofs the legality of the catch (Transfer Declarations, BCDs and Catch vessels logbook (Art.23/Decree#61/2010)).
- The Master of fishing vessel or his representative shall inform the flag state competent authorities with the name, location and flag state of the farm to which the fish marketed (Art. 21/Decree#61/2010).
- The Master of catching vessel shall keep on board logbook of their operation and must complete by midnight every day all vessel activities information and shall declare the number and weight of dead fish retain on board and to be landed in ports (Art.25/Decree #61/2010).

3.7 Sampling Requirements

- All catches transfers will be documented by video footages.
- All authorized PS vessels have full deployment (100%) of ROP and national observers, also all tugs shall have a national observer's onboard.
- At the time of transfer of live fish to towing cages, certain percentages of fish transferred shall be sampled and killed to improve the counting and weight unless all operators of PS to transfer their catches only to farming units that can guarantee the utilization of stereoscopic systems for assessments of live fish on arrival to of towing cages to their farms.

3.8 Landing/Transshipments ports

- Transshipment at sea is prohibited.

- Bluefin tuna vessels shall only land/tranship bluefin tuna catches in ports designated by Fishery Authorities (Al-khums Port, Tripoli Port and Musrata Port).
- All vessels enter any of these ports for landing or transshipping shall seek a pre-entry permission from port authorities (Art.22/Decree#61/2010).
- All landings or transshipments shall be inspected by port and fishery authorities and inform the fishing vessel flag state with a report (as stated in Para. 70 of Rec.12-03).

3.9 Use of Aircraft

- Use of airplanes or helicopters to search for bluefin is prohibited (Art.10/Decree#61/2010).

3.10 Minimum Size

- Catching, retaining, landing, transshipping, transferring, selling, displaying for sale bluefin tuna weighing less than 30 kg is prohibited (Art.15/Decree 61/2010).
- Catching vessels fishing actively for bluefin tuna, as incidental catch of Max. 5% weighing between 10-30 kg is permitted and shall be counted on Libyan quota.

3.11 Market Measures

- Foreign and domestic trade, landing. Imports, exports, placing in cages and transshipments of bluefin tuna and its products that are not accompanied by accurate, complete and validated BCDs are prohibited (Art.21&24/Decree61/2010).

3.12 Imposing of Sanction

- Any non compliance to the regulations regarding bluefin tuna fishing operations shall lead to penalties stated in Decree 61/2010/Art.17 (confiscation of fishing gear, releasing catches, suspending or withdrawal of license, decrease or withdrawal of quota).

4. Fishery Inspection Plan

- Monitoring and control of fisheries activities in Libya are governed by the Fisheries and Aquaculture Act, #14/1989, Decree #61/2010, transposing Rec. 09-06 and the Coast Guard and Port Security Act, #229/2005 that considers the core legal documents which define activities and actions which are considered as infringements of fishery policy.

4.1 Human Resources

- Fishing Inspection will be implemented by fishing inspectors from the fisheries authority and coast guard staff, in coordination with port authority.
- Coast Guards shall cooperate in surveillance and control at sea of all activities linked with fisheries inspection planned and coordinated with consent of fishery authority.
- Central Control Room will be established during the 2013 bluefin tuna fishing season to supervise the monitoring of fishing activities.
- Specific fisheries inspection tasks shall be planned including a list of relevant provisions of national and international regulations governing management of fishery resources also containing description of inspector tasks as per Rec. 12-03.

5. Capacity Management Plan

- Libya shall keep reducing its fishing capacity in accordance with ICCAT measures requirements until its fishing capacity is commensurate with its allocated quota (**Table 1**) conceder the (Rec. 12-03, Article 9) here the new TAC for Libya is 937.56 t.

Note: whereas, Rec. 12-03 and Rec. 10-04 do not have many differences in most of their articles, decree 61/2010 will be modified accordingly.

Table 2. Catching vessels actually engage in bluefin tuna fishing 2013 season.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Vessel name</i>	<i>ICCAT No.</i>	<i>Vessel type</i>	<i>Quota</i>
1	Morina	AT000LBY00028	PS, 24-40m	75.714
2	Khaleej Eltahadi	AT000LBY00010	PS, 24-40m	58.357
3	Tagreft	AT000LBY00013	PS, 24-40m	75.714
4	AL MAHARI I	AT000LBY00046	PS, 24-40m	68.714
5	HANIBAL	AT000LBY00047	PS, 24-40m	48.000
6	OZU 2	AT000LBY00009	PS,24-40m	48.000
7	ELHARES 2	AT000LBY00074	PS, 24-40m	48.000
8	ELHADER II	AT000LBY00037	PS, 24-40m	58.357
9	AL SSAFA IV	AT000LBY00060	PS, 24-40m	58.357
10	ALHILAL	AT000LBY00016	PS, 24-40m	70.536
11	Jarjaruma	AT000LBY00023	PS, 24-40m	70.536
12	ALBAHR ALHADER	AT000LBY00077	PS, 24-40m	68.714
13	TELEL II	AT000LBY00075	PS, 24-40m	48.000
14	TELEL	AT000LBY00076	PS, 24-40m	48.000
15	ZRQA ALYAMAMA *	AT000LBY00003	LL over 40m	90.000
Total				934.999

*Vessel zrqaAlyamama can operate in the Atlantic Ocean.

Table 1. Fishing Capacity Management Plan for Libya 2010-2013.

<i>Tuna Vessel Fleet</i>		<i>Fleet (vessels)</i>						<i>Fishing capacity</i>				
Type	Best catch rates defined by the SCRS (t)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Purse seiner over 40m	71	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Purse seiner between 24 and 40m	49.78	31	30	29	21	18	17	1493	1444	1045	896	846
Purse seiners less than 24m	33.68	1	1	1		0	0	34	34	0	0	0
TOTAL PURSE SEINE FLEET		33	31	30	21	18	17	1527	1477	1045	896	846
Longliner over 40m	25	5	4	2	2	2	1	100	50	50	50	25
Longliner between 24 and 40m	5.68		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longliner less than 24m	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL LONGLINE FLEET		5	4	2	2	2	1	100	50	50	50	25
Total fleet/fishing capacity		38	35	32	23	20	18	1627	1527	1095	946	871
TAC								22000	13500	13500	13500	13500
Quota Libya								947	581	903	903	903
Report/quota transfer*								145	145	0	0	0
Underharvest report 2009											0	0
"Overharvest reimbursement"									0	0	0	0
Adjusted Libya quota								1092	726	903	903	903
Under/overcapacity								535	801	192	43	-32
Reduction 2011	78.70%											
Reduction 2012	95.20%											
Reduction 2013	103.50%											

KINGDOM OF MOROCCO

Bluefin Tuna Fishing, Inspection and Capacity Reduction Plans for 2013

Introduction

In accordance with the provisions in force on the recovery of bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean, in particular Rec. 12-03, the objective of this document, is to present to the Commission the Kingdom of Morocco's bluefin tuna fishing, inspection and capacity management plan for 2013.

In general terms, this plan is identical to the plans presented and adopted by the Commission for previous fishing seasons.

I. Quota allocation/operational sectors

In accordance with the fishing allocations adopted by ICCAT during its last annual meeting, in Agadir, November 2012, the national quota established at 1,270.47 t, will be distributed among the following operational sectors: a) traps, b) artisanal boats and coastal vessels that catch bluefin tuna as by-catch and c) two offshore purse seiners.

Quota levels and related will be established for each of sector by the Administration, in accordance with the ICCAT provisions regarding individual quotas and will be notified within the deadline established by the Commission.

II. Fishing conditions

Fishing conditions will be established within the framework of the annual bluefin tuna fishing management plan taking into account the new provisions of the East bluefin tuna recovery plan adopted by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT).

The Kingdom of Morocco will comply with all the provisions of Recommendation 12-03 during the 2013 fishing campaign which will start in April 2013 for the trap sector.

III. Fishing capacity

In accordance with the provisions of the national fishing capacity management plan, established in Article 46 of ICCAT Recommendation 08-05, the maximum fishing capacity authorized to directly target bluefin tuna is distributed as follows:

- 10 traps
- 02 purse seiner vessels LOA > 40 m

Coastal fishing vessels and artisanal fishing vessels authorized by the Moroccan Administration can catch bluefin tuna incidentally during their migration period. These vessels are included in the ICCAT Record of Vessels and their catches shall be counted, within the quota limit allocated to their segment as in the past.

Therefore the national management/capacity reduction fishing plan for the 2013 fishing season is shown as follows:

	<i>Potential catches SCRS</i>	<i>Units Registered in ICCAT before 2010</i>	<i>Theoretical catches</i>	<i>Authorized units for 2013</i>	<i>Theoretical catches 2013</i>
PS large LOA > 40 m	70,7	2	141.4	2	141,4
PS med 24 < LOA < 40	49,8	3	149.9	0	0
PS small LOA < 24 *	33,7	1	33.7	0	0
LL large	25	0	25	0	0
LL med	5,7	1	5.7	0	0
LL small	5	63	315	0	0
Baitboat	19,8	0	0	0	0
Handlines	5	0	0	0	0
Trawler	10	1	10	0	0
Other artisanal**	5	pm	pm	pm*	6,07
Traps (Moroccan indicators)	112.3	18	2021.4	10	1123
Total		89	2691.6	11	1270,47
Quota 2013	1270,47				
Total Theoretical catches			2691.6		1270,47
Theoretical rate of capacity/quota excess					0,00 %

*pm=for the record.

IV. Fishing time/area closures

In accordance with the provisions of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), the fishing periods authorized by the Commission for the different gear will be applied.

V. Control and compliance

Fishery monitoring, control and observation practices will be implemented in accordance to the national and international regulations in force, materialized by the 2013 modus operandi. The objective of this is as follows:

- Monitoring and control of fishing activities;
- Reporting scheme and recording of fishery information;
- VMS monitoring of fishing and support vessels (trap vessels);
- Documentary procedures for the commercialization of bluefin tuna;
- Application of the international provisions established within the framework of the recovery plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean,

- Compliance of international obligations by the Kingdom of Morocco to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT).

NORWAY

Norwegian Regulation Prohibiting Fisheries for Bluefin Tuna

On 19 December 2007, the Norwegian Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs informed ICCAT about a regulation establishing a prohibition for Norwegian vessels to fish and land bluefin tuna in Norway's territorial waters, the Norwegian Exclusive Economic Zone and in international waters. The regulation has been in force since 1 January 2008, and will also apply in 2013.

The regulation further stipulates that in case of incidental by-catches of bluefin tuna in fisheries for other species, all dead or dying bluefin tuna shall be landed, whereas bluefin tuna which is alive shall be released back to the sea.

Any willful or negligent contravention of these provisions is subject to penalty in accordance with Norwegian law.

Due to the prohibition and absence of bluefin tuna fishery, the obligation to provide ICCAT with fishing, inspection or capacity management plans for such a fishery is not applicable to Norway, and will consequently not be sent.

TUNISIA

1. Fishing Plan

All the Tunisian fishing vessels that carry out bluefin tuna fishing use purse seine; these are tuna seiners.

In 2013, a total of 21 vessels will be authorized to take part in bluefin tuna fishing by purse seine. The list of these vessels is attached as **Table 1**. Of this number, 20 vessels measure between 24 and 40 m and one vessel is less than 24 m.

The bluefin tuna fishing season in 2013 will extend from 26 May to 24 June, in accordance with ICCAT Rec. 12-03, each vessel authorized will have, during this period, a bluefin tuna fishing permit and will have an individual quota. As soon as the individual vessel quota is used, it will be required to return to its home port and its fishing permit will be withdrawn.

As in 2012, the tuna vessels will work in groups during the 2013 fishing season, and the national quota that amounts to 1,057 tonnes will be shared among these vessels in such a way that the fishing capacity is proportional to the quotas allocated. The methodology adopted for the allocation of quotas among the tuna vessels will be the same as in 2012.

The competent authority will continue to require the fishing operators to make daily catch reports of bluefin tuna, including null catches, and all other information required by the ICCAT Recommendations.

According to Tunisian regulation, the transshipment of the catches is subject to a prior authorization. The competent authority will maintain this provision in 2013 and halt any transshipment of bluefin tuna at sea in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 64 of Rec. 12-03.

Likewise, Tunisian regulation requires that the landing of catches must take place in Tunisian fishing ports, unless exceptional authorization is given in the fishing permit. This provision will also be maintained in 2013 and the pertinent measures will be taken to avoid any landing of bluefin tuna outside the designated ports (paragraph 65 of Rec.12-03).

In 2013, the competent Tunisian authority envisages deploying observers on board the Tunisian towing vessels, as was done in 2012. Tunisia will welcome regional observers on board its vessels within the framework of

ICCAT's Observer Program and will support a more active participation of Tunisian observers on board the vessels of other CPCs.

The monitoring of vessel activities will continued to be assured by the VMS system.

2. Capacity Management Plan

2.1 Management of fishing capacity

In order for the capacity to be proportion to the quota allocated for the 2013 fishing season, Tunisia will reduce its fishing capacity in 2013 to 21 vessels, including all categories, to a catch level of 1,029.28 t, from 42 vessels with a catch level of 1,809.26 t in 2010, i.e., a reduction of 103.68 %.

Table 2 shows the fishing capacity planned by Tunisia for the 2013 fishing season, in number, according to length range of the fishing vessels.

2.2 Farming Capacity Management Plan

In accordance with paragraphs 52 and 53 of Rec. 12-03, Tunisia envisages maintaining in 2013 the same quantities of bluefin tuna caged in 2008, i.e., 2134 tonnes, including imports that will be caged in Tunisian farming installations (**Table 3**).

SNB and THC companies plan on carrying out their activity independently from SMT Company which is going to transfer its farming quota to TT Company.

3. Inspection Plan

In complying with the provisions of paragraphs 99-101 of Rec. 12-03, the competent Tunisian authority will maintain in 2013 the deployment of an inspection vessel during the bluefin tuna fishing season, within the framework of the joint international inspection scheme.

Training sessions for the inspectors will be organized prior to the fishing season on ICCAT's requirements regarding the monitoring of the fisheries, the application of the VMS system, the documents required on board, etc.

Coastal surveillance services will also be continued, to carry out mission of inspections at sea. These missions will cover, in particular, the activities of tuna purse seiners in water under national jurisdiction.

Table 1. List of individual vessel quotas in 2013* - Tunisia

<i>ICCAT Registry No.</i>	<i>Vessel name</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Allocated quota (t)</i>	<i>Vessel owner</i>
AT000TUN00002	Abou Chamma	25,42	39.13	Héritiers El Moncer Kamel
AT000TUN00007	Haj hedi	28,00	29.24	Sté Chaari et Fils
AT000TUN00008	Hassen	26,84	49.02	Sté Méridien Pêche
AT000TUN00009	Horchani	32,65	128.14	Sté Horchani Pêche
AT000TUN00010	Imen	29,10	58.48	Neifar Sami
AT000TUN00014	El Khalij	25,40	29.24	Sté Horchani Pêche et cie
AT000TUN00023	Sallem	38,13	78.26	Fish Tunisie
AT000TUN00024	Tapsus	29,25	49.02	Sté Mohamed Hmida et Fils
AT000TUN00025	Hadj Mokhtar	31,85	29.24	Chaari Jomaa
AT000TUN00026	Tijani	27,20	29.24	Sté Mohamed Hmida et Fils
AT000TUN00030	Ghedir El Gholla	35,05	107.5	Socoplat
AT000TUN00036	Ghali	21,94	19.78	Nejib Chiha et Skander Ben Salem

AT000TUN00037	Ibn Rachiq	34,39	49.02	Fish Tunisie
AT000TUN00045	Mohamed Yassine	28,00	29.24	Tahar Hajji et cie
AT000TUN00046	Jaouhar	32,30	29.24	Sté Mohamed Hmida et cie
AT000TUN00047	Abderrahmen	25,30	58.91	Mohamed Chiha
AT000TUN00049	El Houssaine	35,00	29.24	Chaari Jomaa
AT000TUN00051	Mohamed Sadok	37,00	58.48	Sté Méridien Pêche
AT000TUN00479	Denphir 1	37,05	29.24	Sté Dauphin de Pêche
AT000TUN00070	Hadj Ahmed	34,90	49.02	SPAC Service
AT000TUN00065	Futuro 1	36,70	78.26	Socoplat

*Preliminary.

Table 2. Fishing capacity (2013) – Tunisia.

<i>Vessel categories</i>	<i>Catch level</i>	<i>2010</i>		<i>2011</i>		<i>2012</i>		<i>2013</i>	
		<i>No.</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Large purse seiners ≥ 40m	70.66 t	1	70.66 t	0	70.66 t	0	0	0	0
Average purse seiners 24-40 m	49.78 t	24	1194.72	19	945.82	20	995.6	20	995.6
Small purse seiners ≤24m	33.68 t	16	538.88	4	134.72	1	33.68	1	33.68 t
Small longliner ≤24m	5 t	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		42	1809.26	23	1080.54	21	1029.28	21	1029.28
% Reduction.					76.78%		98.51%		103.68%

Table 3. Farming capacity (2013) – Tunisia.

<i>ICCAT No.</i>	<i>Farming Installation Owner</i>	<i>Maximum caging foreseen in 2013 (in tonnes)</i>
AT001TUN00001	VMT	356
AT001TUN00002	Sahbi Sallem	
	TT	888
	Abdelwaheb Ben Ramdhane	
AT001TUN00004	TFT	356
	Ridha Sallem	
AT001TUN00005	SNB	267
	Jaouher Ben Hmida et Sami Neifer	
AT001TUN00006	SNB	267
	Taher Hajji et Mohamed Chiha	

TURKEY

1. Eastern Bluefin Tuna Fishing Plan for 2013

Fishing, transferring and farming activities for eastern bluefin tuna (E-BFT) will be conducted in compliance with applicable ICCAT recommendations. An individual quota allocation system for each E-BFT catching vessel shall be applied. Fishing for E-BFT shall only be conducted in respect of the catching vessels' individual quotas.

The Turkish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MoFAL) shall announce the above-mentioned decision to all sector stakeholders in accordance with the Ministerial Communiqué and Notifications regarding E-BFT fishing, farming and trading.

1.1 Potential Fishing Grounds

The potential fishing ground for E-BFT fishery will be off the western and southern coasts of Turkey and the Eastern Mediterranean region. Sparse fishing activities may occur in the southern parts of the Aegean Sea.

1.2 List of Authorized E-BFT Catching Vessels

MoFAL shall issue special fishing permits for all E-BFT catching vessels to be authorized for 2013 in accordance with criteria specified by domestic legislation as well as by relevant ICCAT regulations on capacity adjustments. All vessels shall be equipped and monitored with a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS).

1.3 Licensing

Special fishing permits issued by the provincial directorates of MoFAL shall be mandatory for E-BFT catching vessels to operate for the 2013 fishing season. Only purse seine vessels, which have formally possessed such permits during previous years, shall be eligible for certification. Special fishing permits shall be granted to 10 purse seine vessels by MoFAL in accordance with relevant ICCAT recommendations.

Special tug and towing permits, which are mandatory for E-BFT other vessels to operate for 2013 season, shall be issued for 30 towing vessels eligible to carry out E-BFT towing operations by provincial directorates of MoFAL.

Special support-ship permits, which are mandatory for E-BFT other vessels to operate for 2013 season, shall be issued for 10 vessels by provincial directorates of MoFAL.

1.4 Allocation of E-BFT Catch Quota

Despite the formal objection lodged by Turkey to the quota allocation scheme from the year 2013, the objected quota level of 556.66 metric tons shall be respected to contribute to the multi-annual recovery plan for E-BFT. In this regard, 545.50 metric tons of quota shall be allocated to 10 E-BFT catching vessels acquiring special fishing permits for the 2013 E-BFT fishing season.

1.5 Methodology used for Quota Allocation

MoFAL plans to allocate 98% of the total domestic quota through its distribution in an equal ratio to each of the fishing vessels, based on a domestic criterion to be applied.

For the fishing vessels having allocated an individual quota but not intending to operate for the 2013 E-BFT fishing season, the right to transfer its individual quota to another fishing vessel shall be given. Should any E-BFT catching vessel may not exhaust its assigned individual quota (IQ) at the end of the fishing season, carryover shall not be allowed.

1.6 Coastal, Recreational, Sport Fisheries

A specific quota level shall be allocated for the purposes of coastal, recreational and sport fisheries, as well as incidental and by-catches, which is of 2% of the total. The marketing of bluefin tuna caught in recreational and sport fishing is prohibited except for charitable purposes.

1.7 Regulations for 2013 E-BFT fishing season**1.7.1 Fishing Period and Open Season**

Open fishing season for E-BFT shall be from 26 May 2013 to 24 June 2013 in accordance with relevant ICCAT rules and recommendations.

1.7.2 Joint Fishing Operations

No joint fishing operation (JFOs) with any other CPC is allowed unless the concerned CPC has less than 5 authorized (maximum 4) purse seiners.

A JFO for E-BFT shall only be authorized with the consent of MoFAL and of the other CPC authority concerned, if the vessels to be involved are equipped to fish bluefin tuna and has sufficient individual quotas.

Fishing vessels to conduct any JFO with the vessels of any other CPC shall present the required certificates and letter of consent to MoFAL at least 15 days before the start of the operation (departure from port) to be transmitted to the ICCAT Secretariat within the specified deadline.

1.7.3 E-BFT Landing/Transshipment Ports

E-BFT fishing vessels shall only transship/land bluefin tuna catches in the ports designated for that purposes.

The following ports have been designated by MoFAL for the purpose of E-BFT landing/transshipment:

	<i>Province</i>	<i>Designated Landing/ Transshipment Port</i>
1	ADANA	Karataş fishing port
2	ANTALYA	Antalya port Gazipaşa fishing port
3	MERSIN	Karaduvar fishing port
4	HATAY	Iskenderun fishing port
5	ÇANAKKALE	Kabatepe fishing port Gülpınar fishing port
6	ISTANBUL	Kumkapı fishing port Tuzla fishing port
7	IZMIR	Karaburun fishing port

1.7.4 Vessel Monitoring System requirements

Fishing vessels requesting any of the special E-BFT catching, towing and support permits for the 2013 fishing season shall be equipped with a full-time operational satellite based vessel monitoring system (VMS) onboard, as required by MoFAL in accordance with relevant ICCAT rules and recommendations.

1.7.5 Recording and Reporting

Recording and reporting shall be made as required by ICCAT Recommendation No.12-03.

1.7.6 Towing and Caging Operations

Provisions regulating towing and caging operations shall be applied as laid down in ICCAT Rec. 12-03.

1.7.7 Transfer operations

All transfer operations shall be carried out in accordance with ICCAT Rec. 12-03.

1.7.8 Cross check

The relevant information recorded in fishing logbooks / daily logs, transfer declaration, and in the catch documents shall be verified by MoFAL by using available inspection reports, observer reports and VMS data.

MoFAL shall carry out cross checks on all landings, all transshipment or caging between the quantities by species recorded in the fishing vessel logbook or quantities by species recorded in the transshipment declaration and the quantities recorded in the landing declaration or caging declaration, and any other relevant document, such as invoice and/or sales notes.

1.7.9 Enforcement

Any noncompliance to the regulations regarding E-BFT fishing and transfer shall lead to nullification of the special fishing permit or the special tug and towing permit issued by MoFAL.

Noncompliant fishing vessels shall not get any of the above mentioned special permits for future operations.

1.7.10 Market measures

Foreign and domestic trade, transport, landing, imports, exports, placing in cages for farming, re-exports and transshipments of E-BFT products (with the exception of fish parts other than the meat i.e., heads, eyes, roes, guts and tails) as well as their keeping onboard, at storage or inside the towing cages attached to a catching/towing vessel which are not accompanied by accurate, complete, and validated documentation shall be prohibited.

1.7.11 Observer requirements

Presence of “ICCAT Regional Observers” on E-BFT catching vessels and farming facilities; and presence of “CPC Observers” on E-BFT towing vessels shall be required during the whole E-BFT catching, transferring and caging operations at sea and at farm sites in 2013.

1.7.12 Use of aircraft

Any use of airplanes or helicopters for searching for E-BFT shall be prohibited.

1.7.13 Minimum size

Catching, retaining on board, transshipping, transferring, landing, transporting, storing, selling, displaying or offering for sale E-BFT weighing less than 30 kg or with fork length less than 115cms shall be prohibited.

1.7.14 Sampling Requirements

During the course of the year 2013, E-BFT sampling requirements shall be conducted in accordance with Articles 87 and 88 of ICCAT Rec. 12-03.

Fishing/farming operators shall apply technologic methods, including the utilization of stereoscopic cameras to improve accuracy of weight estimation and quantity without killing any fish.

The operators who won't be able to implement the above-mentioned technologic methods are obliged to conduct a sampling programme in which they shall sample at least 1.5% of the live E-BFT transferred from the catching net to the towing net and at least 1.5% of the live E-BFT caged at farm.

In this way, E-BFT fishing/farming operators to choose the second option shall apply a sampling protocol based on killing deliberately of; at least 3% of the transferred and caged E-BFT in total in order to estimate and determine the values of fish size and mean weight of the transferred/caged live E-BFT.

Owners/operators of the fishing vessels, managers/operators of farming facilities and exporters shall be responsible from the proper implementation of all provisions mentioned above, as well as of other applicable rules and recommendations imposed by ICCAT.

2. E-BFT Fisheries Inspection Plan

2.1 ICCAT Inspections in 2013

In 2013, Turkey plans to continue its contribution to the ICCAT Joint Scheme of International Inspection with 51 vessels from Turkish Coast Guard Command with 182 inspectors and 24 vessels from Turkish Naval Forces with 116 inspectors.

2.2 Framework of MCS for E-BFT Fishery, Transfer, Farming and Trading

Catch

- Individual Quota (IQ) allocation,
- E-BFT catching/other vessels to be registered in ICCAT record,
- Legal fishing season,
- E-BFT Joint Fishing Operation (JFO) rules,
- BCD Scheme requirements,
- Logbook requirements,
- 100% ICCAT ROP-BFT Coverage,
- Video Footage,
- Cross-checks for verification.



Transfer

- Prior Transfer Notification & Authorization,
- Video Footage,
- Cross-checks for verification,
- 100% ICCAT Regional Observer Coverage (for all catching vessels),
- 100% National Observer Coverage (for all towing vessels),
- BCD Scheme requirements,
- ICCAT Transfer Declaration (ITD) requirements.



Transport/Towing

- 100% National (CPC) Observer Coverage
- BCD Scheme requirements,
- ICCAT Transfer Declaration (ITD) requirements.



Import (for live E-BFT)

- 100 % MoFAL Representative coverage
- 100% ROP-BFT Coverage (at farm site/caging)



Caging

- 100% Video Footage,
- 100 % MOFAL Representative coverage,
- 100% ICCAT Observer Coverage (Farming),
- BCD Scheme requirements,
- Caging Declaration.

**Farming**

- Random MOFAL Inspections
- 100 % MOFAL Representative coverage,
- 100% Video Footage.

**Landing Ports**

- Random MOFAL Inspections at 7 authorized landing fishing ports for dead E-BFT.
- Random MOFAL Inspections at some landing fishing ports used for by-catch dead E-BFT

**Harvest**

- 100% ICCAT ROP-BFT Coverage,
- 100% MoFAL Representative Coverage,
- BCD Scheme requirements

**Export**

- 100 % MoFAL Representative Coverage
- BCD Scheme requirements

**Inspections**

- Full inspection coverage shall be ensured during 2013 E-BFT fishing season (by Turkish Navy, CGC, MOFAL and other CPC's Inspection/Control Assets),
- Random inspections by MOFAL shall continue even before/after the fishing season.

3. Capacity Management Scheme for 2013**Turkey's Fishing Capacity Management Plan for 2013**

Category	Catch Rate	Number of Vessels				Catch Rates of the Vessels			
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013
PS 40	70,66	12	11	0	3	847.92	777.26	0	211.98
PS 24-40m	49,78	11	10	11	7	547.58	497.8	547.58	348.46
PS 24	33,68	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL		23	21	11	10	1395,5	1275,06	547,58	560,44

Years	2010	2011	2012	2013
Quota	419,183	535,89	535,89	556,66
Overcapacity	976,317	739,17	11,69	0
Overcapacity %	132,9	37,9	2,2	0,7

Note: Turkey has a formal objection over the quota allocation scheme adopted in 2012.

CHINESE TAIPEI

Chinese Taipei's Regulation prohibiting Fisheries of Atlantic Bluefin Tuna in 2013

In accordance with the ICCAT Rec. 12-03, I have the honor to inform you that a regulation has been established domestically to prohibit our fishing vessels from fishing bluefin tuna in the Atlantic Ocean in 2013. Besides, in accordance with the pertinent provisions of our domestic regulations, by-catch of bluefin tuna shall be released into the sea immediately and the relevant information of releases shall be recorded and reported to the Agency.

Furthermore, in accordance with the paragraph 63 of ICCAT Rec. 12-03, I hereby inform you that Chinese Taipei also prohibited our fishing vessels from fishing Atlantic bluefin tuna in 2012, which was notified to you by email on 7 February 2012.

Appendix 4

CLARIFICATIONS FOR EBFT ROP CONSORTIUM

<i>Clause Reference</i>	<i>Point of Clarification</i>	<i>Clarification/Response</i>
30: Minimum sizes limitation for Mediterranean and Adriatic fisheries	We would be grateful if you would provide the boundary limits between the Adriatic and Mediterranean with respect to the application of minimum size requirements.	There is no official boundary limit. For practical purposes, an operational guideline for the observer can be taken as line between the Cape of Otranto and the Cape of Pristoni. All vessels authorised to operate in the Adriatic with reference to the minimum size derogation will be identified on the ICCAT Record of Vessels.
69: Designated Ports and Landing Times	Will information on designated ports <i>and landing times</i> be available? The only alternative is for observers to report all landings as <i>potential non-compliance [PNC]</i> .	The ports and landing times will be available on the ICCAT web site, as required by paragraph 69. Only landings which take place in non-authorised ports or at times outside those reported should be considered a PNC
78: Final paragraph related to a Release report following a release order And	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the video subject to the same requirements as transfers as set out in Annex 9? 	No. Not all requirements can apply. Efforts should be made to ensure good quality video, but this cannot be enforced through repetition of the release. The video must show the release starting with the opening of the door up to the closing of the door; be without interruption and show the time and the day of the release.
87: Release order with respect to excessive amount of tuna. And	<p>Clarification is required on when the report should be submitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> During a deployment post release? Or As part of the final deployment report? 	As part of the final report submitted to the Secretariat (i.e., 20 days after the deployment): with the information contained in paragraph 79 (such as time and day of the release and quantities released).

<i>Clause Reference</i>	<i>Point of Clarification</i>	<i>Clarification/Response</i>
88: Paragraph 4 ...”shall issue a release order for the excess”	<p>If during a deployment, should the release report also be submitted to the respective CPC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On all occasions? • Just those cases of non-compliance? 	The information release should accompany the final report within 20 days. Earlier reporting would only be required in the case of a PNC being detected, in which case the observer should submit the information to the consortium in real time who shall transmit this information to the CPC, with a copy to the Secretariat.
	<p>What information should be reported?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational details <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Date, time, position • Amount released? 	Yes, these items.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is a comparison of operators and observers estimate required? • And if estimates are different should they be reported as a potential non-compliance matter? • If yes what tolerance should be applied? 	<p>No.</p> <p>No tolerance to be applied in a case of release.</p>
82: verifying entries made in the prior transfer authorisation [PTN]	<p>Where vessel communication equipment is limited to radio or satellite phone/cell phone, hard copy records of authorisation are not available to refer to i.e. observers are reliant on the word of the master and therefore cannot independently verify the entries referred to.</p> <p>Therefore is it acceptable for observers to limit verification of PTN records that are available in hard or electronic copy only?</p>	The observer cannot verify what is not available. If no documentation can be provided, this should be noted in the final observer report. However, this should NOT be reported as a PNC.
83: Verification of amounts of tuna transferred between fishing and towing vessels	<p>What happens if the observer cannot verify the entries made or disagrees with vessel records?</p> <p>We assume that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The observer will not sign the ITD; • Send a non-compliance report • Inform the master that the issue will be resolved at caging? <p>Please clarify</p>	The assumptions are correct.

<i>Clause Reference</i>	<i>Point of Clarification</i>	<i>Clarification/Response</i>
	<p>If the observer at caging is able to verify the amounts, are they still expected to sign the ITD covering the transfer between fishing and towing vessel?</p> <p>Note: We anticipate that some pressure may be forth coming from operators for observers to sign in order that they have a complete record of control documents.</p>	No
84: Observers signing the Caging Report	As above [para 83.] Are observers expected to sign the document if they are unable to verify or disagree [>10% difference] with the farm operator's estimate?	No.
87: Investigation/clarification of estimates of tuna	<p>Note: In those cases where further investigation is required; there must also be consideration of the current deployment period, e.g., An issue may arise on the last day of an observer's deployment that cannot be resolved immediately.</p> <p>Therefore due consideration must be taken into account for a deployment extension request including approval from the CPC and Secretariat and communication to the observer supplier.</p> <p>A cost effective solution should be sought that avoids new deployment requests.</p> <p>How will this process be managed?</p>	The investigation process will not involve the observers. It was agreed by all CPCs that validation of the relevant section of the BCD will take precedence over the non-signing of the BCD by the regional observer and be considered as in full respect of ICCAT conservation and management measures.
92: Signing Control documentation: BCDs, ITD, Caging Report	<p>What process should occur if observers cannot:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verify the entries made • Disagree with them • >10% for estimates of tuna <p>And subsequently refuses to sign?</p> <p>In particular what should the observer do if issues still cannot be resolved following an investigation? This may be the case for estimates of tuna transferred.</p> <p>Should observers sign documentation?</p>	The investigation process will not involve the observers. It was agreed by all CPCs that validation of the relevant section of the BCD will take precedence over the non-signing of the BCD by the regional observer and be considered as in full respect of ICCAT conservation and management measures.

<i>Clause Reference</i>	<i>Point of Clarification</i>	<i>Clarification/Response</i>
Annex 9: Video recording procedures: Transfers and Caging	<p>Reporting non-compliance</p> <p>If a vessel/farm does not comply with all of the paragraphs set out in i) to ix) for both Transfer Operations and Caging operations; should observers send a potential non-compliance report to CPCs/flag, farm States?</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Is there priority with respect to reporting potential non-compliance?</p> <p>If there is a scale of priority please provide clarification with respect to each paragraph</p>	Yes, through the consortium. There is no priority ranking. This will be determined by the CPCs on receipt.
	<p>Signing control documentation</p> <p>Are observers still required to sign control documentation [see below] if potential non-compliance is apparent/evident with respect to any of the paragraphs?</p> <p>e.g. If all things are in order apart from transfer declaration number displayed at the beginning /end of each video, should observers refuse to sign the control documents.</p> <p>Control Documents: Caging report, BCD, ITD.</p> <p>Please provide clarification with respect to each paragraph.</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>Yes</p>
General	<p>Previously hard and electronic copies of control records and documents [see below] have only been provided to observers at disembarkation or even post deployment.</p> <p>As such observers are unable to fulfil their duties during deployment and comply with reporting requirements [<i>i.e.</i> potential non compliance and submit deployment outputs within 20 days].</p> <p>In the past the Consortium has been instructed that observers should not enter/verify/provide estimates etc.; and provide an account as to why in their deployment report.</p>	<p>If the observer is not presented with the correct documentation, he cannot do his duty, nor can he sign them. Observers cannot invent estimates unless video etc are provided.</p> <p>Missing elements should be reported as soon as possible as PNCs.</p>

<i>Clause Reference</i>	<i>Point of Clarification</i>	<i>Clarification/Response</i>
	<p>Therefore we would be grateful if you would confirm what observers should do in those cases where key control records and documents are not available during their deployment.</p> <p>Relevant records and documents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video records • Transfer authorisations [mainly for transfers between fishing and toping vessels] • ITDs with unique reference number • BCDs 	
Potential conflict of monitoring tasks/activities at-sea	<p>Activities and tasks associated with video records, estimating amounts of tuna and transfer declaration could run concurrently with broader monitoring duties associated with operational activities such as: incidental mortalities, transhipment of dead tuna, collecting biometric information</p> <p>The tasks/activities are set out below:</p> <p>Annex 9: Monitor original video footage/record for catch estimates Take receipt of copy of video record</p> <p>Clause 83/92: Explain obligations if observers is unable to countersign control documentation if they are not in agreement or cannot verify entries</p> <p>Clause 83: Verify transfer declaration is transmitted and received</p> <p>Annex 7: 7ai) Reporting non compliance 7aiii) / 7ax) Estimates of total catch including dead tuna [necessary to satisfy SCRS requirements plus verify entries made in the logbook].</p>	<p>There are no new obligations under Rec. 12-03 compared to Rec. 10-04.</p> <p>Up to the observer to organise him/herself.</p>