

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, 7 October 2024

## ICCAT CIRCULAR # 10440 / 2024

**SUBJECT: COMMON OCEANS TUNA PROJECT WORKSHOP ON BYCATCH**  
(*in-person, FAO, Rome, 27-29 January 2025*)

The International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) received funding from the Common Oceans Tuna Project to organize, on behalf of all the Tuna RFMOs, a series of workshops to address technical issues of common interest between tRFMOs. The aspiration is that these joint tuna RFMO workshops will enable tRFMOs to identify and address common challenges. There will be three RFMO workshops: one on Bycatch in 2025, one on Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) in 2026, and one on Stock Assessment in 2027. Aspects of how Climate Change can be taken into account under each of the three themes may also be considered.

The first of these workshops will focus on the topic of Bycatch and be convened at the Food and Agricultural organization of the United Nations (FAO), in-person, in Rome (Italy), from **27-29 January 2025**. Scientists from CPCs willing to contribute to the workshop on bycatch are encouraged to participate. Those that may wish to make a presentation, are requested to submit an abstract of **not more than 250 words** to the ICCAT Secretariat, to the attention of [Dr. Nathan Taylor](#) by **1 December 2024** at the latest.

Funding for the workshops is limited. There is financial support for three scientists from each tRFMO to attend the bycatch workshop, while others wishing to attend can do so at their own expense. So that travel arrangements can be made, we ask that participants from ICCAT CPCs that wish to apply for funding submit their application together with the above-mentioned abstract and a letter of support from their Head of Delegation, to the attention of [Dr. Nathan Taylor](#) by **1 December 2024** at the latest.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

P.O. Executive Secretary

Miguel Neves dos Santos  
Assistant Executive Secretary

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**Attachment:** Proposed agenda.



**Common Oceans Tuna Project Workshop on Bycatch**  
*(Philippines room, FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy, 27-29 January 2025)*

**Agenda**

1. Objectives and agendas across tRMFOs for bycatch (presentations followed by break-out groups)
  - a. What are the shared problems between the tRMFOs on bycatch?
  - b. Do solutions already exist for some of these problems?
2. Integrated bycatch framework (all species, presentations followed by break-out groups)
  - a. Objectives
  - b. Assessment
  - c. Mitigation (avoidance, catch limits, gear limits, gear modifications, harvest strategies)
  - d. Offsets
3. Conclusions and next steps
4. Other matters