

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE
CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS



COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA
CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'ATLANTIQUE

COMISION INTERNACIONAL PARA LA
CONSERVACION DEL ATUN ATLANTICO

Madrid, 29 June 2023

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 6777 / 2023

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE SEMINAR ON HIGH SEAS BOARDING SCHEMES IN THE ICCAT CONTEXT (*in-person, Vigo, Spain, 13-14 September 2023*)

Further to ICCAT Circular #3502/23 of 27 April 2023, I am pleased to inform that the Seminar on High Seas Boarding Schemes in the ICCAT Context, has finally been scheduled from 13-14 September 2023 in Vigo (Spain) hosted by the European Union with the support of the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA). The Seminar is funded by the European Union with additional voluntary contributions from the United States and Canada. The Seminar will be held at the [Hotel Attica21 Vigo](#) and the meeting hours will be from 9:30 – 17:30 hours Madrid time, with the usual coffee and lunch breaks.

While following normal ICCAT meeting procedures, **the Seminar will be participatory and open to experts and national managers with experience in such schemes and related control and inspection measures with a view to exchanging best practices and sharing experiences**, in particular regarding their organizational and practical aspects.

We would therefore like to urge delegations to designate the appropriate experts given the interactive nature of the Seminar and to encourage active and broad CPC participation. The Tentative Agenda for the Seminar (here attached) will be posted in the [Nextcloud meeting document folder](#), as well as other Seminar documents and presentations, whenever they are received. Please note that our mailing distribution list is limited. Therefore, I should like to ask that you circulate this announcement to potential delegates.

In order to organize the Seminar, in particular, regarding the number of participants, you are kindly requested to send to the Secretariat a list of delegates who will participate in the Seminar by **31 July 2023**. Any late submission of the official list of delegates may prevent providing access to participants to the Seminar. All participants must also register for the Seminar by **31 July 2023**, using the [ICCAT online registration form](#) which will soon be available on our meetings webpage.

Funding is available to cover travel and subsistence expenses for a limited number of experts or national managers from developing States that are Contracting Parties. According to the [Rules of Procedure for the Administration of the Special Meeting Participation Fund](#) adopted at the 2020 Commission meeting, requests should be sent to ICCAT-Travel@iccat.int at least **75 days** in advance of the start of the Seminar. However, exceptionally due to short notice, in this case the deadline for the submission of funding request has been set 60 days before the start of the Seminar (**15 July 2023**). Requests for financial assistance cannot be accepted after that date. All the information related to the [ICCAT Special Funds for participation in ICCAT meetings and capacity building](#) is available on the ICCAT website. It is highly recommended to visit this web page in advance and to strictly follow the protocols. In particular, it is necessary to fully complete the invitation form.



COMISION INTERNACIONAL PARA LA
CONSERVACION DEL ATUN ATLANTICO

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Executive Secretary



Camille Jean Pierre Manel

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Attachment: Tentative agenda for the Seminar.



Seminar on High Seas Boarding Schemes in the ICCAT Context

13-14 September 2023

(*In-person* – Vigo, Spain)

Tentative Agenda

***Day 1: Introductions, exchange of experiences and objectives
of high seas boarding and inspection schemes***

(09.30 – 17.30)

1. Welcome, introductions and seminar overview
2. Overview of IUU fishing and tools to combat IUU fishing
3. High seas boarding and inspection schemes and experiences beyond the ICCAT Convention area
4. High seas boarding and inspection schemes and related control measures in the ICCAT Convention area
5. Questions and general discussions

Day 2: Technical engagement sessions

(09.30 – 13.00)

6. Strategic planning and risk assessment
7. Joint operations
8. Legal tools and engagement mechanisms
9. Operational participation and ensuring a level playing field
10. Capacity building and training
11. Looking forward - High Seas Joint Inspection Schemes in ICCAT
12. Final discussions and close

(14.30 – 16.30)

Visit to EFCA Chartered inspection vessel (TBC)