Report of the 19th Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Monitoring Measures (IMM)
(Hybrid / Brussels, Belgium, 2-4 June 2026)

1. Opening of the meeting and meeting arrangements

The Chair, Mr Neil Ansell, welcomed everyone to the 19th Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Monitoring Measures (IMM) and thanked the European Union (EU) for hosting the meeting.

The Executive Secretary, Mr Camille Jean Pierre Manel greeted all the delegations and observers both in person and online.

2. Nomination of Rapporteur

The EU nominated Ms Sifra Blokhuis to serve as Rapporteur.

3. Adoption of Agenda

The Chair introduced the draft agenda items and intended working approach. First, all proposals would be presented consecutively before taking up all the other Agenda items.

The USA noted their 'visualisation of ICCATs authorized vessel list on the website' and it was agreed to include this point under 'Other matters'.

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

The List of participants is attached as **Appendix 2**.

4. Review of Statistical Document Programmes and Catch Documentation Schemes (SDP/CDSs)

The Chair opened the Agenda item with an introduction of SDP/CDSs programmes and the relevant items to be discussed, notably the work of the CDS WG.

The Chair provided a summary of the first CDS WG meeting which dealt primarily with the Electronic Bluefin Tuna Catch Document (eBCD) system and related development and technical issues. It also provided an opportunity to consider the Feasibility Study and endorse the selection of the implementing tenderer proposed by the ICCAT Secretariat.

Japan then provided a presentation on its working document "Key decision points on the technical elements of a new Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) – Updates from June 2025", which they informed, contained no alterations compared to last year's version. They informed that the presentation sought to act as a reminder to continue and structure discussions on the decisions needed to be taken at the next CDS WG meeting. CPCs were encouraged to submit information on the specificities of their small-scale fisheries and possible limitations in terms of implementing CDS in order that these may be considered in further discussions.

Guatemala thanked Japan and noted that the scope and process in the paper would require further detailed discussions and emphasized that many of the questions raised would be relevant in their respective regional areas, in particular the capacity limitations to fully implement CDS.

Several CPCs expressed interest to further work and engage on the various topics both in the CDS meeting in September 2026 and more broadly in ICCAT.

Bluefin data, a fisheries technology company tasked with the ongoing feasibility study on the possible expansion of CDS in ICCAT and migration of the eBCD system, was asked to provide a brief overview on the state of play of the study and forthcoming deliverables. They informed that the study was split into two phases: Phase 1 (due 12 August 2026) delivers a preliminary report with baseline assessment, migration roadmap, multi-species CDS evaluation and cost estimates and Phase 2 (due 5 October 2026) delivers the final report. Key decisions to be presented would cover single vs. species-specific systems, migration strategy (upgrade/re-platform/refactor/rebuild) and scalability. A final presentation of the study is planned for mid-November at the Annual 2026 meeting as directed by the CDS WG following their meeting later in the year.

The group welcomed the progress and underlined the importance of the study's findings in order to support the CDS WG meeting in September 2026 and implementation of the CDS workplan.

5. Consideration of measures related to monitoring, inspection and flag State responsibilities

5.1 Consideration of work undertaken by the Electronic Monitoring Systems Working Group (EMS WG)

The Chair summarised the main outcomes of the Working Group held prior to the IMM meeting, noting that some further discussions were expected in the IMM in particular on the proposal to amend *Recommendation by ICCAT to establish minimum standards and programme requirements for the use of Electronic Monitoring Systems (EMS) in ICCAT fisheries* (Rec. 23-18) .

In this regard, the UK provided an update on its proposal, "Draft Recommendation by ICCAT amending Recommendation 23-18 on minimum standards for the use of Electronic Monitoring Systems (EMS) in ICCAT fisheries" **(Appendix 3)**. They thanked the CPCs that had contributed feedback and confirmed that intersessional work will continue to further develop the proposals and address the concerns raised. The comments provided from Morocco on the inclusion of the trap gear were noted by the UK and they pointed out that review of alternative methods was already a longstanding SCRS task. They welcomed further input from SCRS including the SCRS subgroup as needed and confirmed that they would bring the proposal to the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG) in November 2026.

5.2 Possible amendments to the Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 24-05 establishing a Multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Rec. 25-04)

Japan was asked to present its proposal ''Draft amendment of Recommendation 25-04'' **(Appendix 4)**. Japan recalled that the SCRS in 2025 encouraged the development and application of stereoscopic camera systems with Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools to improve the estimation of growth rates in farming operations. Following this advice, Japan proposed a project on trial basis in order to test further the use of AI to estimate the number and actual size of the tunas caught. All transfers of live bluefin tuna from first transfer through to caging shall be fully monitored using the stereoscopic camera and all recorded footage shall be subject to 100% analysis using AI-based technology as recommended by the SCRS. The pilot project aimed to start in 2027 with a view of the AI systems becoming mandatory in ICCAT from 2029 onwards.

The EU thanked Japan for the proposal and expressed general support, while stressing that any changes to bluefin tuna control measures should be considered through a holistic approach. They reiterated that the EMS proposal on processing vessels remains a useful tool for strengthening control and should also be revisited in parallel. On the proposal for the Pilot Project, the EU were in agreement however and underlined that 100% stereoscopic camera coverage brought with it major practical and technical limitations that required more consideration. The procedure is lengthy and can only function when the AI system is fully operational and endorsed, which is currently not the case. Therefore, the EU considers that the AI systems cannot be used until fully tested, approved and adopted and that more data are needed to validate this technology.

The US expressed its support for the Japanese proposal and highlighted the importance of the eBCD system to support cross-checking of catch, caging and import data received by CPCs. Additionally, the US offered some language and technical improvements in the text.

Morocco thanked Japan for its efforts and pointed out that 100% stereoscopic camera coverage would be very challenging and that an endorsed system which is ready and can be applied without hinderance, is needed before agreeing to the timelines laid down in the Japanese proposal.

Japan thanked the CPCs for their contributions, noting that these were exactly the inputs they were hoping for to initiate the discussions. They informed that following bilateral discussions in particular on some of the more practical limitations, Japan will reconsider their proposal and further engage intersessionally with relevant parties and present a revised proposal at the next Commission Meeting.

The EU were then asked to present its proposal ''Amendments to Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Rec. 25-04)''.

The EU explained its proposed amendments, paragraph by paragraph, elaborating on the suggested changes. A multitude of CPCs commented on paragraphs 33 and 36, stating that one requirement would be sufficient and that language alterations would be appropriate in this section. The EU thanked the CPCs for their inputs and welcomed language suggestions to ensure these paragraphs best reflected the agreed position from all CPCs. Following further discussions, additional changes were made to the text and distributed as a new version of the document. The Chair concluded that there was general agreement with some delegations having reservations as regards the document by the IMM and proposed forwarding the proposal **(Appendix 5)** to the Commission for possible adoption in November 2026.

5.3 Other items related to Flag State responsibility

The EU presented its proposal ''Draft recommendation by ICCAT establishing a ban of driftnets for the capture of certain ICCAT species'' **(Appendix 6)**. The EU noted that this was the same proposal presented during the last Annual meeting with some modifications related to the reservations that were expressed during the meeting, notably on the possible impacts with coastal fisheries. The EU concluded that the proposal looks to make progress on this very important issue and in particular create a clear and solid legal framework in ICCAT.

The US expressed its concerns related to the effect of large-scale driftnets on ecosystems in ICCAT fisheries. However, it noted that the broad approach and definitions in the EU proposal is not acceptable for the US. The broad definitions create a single, Atlantic-wide approach to small tunas management that would impact several legal, small-scale gillnet fisheries that are each uniquely regulated with specifications for target species, region, and bycatch concerns. Furthermore, the SCRS has not produced any advice on the management of small tunas in ICCAT. Nonetheless, the US expressed its willingness to continue discussing the issue bilaterally and in the forthcoming ICCAT Commission Meeting in November 2026.

Morocco expressed its full support for the proposal and noting a willingness to continue discussions, in particular, to address the concerns of the US. They went onto highlight the importance of this framework and the limitations on monitoring and control on the use of driftnets at sea without agreement on these measures. Morocco noted that there was a need to further specify the characteristics of large-scale driftnets in order to enable CPCs to effectively implement its prohibition.

Senegal expressed its concern regarding this proposal which is based on elements of *Recommendation by ICCAT relating to Mediterranean swordfish* (Rec. 03-04) which they considered had a different scope in their domestic fisheries. They emphasized the use and importance of driftnets in Senegalese small-scale fisheries for food security and reiterated that they cannot support the proposal as it currently stands. In this regard they suggested not to include minor tunas if extended to the whole Atlantic region.

Algeria and Brazil echoed the concerns of Senegal and stressed that more discussion and information on applicable thresholds is necessary to consider the impacts on developing coastal CPCs.

The EU thanked CPCs for their inputs and reiterated that the intent of the proposal was to expand the scope to the Atlantic nonetheless remaining fully in line with the United Nations (UN) resolution on the use of large-scale driftnets. Following the concerns made by some CPCs on small-scale fisheries, the EU informed CPCs that it is open to listening and working with CPCs on the specificities of their fisheries in order that they can be fully accommodated in the proposal. The EU also invited CPCs to send them written feedback to

be addressed in the proposal. They concluded that they remain committed to continuing bilateral discussions and preparing a new consolidated draft for circulation before the Commission Meeting, while stressing the need to close regulatory loopholes quickly to ensure enforceability and urging all Parties to work towards a final decision at the next Commission Meeting.

The EU presented the document "Discussion paper on Automatic Identification System (AIS) requirements" **(Appendix 7)**. They informed that the goal of this paper was ultimately to lead towards a requirement for Automatic Identification System (AIS) in ICCAT fisheries as a complementary system to Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) to assist in monitoring and control activities and in the fight against illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing. Through this paper, the EU looked forward to hearing the views of CPCs concerning the proposed use of AIS for all fishing vessels above 20 m, as well as above 15 m when fishing outside their Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

Algeria, Guatemala, Japan and Chinese Taipei informed the group that they were not supportive of the proposal, arguing that VMS is already in place for monitoring and control requirements and that no additional system would be required. They also questioned how AIS could be useful in the prevention of IUU fishing and that if a secondary system was required for cross-checking or a complementary system to VMS, whether the focus should instead not be on improving existing VMS requirements rather than implementing a new system which, in itself, is more directed on maritime safety requirements than fisheries control.

Other CPCs including Brazil, Norway, Senegal and UK expressed their general support for the approach, although noting that for some paragraphs further discussions were needed on technical aspects.

Global Fishing Watch (GFW) thanked the EU for their paper and expressed its support, emphasizing that AIS is a valuable complement to VMS and can strengthen vessel monitoring, verification and compliance. GFW encouraged CPCs to continue discussing and proposing amendments to *Recommendation by ICCAT concerning minimum standards for vessel monitoring systems in the ICCAT Convention area* (Rec. 18-10) for consideration at the 2026 Commission meeting offering its technical and analytical support in the process.

The EU thanked all the CPCs for their responses and highlighted that the purpose of the paper was simply to initiate discussions. They clarified that AIS in the EU is used to complement fisheries control while VMS remains the main system for monitoring and control. They concluded that they still saw a value in it and committed to engage with CPCs to further explore advancing the discussions, including by way of a proposal in the 2026 Annual session.

The UK presented the working document "Seabird bycatch mitigation – safety issues when using weighted branch lines" **(Appendix 8)**. The UK informed that the paper sought to respond to the concerns raised at the 29th Regular Meeting of the Commission (Seville, November 2025) on possible risks to crew safety if revised weighting specifications for longline branch lines were adopted together with hook-shielding devices, as set out in proposed amendments to *Recommendation by ICCAT on reducing incidental bycatch of seabirds in longline fisheries* (Rec. 07-07) and *Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT on reducing incidental bycatch of seabirds in ICCAT longline fisheries* (Rec. 11-09). CPCs were encouraged to provide any relevant information on the topic in August 2026 allowing the UK to develop a paper for the PWG in the November 2026 Annual session. The UK thanked the ICCAT Secretariat for circulating and collating feedback received from CPCs.

The EU confirmed that its previous concerns on crew safety had been resolved in the UK's proposal last year and thanked the UK for their efforts. Japan asked about the relation between the work proposed by the UK and Subcommittee on Ecosystems and Bycatch (SC-ECO), to which the UK clarified that SC-ECO is looking at the effectiveness for mitigation efforts, not at safety.

Birdlife expressed its support for the UK initiative and hoped that CPCs would engage to create safe and effective measures in this regard.

GFW made a joint statement alongside The Pew Charitable Trusts (PEW) and Oceana calling for the working groups attention to the issue of Beneficial Ownership in ICCATs provisions to strengthen fisheries governance. They informed that they were glad to see that the document on the "Discussion document on chartering" **(Appendix 9)** included this but pointed out the *Recommendation by ICCAT amending Recommendation 21-13 on establishing a list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities* (Rec. 23-16) on the IUU Vessel list could be further strengthened by including such provisions to which they offered their assistance to CPCs and the ICCAT Secretariat.

6. Observer programmes

Norway introduced the "Discussion paper: Towards an alternative observer approach in the Norwegian purse seine fishery" **(Appendix 10)**. By way of this paper, they informed that they are looking into alternative approaches to those in existing ICCAT observer programmes directed to eastern bluefin tuna, as they question if the same observer model for the Regional Observer Programme (ROP) is suitable for each fishery and CPC context. The objective of the paper and approach was to maintain a high level of transparency and compliance and have specific control measures that are better adjusted to their respective fisheries. Norway concluded that they intend to develop and propose amendments to *Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean* (Rec. 25-04) in the November 2026 Annual session.

Algeria expressed its support for Norway, underlining the need to take into account operational differences in regions when designing control measures. They suggested that the current eastern bluefin tuna recommendation could be revised to exempt purse seiners from the existing 100% observer coverage requirement, for example by reducing coverage to 20%, but with 100% coverage in port and other appropriate Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) measures, which would better reflect Norway's specific circumstances.

The EU asked Norway to clarify two key issues: whether the proposal applies only to purse seine fisheries with bluefin tuna bycatch or also to fisheries targeting bluefin tuna, and how the proposed "combined system approach", including the distinction between notification-based reporting and trip coverage would work in practice.

Japan expressed sympathy regarding Norway's situation and informed its willingness to engage in further discussion. They referred to the EMS proposal as a potentially useful tool in this context and indicated its readiness to continue cooperating on the issue.

In response, Norway explained that the proposed combined system would be based on notification, meaning that authorities would be alerted when fish are caught, rather than relying on full trip-by-trip observer coverage. Norway also informed that EMS is not yet fully operational and that its proposal remains at an early stage of development. They further stressed that purse seine operations in Norway differ substantially from those in the Mediterranean and underlined that the current observer requirements are therefore disproportionate in the Norwegian context. They thanked all CPCs who had responded including those that had offered their support and confirmed that they would prepare and circulate a proposal ahead of the annual session.

Birdlife thanked the CPCs for participating in its side event on 2 June 2026. It stressed that increasing observer coverage is critical to ensuring effective fisheries management and encouraged that both human and electronic observer coverage levels be increased to 20% following the SCRS advice. Additionally, ICCAT should develop a timeline in which the road towards 100% observer coverage is presented and encouraged CPCs to develop bring proposals forward on this topic.

7. At-sea and in-port transhipment requirements

No discussed points on this Agenda item.

8. Rules for chartering and other fishing arrangements

The US presented the document "Explanatory note on Draft Recommendation by ICCAT to amend Recommendation 14-07 on access agreements" **(Appendix 11)**. The US recalled that the original proposal was the merged combination of two distinct ICCAT Recommendations and that to accommodate those CPCs which had raised previous concerns during the 2025 Annual Meeting, amended the proposal only focusing on access agreements (and excluding chartering), with the aim of streamlining existing text that is over a decade old and bringing it more in line with current practices.

The CPCs thanked the US for their revised proposal and posed several questions related to the amendments made. Several delegations noted their concerns particularly with respect to the area of application, and the countries to which it would apply. Discussions also revolved around if the wording in the preamble was sufficiently clear, to ensure it properly reflected the intended scope and intent of the proposal.

Questions raised with regard to paragraph 7 included when notifications should happen and who would be responsible to provide the information. Several questions were also raised on paragraph 8 related to catch attribution and quota accountability with some concerns being noted on how catches would be attributed under an access agreement and its references to chartered vessels, prompting some CPCs to question whether it was even necessary at all to include this provision.

The US provided clarifications including paragraph 8, which in their view needed to be clear and was an important issue for them. They went on to thank CPCs for their constructive comments and noted their value. They reiterated that the purpose of the review was to update and replace *Recommendation by ICCAT on access agreements* (Rec. 14-07). They welcomed interested Parties to see where amendments can be made in the proposal in order to progress it in the Annual Meeting.

The EU presented the document "Discussion paper on chartering" **(Appendix 9)**, which aimed to address shortcomings and a lack of clarity in the current chartering framework, in particular duties and responsibilities of the various actors during chartering activities. The aim of the proposal was very much focussed on better defining these responsibilities within the recommendation and was inspired to some extent by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) Resolution.

Guatemala thanked the EU and noted that the differences between the areas in which ICCAT has competences over and the ability to assess compliance with ICCAT provisions was not clear in their view. However, the reasoning behind the proposal on why such a measure was needed requires further discussion in particular on the specific risks identified by the EU. They noted the inclusion of bare boat chartering in this proposal needed better definition.

A critical element which should be included in the paper following an intervention from Japan, is that chartering arrangements should contribute to the fishery development of the relevant coastal CPCs, in accordance with the provision of the *Recommendation by ICCAT on vessel chartering* (Rec. 13-14), paragraph 1. Japan and Canada requested more time to review the paper and expressed interest in further engagement on this subject. Additionally, Canada also noted that vessels with an LOA of less than 20 metres were not included and raised concerns about paragraph 2b, stating that it affects a substantial number of vessels for them.

Chinese Taipei noted that current chartering practices already require the submission of logbook data and observer report and subsequently it should not be necessary for flag States to submit further data.

The US thanked the EU and expressed their enthusiasm on the discussion paper. They raised some language questions about the document and pointed out that it would be helpful for CPCs to see what exact changes the EU was proposing in relation to the text of the current measure.

Norway noted that the paper was a good step towards a new recommendation as it contributed to the strengthening of the framework although it was not yet perfect in their view. More clarification, in particular on the roles and responsibilities between flag States and the chartering State, would support further discussion and the effective implementation of any new measure.

The EU considered it to be the responsibility of CPCs to perform the chartering agreements in the way that reflected their current arrangements, however those agreements must be compliant with the provisions at ICCAT level. Bare boat chartering would be covered by the proposal but with specific provisions. The EU confirmed to have taken good note of all the other comments and committed to engage further to take them into account on the run-up to the next annual meeting.

9. Vessel sighting and inspection programmes

9.1 High Seas Boarding Inspection (HSBI)

The Chair recalled it was agreed in the 2025 Annual Meeting to have a dedicated session for HSBI in the 2026 IMM meeting. The Agenda item kicked off with presentations on some CPCs experience of HSBI schemes in other Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) followed by more detailed discussions on the proposal submitted by Canada.

Canada presented their experiences under Operation North Pacific Guard and its role in HSBI activities in the Pacific Ocean. They recalled that Operation North Pacific Guard included two separate HSBI schemes, one from North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC) and one from the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). Inspectors conducted 41 boardings over 56 days at sea and identified 39 violations. Key offences under the NPFC and WCPFC schemes included retention of prohibited species, misreported catch, shark finning and destruction of evidence. Challenges and issues found during the operation were the lack of education/knowledge by vessel masters and language barriers on account of the different countries collaborating during the operation, although translators and interpreters were deployed to assist in overcoming these challenges. Overall, the presentation informed that HSBI remains a vital but resource-intensive tool for protecting Pacific fisheries and reinforcing compliance at-sea with RFMO provisions.

Canada provided a second presentation on "NAFO Joint Inspection and Surveillance Scheme (JISS), Purpose, Cooperation and Impact". The presentation highlighted the compliance challenges that the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) is facing alongside geographic and environmental challenges.

Following the presentations, Japan asked how activities are coordinated in NAFO, via members or the Secretariat of NAFO. Canada explained that the coordination is a joint effort between Canada and the EU. They highlighted that NAFO's HSBI scheme is more mature and well established, unlike the newer Pacific HSBI regime.

Norway then presented, "The Blue Justice Initiative – Contribution to the discussion on High Seas Boarding and Inspection". Following the Copenhagen declaration against organised fisheries crime, Norway informed that they hosted the Blue Justice Secretariat which provides a platform to allow AIS and complementary maritime data to be analysed to target and strengthen the detection and analysis of non-compliance with both international and national fisheries regulations. It also represents a tool to gather information, create a community for secure intergovernmental cooperation and to combat fisheries crime. They informed that the Blue Justice Initiative demonstrates how modern data tools can complement traditional control measures, including observer programmes and HSBI programmes. In this regard they informed it may support ICCATs objectives by enhancing transparency and traceability, improving detection of non-compliance and enabling more targeted and efficient enforcement.

A number of CPCs welcomed the presentation of Norway on the initiative. Guatemala noted that they have not signed the Copenhagen declaration and would appreciate additional information. They also enquired after the extent countries have access to shared information with non-governmental bodies. Norway replied that this program is specifically for government-to-government cooperation. Some entities such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have access to the platform for follow-up purposes. Senegal asked specifically who has access to the Blue Justice analytical tools to which Norway clarified is only for the signatory countries to the Copenhagen Declaration.

The EU presented ''Collaborative inspection initiative from the EU, EFCA experience with HSBI schemes''. EFCA is an EU Agency established to coordinate and support fisheries control and inspection cooperation among Member States, including in the framework of other RFMOs inspection schemes in NAFO, North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) and General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM). The presentation explained that EFCA does not replace national authorities but facilitates joint deployment planning, pooling of inspection and surveillance means, exchange of inspectors, common training, and the development and sharing of best practices for high seas boarding and inspection, with the aim of improving coordination, ensuring more efficient use of resources, strengthening harmonised implementation of control measures, and building of mutual trust and confidence among participating authorities.

In the follow-up questions and discussion, several CPCs focused on operational experience, clarification of roles, lessons learned and coordination structures. The EU referred to practical cooperation in ICCAT as part of EFCA activities, while Japan sought clarification on the respective roles of EFCA and EU Member States regarding operational responsibilities between EFCA inspectors and EU inspectors. On lessons learned, Canada requested further information on ICCAT-specific experience, and the EU underlined that joint inspection contributes to more transparency, capacity-building and trust. Further information was also provided on how the operational coordination was implemented, namely through a Steering Group of Member States participants which is responsible for the overall coordination of activities and a Technical Group which implements day-to-day operational and tactical exchanges and targeting.

Guatemala thanked the presenters and noted that HSBI had the potential to be a useful tool against IUU fishing but stressed that its value in ICCAT depends on careful design, legal clarity and practical implementation. As had been suggested in the past a Working Group might be appropriate to work through all the relevant elements while moving forward.

On capacity-building and technical assistance to CPC participation in HSBI activities, Belize, Costa Rica, Senegal and the UK emphasised the importance of support to developing CPC to ensure that they are able to fully participate on a level playing field.

A number of CPCs underlined the importance for clear standards on collection, handling and admissibility of evidence, as well as timely information exchange between inspectors, flag States and relevant flag States. Critical steps involved capturing the required evidence from the vessel and triggering the jurisdictional process with the flag State to address any potential infringements to which evidence preparation in accordance with the relevant domestic legislation was considered critical.

Türkiye informed on their national efforts of implementing joint inspection schemes (JIS) for Mediterranean bluefin tuna and swordfish and will share their experiences from this process noting they are not signatories of certain international agreements. Türkiye repeated its position as was communicated during the Commission meeting in 2025, that they reserve their position on inspection programmes in international waters in the ICCAT Convention area.

Following the presentations on existing HSBI programmes and initial statements, Canada presented its proposal "Draft Recommendation by ICCAT for a Joint international inspection scheme in the Convention area in areas beyond national jurisdiction'' **(Appendix 12)**.

Canada informed that the document builds and takes on board the points made in the past and seeks to introduce a comprehensive HSBI scheme at ICCAT. The main changes versus that discussed in 2025 included the scope of application (paragraph 10), need for inclusion and participation (paragraph 56 and Appendix 3), language barriers (paragraph 27) and the use of force (paragraph 32).

It was agreed to first open the floor for general comments and questions and then to proceed article-by-article inviting comments and edits as appropriate. The Chair clarified that it would be up to the Working Group to decide on the level of discussions and recalled that time would be available under this dedicated Agenda item. He also confirmed that any decision of the Group would in any case require agreement by the PWG and ultimately the Commission.

The proposal was discussed article by article, including on Section III on general rights and provisions where Japan commented that HSBI should be in place for all CPCs not just Contracting Parties.
Guatemala asked if States who do not have a relation with ICCAT fisheries are covered in this scheme, which Canada denied, stating that only States that have consented to the HSBI scheme would participate in and be subject to the scheme.

Belize made several interventions in different sections, in particular to better reflect the specific needs and assistance for developing countries in the context of any future HSBI.

In the subsection on duties of the Executive Secretary, discussions between Canada and Guatemala revolved around finding appropriate language what data must be captured in the registry (paragraph 18).

Discussion in Section IV on inspection centred on how principles such as transparency and non-discrimination should be better defined, whether inspection priorities should be based on vessel size or risk, and how to clarify procedural approval requirements.

On fishing vessels without nationality and vessels of undetermined flag, CPCs discussed how to deal with such vessels, in particular how inspectors should identify or verify the flag State, what procedural steps apply where no flag can be confirmed and flag State responsibility.

On Section V on boarding and inspection procedures, it was discussed that verbal communication should be accommodated in a better way. The report from the inspection should be in a language that the Master of the fishing vessel can understand, to the extent possible. Efforts should attempt to accommodate this language. Canada raised multiple ways to overcome language barriers.

Several CPCs provided comments on 'Duties of the master of the fishing vessel', paragraph 34i, to facilitate inspectors on board of a vessel. Substantial discussion took place on the inclusion of the language covering the provision of food and accommodation to inspectors and how this would work in a practical way.

In Section VII on procedure relating to serious infringements, several CPCs commented on paragraph 40. Debate followed on the list of serious infringements included in the section as well as on the level of enforcement. Belize, EU, Morocco and Senegal were broadly in support of having a list in the text for clarity, consistency and enforcement, while other CPCs including Algeria, Guatemala and Japan were not, noting that inspectors should collect evidence, while further investigation would be the jurisdiction of the relevant flag State.

The discussion continued on the 'use of force' terminology as referred to in paragraph 40 with a number of CPCs raising questions including on the specific occasions when it would be warranted and it was agreed that more detailed discussions were considered necessary.

Another discussion revolved around the distinction between inspectors and observers as well as the concern if the inspector could trigger measures before flag State assessment. After lengthy discussions, there was broad support for revising paragraph 43, so that any suspension or stopping of activities would depend on flag State confirmation, not unilaterally by an inspector.

On the topic of failure of flag Contracting Party to respond, delegations questioned how to deal with situations where the flag State does not respond promptly to an inspection. The feasibility of having a defined reporting time for flag States to respond was questioned and the utility of paragraph 45 as well as other communication techniques between flag States and relevant inspecting CPCs.

Concerning the 'Duties of the Executive Secretary', a key issue noted from some CPCs was avoiding premature publication or posting of potential non-compliance cases that were still under investigation by the flag State. In particular, several delegations opposed making such information public on the ICCAT website at an early stage and supported the posting of the related information on the secure section of the website to monitor cases between CPCs until formal judgements or more advanced procedural steps had been taken in accordance with ICCAT and national flag State provisions. In this regard, some CPCs supported the alignment with existing ICCAT practice and process already agreed and implemented for eastern bluefin tuna and Mediterranean swordfish JIS.

Under Section VIII on follow-up enforcement actions, Morocco raised concerns about paragraph 50b, stressing that infringement reports had to be handled in accordance with national jurisdiction and legal due process which was supported by Guatemala.

Concerning Section X on entry into force and the transitioning from existing schemes and review, discussion focussed on the level of authority of the inspector. Inspectors were understood to function as collectors of information, rather than to determine liability or impose sanctions, and it was agreed to better reflect this in the text including that follow-up and enforcement remains exclusively with its flag State in accordance with its national jurisdiction.

It was underlined that in paragraph 56 on the establishment of a HSBI Steering Group to support operational HSBI schemes, inclusivity, cooperation and capacity building in particular of developing CPCs should be duly considered. In this regard, on Appendix 3 of the working document "Draft Recommendation by ICCAT for a Joint international inspection scheme in the Convention area in areas beyond national jurisdiction" **(Appendix 12)** on HSBI Joint Strategic Plan for planning, participation and assessment, members were supportive of the approach of setting up such a HSBI Steering Group. It was noted that further discussions should precise the scope, structure, legal basis, workload implications and the need to ensure that the group would adequately reflect the circumstances of developing CPCs.

Brazil informed that they had examined the proposals and remained committed to discuss further.

Canada thanked all those members who had contributed and the importance and value of the discussions by IMM. They reflected that the setting up of a working group this year would be difficult and suggested a virtual intersessional meeting to continue the discussions on the proposal in preparation of the Annual meeting. Members debated on the value of such a meeting with some CPCs requesting more time to consider the proposal while others underlining why a meeting represented a good opportunity to continue the discussions.

Canada confirmed that a revised proposal would be ready for review and made available in advance of an intersessional meeting to facilitate further discussions. Canada inquired with the ICCAT Secretariat on the possibility of hosting such a one-day meeting, to which they proposed the 30 September, 1 October or 2 October 2026.

Following further discussion, it was agreed that the ICCAT Secretariat would circulate the revised proposal in the coming weeks once made available by Canada, and CPCs would be asked to provide any feedback and comments within one month thereafter. Based on the feedback received, the Chair in consultation with the ICCAT Secretariat and concerned CPCs, would inform whether there was sufficient appetite for a virtual intersessional meeting of IMM. 1 October 2026 appeared to be the most favourable date for such a meeting although this would be confirmed in due course by Circular together with information on the objectives of the meeting.

10. Port inspection schemes and Port State Measures (PSM)

This Agenda item was kicked off by a ''Discussion paper on the next steps for the development of an electronic Port State Measure system for ICCAT fisheries'' **(Appendix 13)** presented by the UK. Building on previous discussions, the paper proposed the development of an ICCAT electronic PSM electronic system to enhance the exchange of port inspection data in accordance with the requirements of the current Rec. 25-11. They highlighted the intention was to explore the available options such as adapting FAO's PSMA Global Information Exchange System (GIES) for use by ICCAT or adapting existing platforms such as the IOTC's e-PSM system to avoid duplication, reduce costs and streamline CPC reporting.

This presentation was followed by a related presentation by the ICCAT Secretariat on ''Update on the Status of the Communication Mechanism with the FAO's Global Information Exchange System (GIES)''. As requested under Rec. 25-11, the Secretariat was tasked with assessing options for the use and/or adaption of FAO's GIES or adopting an alternative electronic system such as e-PSM. The ICCAT Secretariat reported ongoing consultations with FAO and IOTC and noted that both organisations had expressed willingness to support ICCAT, including through the provision of GIES software, e-PSM source code and technical cooperation and support.

Delegations broadly agreed that adapting an existing platform would be preferable to developing a new system, citing lower costs and reduced development time.

CPCs thanked the UK and the ICCAT Secretariat for their efforts. Several CPCs favoured focusing on the FAO GIES or the IOTC e-PSM adaptation to minimise duplication and administrative burden. Canada also supported further consideration of these options but sought additional clarification on governance, costs and future system modifications. Delegations stressed that any final chosen solution should remain fully under ICCAT ownership and management.

The discussion concluded that options involving the development of a completely new system were the least favoured (option 1&2), while further technical work would focus on adapting the FAO GIES or IOTC e-PSM for ICCATs exclusive use and needs. The ICCAT Secretariat was requested to continue discussions including with FAO, further assess the technical and governance implications of these approaches, and report back to the PWG in November 2026.

10.1 Consideration of outputs from the Meeting of the Port Inspection Group for Capacity Building and Assistance (PIEG)

The ICCAT Secretariat briefly presented the outcomes of the Meeting of the Port Inspection Expert Group for Capacity Building and Assistance (PIEG) that took place on the 4 February 2026. It was noted that there continued to be no Chair for the group and some CPCs recalled that similar concerns had been raised during the previous year's IMM meeting, alongside the current need of the group and infrequent meetings. Nonetheless some CPCs noted that despite limited meetings the group's training and capacity-building activities remain ongoing with support planned for several countries in the coming months.

The EU underlined that the absence of a chairperson undermined the effectiveness of the Working Group and suggested the discontinuation of the group considering their limited current need given the assessment and capacity building support to CPCs which was now fully established and working well. Canada, Guatemala, Senegal and the United States supported the continuation of the Working Group highlighting its ongoing relevance for capacity building.

It was agreed that the future work of the group including possible streamlining and leadership arrangements will be considered at the PWG in November 2026.

11. Vessel listing requirement

The EU presented "Discussion paper on IMO number and ICCAT Record of fishing vessels" **(Appendix 14)** in which they highlighted the importance of adapting the *Recommendation by ICCAT amending Recommendation 13-13 concerning the establishment of an ICCAT Record of vessels 20 metres in length overall or greater authorized to operate in the Convention area* (Rec. 21-14) to extend the requirement to have an International Maritime Organization (IMO) number and to include all fishing vessels with an overall length of 15 metres or more targeting ICCAT species. The aim being to maintain a level playing field between the Atlantic and the Mediterranean where such requirements already exist.

CPCs were generally supportive of the proposal, although Japan questioned why the length of vessels was set at 15 metres and not 12 metres as IMO numbers are already available from 12 metres. UK questioned if the approach was for vessels operating both in and outside of their respective EEZ. The EU clarified that 15 metres was chosen to keep coherence with GFCM but that the EU was also flexible and finally to the UK that the intent was to cover vessels operating both within and outside EEZs.

Algeria thanked the EU and informed that they could not support the proposal as it stands as they are currently working with GFCM on a similar approach.

The EU welcomed the contributions and encouraged written comments from CPCs with a view of presenting a proposal at the November 2026 Annual meeting.

12. Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) requirements

No points were raised during this agenda item.

13. Other matters

The US sought the views of the IMM on an issue related to ICCATs authorised vessel list. They recalled that information on active and inactive vessels is currently maintained on the public section of the ICCAT website where anyone can access. The inactive list may contain personal data that might be outdated however remains publicly available. They suggested to maintain the inactive vessel list but to remove it from the public website, alternatively to keep the inactive list on the public site but remove the personal data.

CPCs thanked the US for their suggestion and expressed interest to continue considering this issue. Guatemala and Japan noted that more time was needed to define what information is necessary to be made available publicly. The ICCAT Secretariat shared that there are several ways that the information can be presented on the website and the Secretariat expressed their support to assist and different ways to proceed on this subject.

It was agreed that the Secretariat would work with the US with a view of collating the issues and ideas into a discussion paper for presentation and consideration of the PWG in November 2026.

The EU presented the document "Discussion paper on a horizontal measure on monitoring, control and enforcement in ICCAT" **(Appendix 15)** which aims to survey the appetite of other CPCs for modernising ICCAT's standards by consolidating MCS obligations into a unified text for a comprehensive horizontal control instrument, addressing the overly complex and fragmented framework accumulated over time. CPCs welcomed the proposal and expressed understanding for the concept and the added-value to streamline the MCS framework in ICCAT, but emphasized the need to carefully assess its practical feasibility, as it would require a substantial effort from all CPCs to review such a comprehensive text and could entail a risk to lose some fishery-specific measure. The EU thanked the CPCs for their feedback and endeavours to continue the discussion while indicating that it did not intend to present any proposal on this matter in 2026.

14. Adoption of report and closure

The Chair informed that the Report would be circulated for adoption. He thanked everyone for their contributions, the work of the interpreters, the support of the ICCAT Secretariat and adjourned the meeting.

Appendix 1

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting and meeting arrangements
2. Nomination of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of agenda
4. Review of Statistical Document Programmes and Catch Documentation Schemes (SDP/CDSs):
   - 4.1 Consideration of outputs from the First Meeting of the Standing Catch Document Scheme Working Group (CDS WG)
5. Consideration of measures related to monitoring, inspection and flag State responsibilities:
   - 5.1 Consideration of work undertaken by the Electronic Monitoring Systems Working Group (EMS WG)
   - 5.2 Review of points raised from Panel 2:
     - 5.2.1 Possible amendments to the *Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 24-05 establishing a Multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean* (Rec. 25-04)
     - 5.2.2 Requests for clarifications deferred from Panel 2
   - 5.3 Other items related to flag State responsibility
6. Observer programmes
7. At-sea and in-port transhipment requirements
8. Rules for chartering and other fishing arrangements
9. Vessel sighting and inspection programmes
   - 9.1 High Seas Boarding and Inspection
10. Port inspection schemes and Port State Measures
    - 10.1 Consideration of outputs from the Meeting of the Port Inspection Expert Group for Capacity Building and Assistance (PIEG)
11. Vessel listing requirements
12. Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) requirements
13. Other matters
14. Adoption of report and closure

Appendix 2

List of participants*[1]

CONTRACTING PARTIES

ALGERIA
Ouchelli, Amar * (online)
Sous-directeur de la Grande Pêche et de la Pêche Spécialisée, ministère de la Pêche et des Productions halieutiques, Route des quatre canons, 16000 Alger
Tel: +213 550 386 938, Fax: +213 234 95597, E-Mail: amarouchelli.dz@gmail.com; amar.ouchelli@mpeche.gov.dz

Melikechi, Hamza [1] (online)
Sous Directeur de la Grande Pêche et la pêche au Large, 16000

BELIZE
Robinson, Robert
Senior Technical & Policy Advisor, Belize High Seas Fisheries Unit, Aura Building, 2nd Floor, 4-5 Philip Goldson Highway, Belize City
Tel: +501 223 4918; +501 223 7421, E-Mail: robert.robinson@bhsfu.gov.bz

López-Serrano, Alejandro
4245 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 100 Arlington, Virginia 22203, United States
Tel: +501 703 304 8147, E-Mail: a.lopezserrano@tnc.org

BRAZIL
da Costa Doria, Carollina Rodrigues *
Ministério da Pesca e Aquicultura, Setor de Indústrias Gráficas (SIG), Quadra 02, Ed. Soheste, Lotes 530 a 560, 70610-420 Distrito Federal, Brasília
Tel: +55 69 981 149 374, E-Mail: carolina.doria@mpa.gov.br; sermop@mpa.gov.br

Bispo Oliveira, André Luiz [1] (online)
International Negotiations Coordinator, Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture, International Advisory, 70297-400 Brasilia DF

Brick Peres, Monica (online)
Environment Analyst, Chico Mendes Institute - Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, ICMBio Grandes Unidades Oceânicas, Eqsw 103 104, 70670-350 Distrito Federal, Brasília
Tel: +55 61 981 433 690, E-Mail: monica.peres@icmbio.gov.br

Carvalho Mendes, Luciana (online)
Brazilian Navy / Marinha do Brasil, Comando de operaçöes Marítimas e Proteçao da Amazônia Azul - COMPAAZ, 20091-000 Rio de Janeiro
Tel: +55 219 763 09036, E-Mail: luciana.mendes@marinha.mil.br

De Paula, Ana Cláudia (online)
Brazilian Navy / Marinha do Brasil/SECIRM Endereço, Esplanada dos Ministérios, Bloco N Anexo B - 3º andar, 70055-900
Tel: +55 61 342 94047, E-Mail: ana.depaula@marinha.mil.br

Dias Nogueira, Felipe (online)
Brazilian Navy / Marinha do Brasil, Praça Barão de Ladário, s/n - Edifício Almirante Tamandaré (6º e 7º andares) - Centro, 20091-000 Rio de Janeiro
Tel: +55 21 999 619484, E-Mail: felipe.dias@marinha.mil.br

Lezama, Antonio Queiroz (online)
Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, 70068-900 Brasília DF
Tel: +55 619 961 43123, E-Mail: aqlezama@gmail.com; antonio.lezama@mma.gov.br

---

* Head Delegate
[1] Some delegate contact details have not been included following their request for data protection.

Rezende Arentz, Maria Fernanda
Technical Advisor, Brazilian Navy, Maritime Affairs and Environment Division of the Naval Staff, Esplanada dos Ministérios - Bloco "N" - 5º Andar, 70055-900 Distrito Federal, Brasília
Tel: +55 61 3429-1054, E-Mail: fernanda.arentz@marinha.mil.br; nanda.arentz@gmail.com

Souza Lira, Alex
Registering, Monitoring and Research Secretariat, Esplanada dos Ministérios, Setor de Autarquias Sul Q. 2, 70043-900 Brasília, DF
Tel: +55 819 855 15243, E-Mail: alex.lira@mpa.gov.br

CANADA

Cossette, Frédéric
Policy Advisor, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, 200 Kent St., Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0E6
Tel: +1 343 541 6921, E-Mail: frederic.cossette@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Browne, Dion
Senior Compliance Officer, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, 80 East White Hills Road, St. John's, NL A1C5X1
Tel: +1 709 685 1531, E-Mail: dion.browne@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Couture, John
Oceans North, Sydney NS B1P 6P3

Polo Napier, Brent
200 Kent Street, 13-W131, Ontario Ottawa K1V 1WH
Tel: +1 613 790 4760, E-Mail: brent.napier@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

COSTA RICA

Pacheco Chaves, Bernald
Instituto Costarricense de Pesca y Acuicultura, INCOPESCA, Departamento de Investigación, Cantón de Montes de Oro, Puntarenas, 333-5400
Tel: +506 899 22693, E-Mail: bpacheco@incopesca.go.cr; bernald.pacheco@gmail.com

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Djou, Kouadio Julien
Statisticien de la Direction de Pêches, Chef de Service Etudes, Statistiques et Documentation, Direction des Pêches (DP), ministère des Ressources Animales et halieutiques (MIRAH), 27 Rue des pêcheurs, BP V19, Abidjan 01
Tel: +225 79 15 96 22, Fax: +225 21 25 67 27, E-Mail: djoujulien225@gmail.com; ko.djou@ressourcesanimales.gouv.ci

EL SALVADOR

Orellana González, Jose Abilio
Asistente Técnico de Proyectos, Autoridad Salvadoreña de Economía Azul (ASEA), Final Avenida Manuel Gallardo, Edificio MAG, 1011 Santa Tecla
Tel: +503 7608 0681, E-Mail: abilio.orellana@asea.gob.sv

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Nguema Asangono, Mariano *
Director General de Pesca Industrial y Ordenación Pesquera, Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería, Bosques, Pesca y Medio Ambiente, Zona Malabo II (Edificio Ministerial), Bloko Norte, Malabo
Tel: +240 333 092 806, E-Mail: mariano.n68@yahoo.com

EUROPEAN UNION

Demaille, Anais
European Commission, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), Unit B2 Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, Brussels, Belgium
E-Mail: Anais.DEMAILLE@ec.europa.eu

Howard, Séamus (online)
European Commission, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), Unit B2 Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +32 229 50083; +32 488 258 038, E-Mail: seamus.howard@ec.europa.eu

Marcoux, Benoît
European Commission, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), Unit B2 Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +33 669 628 365, E-Mail: benoit.marcoux@ec.europa.eu

Marot, Laura
European Commission, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), Unit B2 Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +32 229 82243, E-Mail: laura.marot@ec.europa.eu

Miranda, Fernando
European Commission, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), Unit B2 Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +322 299 3922, E-Mail: fernando.miranda@ec.europa.eu

Ciubotaru, Doina
European Commission, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), Unit B2 Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, Brussels, Belgium
E-Mail: Doina.CIUBOTARU@ec.europa.eu

Khalil, Samira
European Commission, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), Unit B2 Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, Brussels, Belgium
E-Mail: samira.khalil@ec.europa.eu

Galetti, Fabio
European Commission, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), Unit D4 Fisheries Control and Inspection, Brussels, Belgium
E-Mail: fabio.galetti@ec.europa.eu

Rull del Águila, Laura
European Commission, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), Unit D4 Fisheries Control and Inspection, Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +32 229 84599, E-Mail: Laura.RULL-DEL-AGUILA@ec.europa.eu

Blokhuis, Anna Sifra
European Commission, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), Unit B2 Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, Brussels, Belgium
E-Mail: Anna-Sifra.BLOKHUIS@ec.europa.eu

Ansell, Neil [1]
European Fisheries Control Agency, 36201 Vigo, España

Avignon, Frédérique (online)
Direction générale des affaires maritimes, de la pêche et de l'aquaculture, 1 place Carpeaux, 92800 Ile de France, France
Tel: +33 660 883 604, E-Mail: frederique.avignon@mer.gouv.fr

Camilleri, Aldo
Aquaculture Directorate, Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Triq il-Qajjenza, BBG 1287 Marsaxlokk, Malta
Tel: +356 229 26918, E-Mail: aldo.a.camilleri@gov.mt

Conte, Fabio
Dipartimento delle Politiche Europee e Internazionali, Ministero dell'agricoltura, della sovranità alimentare e delle foreste - Dipartimento delle politiche competitive, della qualità agroalimentare, della pesca e dell'ippica, Direzione Generale della Pesca Marittima e dell'Acquacoltura - PEMAC III, Via XX Settembre, 20, 00187 Rome, Italy
Tel: +39 06 4665 2838, Fax: +39 06 4665 2899, E-Mail: f.conte@masaf.gov.it

Cormio, Carlo
Ministero dell'agricoltura, della sovranità alimentare e delle foreste Dipartimento delle politiche competitive, della qualità agroalimentare, della pesca e dell'ippica, Direzione generale della pesca marittima e dell'acquacoltura, Via XX Settembre n. 20, 00187 Roma, Italy
Tel: +39 348 886 6702, E-Mail: c.cormio@masaf.gov.it

Crespin, Rosalie (online)
ORTHONGEL, 5 Rue des Sardiniers, 29900 Concarneau, France
Tel: +33 649 711 587, E-Mail: rcrespin@orthongel.fr

Duarte, Rafael (online)
EFCA, Avenida García Barbón 4, 36201 Vigo, España
E-Mail: rafael.duarte@efca.europa.eu

Lopes, Vera
DGRM, Maritime Activities Control Unit, Av. Brasilia, 1449-030 Lisboa, Portugal
Tel: +351 962 103 780, E-Mail: vlopes@dgrm.pt

Magnolo, Lorenzo Giovanni
Permanent Representation of Italy to the EU, MASAF - DG PESCA, 00187 Rome, Italy
Tel: +32 222 00597, E-Mail: l.magnolo@esteri.it

Menchaca Paz, Manuel
EM Consultant, SATLINK, 28108 Madrid, España
Tel: +34 609 551 493, E-Mail: mmp@satlink.es

Orozco, Lucie (online)
Chargée de mission affaires thonières, Direction générale de affaires maritimes, de la pêche et de l'aquaculture (DGAMPA), Bureau des Affaires Européennes et Internationales (BAEI), 92055 La Défense, Île de France, France

Raftery, Paul (online)
Zunibal, Calle Idorsolo 1, 48160 Bizcaya, España
Tel: +34 681 108 472, E-Mail: paul.raftery@zunibal.com

Seguna, Marvin
Chief Fisheries Protection Officer, Ministry for Agriculture, Food and Animal Rights, Fort San Lucjan, Triq il-Qajjenza, Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Ghammieri Ingiered Road, MRS 3303 Marsa, Malta
Tel: +356 229 26918; +356 797 09426, E-Mail: marvin.seguna@gov.mt

GABON
Mboumba, Patrick
Technicien, Centre de Surveillance des Pêches, 9498 Libreville
Tel: +241 779 26813, E-Mail: patrick_mboumba@yahoo.fr

GUATEMALA
Chavarría Valverde, Bernal Alberto
Asesor en Gestión y Política pesquera Internacional, DIPESCA, Bárcenas, Villa Nueva
Tel: +506 882 24709, E-Mail: bchavarria@lsg-cr.com

JAPAN
Tominaga, Haruo
Director, International Fisheries Coordination, International Affairs Division, Fisheries Agency of Japan, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, 1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8907
Tel: +81 3 3591 1086, Fax: +81 3 3504 2649, E-Mail: haruo_tominaga170@maff.go.jp

Ando, Hiroaki (online)
Section Chief, Agricultural and Marine Products Office,Trade Conrol Department, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Tokyo 100-8901
Tel: +81 3 3501 1511, E-Mail: ando-hiroaki@meti.go.jp

Fukugama, Chika
Assistant Director, International Affairs Division, Fisheries Agency of Japan, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, 1-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8907
Tel: +81 3 3502 8460, Fax: +81 3 3504 2649, E-Mail: chika_fukugama740@maff.go.jp

Iioka (Yokoyama), Mako
Assistant Director, International Affairs Division, Fisheries Agency of Japan, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, 1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-Ku, Tokyo 100-8907
Tel: +81 3 3502 8204, Fax: +81 3 3504 2649, E-Mail: mako_iioka540@maff.go.jp

Miyashita, Shoma (online)
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Technical Official, International Affairs Division, Fisheries Agency of Japan, 1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8907
Tel: +81 3 3502 8460, E-Mail: shoma_miyashita890@maff.go.jp

KOREA (REP.)
Kim, Seonhye * (online)
Asisstant Director, Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, 14, Jungang-daero 361beon-gil, Dong-gu, Busan
Tel: +82 102 843 7358, E-Mail: seonhkim@korea.kr

Kim, Soomin (online)
Policy Analyst, Korea Overseas Fisheries Cooperation Center, 6th FL, S Building, 253, Hannuri-daero, 30127 Sejong
Tel: +82 44 868 7363, Fax: +82 44 868 7840, E-Mail: soominkim@kofci.org

LIBERIA
Wehye, Austin Saye
Director of Research & Statistics, National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFFA), Fisheries Researchers, United Nation Drive, P.O. Box 1384, 1000 Monrovia, Montserrado Bushord Island
Tel: +231 886 809 420; +231 775 717 273, E-Mail: awehye@nafaa.gov.lr; austinwehye@yahoo.com

MAURITANIA
Braham, Cheikh Baye
Halieute, Géo-Statisticien, modélisateur; Chef du Service Statistique, Institut mauritanien de recherche océanographiques et des pêches (IMROP), BP 22 Nouadhibou
Tel: +222 2242 1038, E-Mail: baye.braham@gmail.com; baye_braham@yahoo.fr

MEXICO
Mestas Rodríguez, Jessica María [1] (online)
Jefe de Departamento de Negocios Comerciales Internacionales, CONAPESCA, 82100 Mazatlán, Sinaloa

Ramírez López, Karina (online)
Instituto Mexicano de Pesca y Acuacultura Sustentables (IMIPAS), Centro Regional de Investigación Acuícola y Pesquera - Veracruz, Av. Ejército Mexicano No.106 - Colonia Exhacienda, Ylang Ylang, C.P. 94298 Boca de Río, Veracruz
Tel: +52 5538719500, Ext. 55756, E-Mail: karina.ramirez@imipas.gob.mx; kramirez_inp@yahoo.com

Soler Benítez, Bertha Alicia [1] (online)
Comisión Nacional de Acuacultura y Pesca (CONAPESCA), 82100 Mazatlán, Sinaloa

MOROCCO
Aouraghe, Abdelhakim
Directeur de contrôle des activités de la pêche Maritime (DCAPM), Secrétariat d'Etat chargé de la Pêche Maritime, Nouveau Quartier Administratif; BP 476, 10090 Haut Agdal Rabat
Tel: +212 661 296 395, E-Mail: aouraghe@mpm.gov.ma

Ben Bari, Mohamed
Expert MCS Auprès du Secrétariat d'Etat chargé de la Pêche Maritime, Nouveau Quartier Administratif; BP 476, 10090 Haut Agdal Rabat
Tel: +212 537 688 196, Fax: +212 537 688 382, E-Mail: benbari@mpm.gov.ma

Hmidane, Abdellatif
Chef de la division de la coordination et de suivi de la Lutte contre la Pêche INN / DCAPM, Secrétariat d'Etat chargé de la Pêche Maritime, Nouveau Quartier Administratif; BP 476, 10090 Haut Agdal Rabat
Tel: +212 537 688 356, Fax: +212 537 688 382, E-Mail: hmidane@mpm.gov.ma

Sabbane, Kamal
Chef du Service de la Coordination de la Lutte contre la Pêche INN / DCAPM, Secrétariat d'Etat chargé de la Pêche Maritime, Département de la Pêche Maritime, Nouveau Quartier Administratif; BP 476, 10090 Haut Agdal, Rabat
Tel: +212 537 688 528, Fax: +212 537 688 382, E-Mail: sabbane@mpm.gov.ma

NIGERIA
Hungevu, Ruth Funmilola (online)
Data analyst for Nigeria, Federal Ministry of Marine and Blue Economy, Federal Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture, 1 Wilmot Point, Off Ahmadu Bello, Victoria Island, Lagos, 101241
Tel: +234 803 071 3503, E-Mail: olufunmiomotade@gmail.com

NORWAY
Sørdahl, Elisabeth * [1]
Specialist Director, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries, Department for Fisheries, 0032 Oslo

Mjorlund, Rune [1]
Senior Adviser, Directorate of Fisheries, Department of Coastal Management, Environment and Statistics, 5804 Bergen

Munch-Ellingsen, Sofie (online)
Higher Executive Officer, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries, Department for Fisheries, Kongens gate 8, 0153, (P.O. Box 8090 Dep), 0032 Oslo
Tel: +47 950 05084, E-Mail: sofie.munch-ellingsen@nfd.dep.no

Stølsvik, Gunnar [1] (online)
Specialist Director, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries, Department for Fisheries, 0032 Oslo

PANAMA
Vergara, Yarkelia (online)
Directora encargada de Cooperación y Asuntos pesqueros, Ministerio de Desarrollo Agropecuario, Autoridad de los Recursos Acuáticos de Panamá, Cooperación Técnica y Asuntos pesqueros Internacional, Edificio Riviera, Ave. Justo Arosemena, Calle 45 Bella Vista, 0819-02398
Tel: +507 511 6008 (ext. 359), E-Mail: yvergara@arap.gob.pa; hsfs@arap.gob.pa

Díaz de Santamaría, María Patricia (online)
Delegada representante de la Industria, FIPESCA - Fundación Internacional de Pesca, Zona de Libre Proceso de Corozal, Edificio 297, Corozal
Tel: +507 378 6640; +507 657 32047, E-Mail: mpdiaz@fipesca.com; mapatdiaz30@gmail.com

SENEGAL
Sèye, Mamadou
Ingénieur des Pêches, Chef de la Division Gestion et Aménagement des Pêcheries, Direction des Pêches maritimes, Sphère ministérielle Ousmane Tanor Dieng, Bâtiment D, 2è étage, Diamniadio, BP 289 Dakar
Tel: +221 77 841 83 94, Fax: +221 821 47 58, E-Mail: mdseye@gmail.com; mdseye1@gmail.com; mdouseye@yahoo.fr

Kwabena, Adams Blegnan [1] (online)
Responsable des opérations, CAPSEN SA, 10200

Loum Mbaye, Mame Diarra
Chef de la Division Pêche industrielle, Direction des Pêches maritimes, Dakar
Tel: +221 776 178 313, E-Mail: loum.mamediarra@gmail.com

Niang, Magatte
Chef du Bureau des observateurs de la Direction de la Protection et de Ia Surveillance des Pêches (DPSP), Fenêtre Mermoz, Corniche Ouest, BP: 3656 Dakar
Tel: +221 775 854 440, E-Mail: niangmagatte966@gmail.com

TÜRKIYE
Gökçinar, Niyazi Can
Senior Fisheries Officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, General Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Üniversiteler Mah. Dumlupınar Bulvarı, No: 161 / 1-0, 06800 Lodumlu, Ankara
Tel: +90 312 258 3077, Fax: +90 312 258 3039, E-Mail: niyazican.gokcinar@tarimorman.gov.tr; niyazicangokcinar@hotmail.com

Topçu, Burcu Bilgin
Senior Fisheries Officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, General Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Üniversiteler Mah. Dumlupınar Bulvarı, No: 161 / 1-6, 06800 Lodumlu, Ankara
Tel: +90 532 207 0632; +90 312 258 3077, Fax: +90 312 258 30 39, E-Mail: burcu.bilgin@tarimorman.gov.tr; bilginburcu@gmail.com

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND
Owen, Marc * (online)
Team Lead, International Fisheries, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Defra, First Floor, Seacole Wing, 2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF
Tel: +44 755 732 5524, E-Mail: marc.owen@defra.gov.uk

Sampson, Harry
Senior International Fisheries Policy Officer, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), Marine & Fisheries Directorate, Nobel House 17 Smith Square, London SW1P 3JR
Tel: +44 208 026 4403; +44 755 742 8543, E-Mail: harry.sampson@defra.gov.uk; trfmo@defra.gov.uk

Bella, Carlo (online)
Defra, Horizon House, Deanery Road, Bristol, BS31 2UD
Tel: +44 739 526 8009, E-Mail: carlo.bella@defra.gov.uk

Deary, Andrew
Head of Blue Belt Compliance, MMO, Marine Management Organisation, Lutra House. Dodd Way. Walton House. Bamber Bridge. Preston Office, PR5 8BX
Tel: +44 772 222 1352, E-Mail: andrew.deary@marinemanagement.org.uk

Nelson, Paul
Marine Management Organisation (MMO), Chi Gallos, Hayle Marine Renewables Park , North Quay , Hayle, Penzance TR27 4DD
Tel: +44 208 026 9060, E-Mail: Paul.Nelson@marinemanagement.org.uk

Peel, Michael
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs - Defra, 2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF
Tel: +44 798 418 9608, E-Mail: michael.peel@defra.gov.uk

Schaeffter, Gerlinde (online)
Senior Policy Advisor, Illegal, Unregulated & Unreported Fishing Policy, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Defra, 1st floor, Seacole Block, 2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF
Tel: +44 208 026 1572, E-Mail: gerlinde.schaeffter@defra.gov.uk

Smith, Ella (online)
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs - Defra, Horizon House, Deanery Road, Bristol BS1 5TL
Tel: +44 743 663 5198, E-Mail: ella.smith@defra.gov.uk

UNITED STATES

Harris, Madison
Foreign Affairs Specialist, Office of International Affairs, Trade, and Commerce (F/IATC), NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
Tel: +1 202 480 4592, E-Mail: madison.harris@noaa.gov

Baker, Colleen
Foreign Affairs Officer, Office of Marine Conservation (OES/OMC), Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, U.S. Department of State, Washington DC 20520
Tel: +1 609 206 9830; +1 202 538 1070, E-Mail: bakerca2@fan.gov

Bors, Eleanor
National Marine Fisheries Service Office of International Affairs, Trade, and Commerce, Office 5151, 1315 East-West Highway 5th Floor, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
Tel: +1 240 429 4461; +1 617 571 1376, E-Mail: eleanor.bors@noaa.gov

Campbell, Derek
Attorney-Advisor International Section, Office of General Counsel - International Law, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W. HCHB Room 48026, Washington, D.C. 20230
Tel: +1 202 482 0031, Fax: +1 202 371 0926, E-Mail: derek.campbell@noaa.gov

Engelke-Ros, Meggan (online)
Deputy Chief, NOAA Office of General Counsel, Enforcement Section, 1315 East-West Highway, SSMC3-15860, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
Tel: +1 301 427 8284, Fax: +1 301 427 2202, E-Mail: meggan.engelke-ros@noaa.gov

Htun, Emma (online)
Attorney-Advisor, Office of the General Counsel for Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, MD 20910

King, Melanie Diamond (online)
Foreign Affairs Specialist, Office of International Affairs Trade, and Commerce (F/IATC), NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring Maryland 20910
Tel: +1 301 427 3087, E-Mail: melanie.king@noaa.gov

Moore, Kathleen (online)
Living Marine Resources Program Manager, United States Coast Guard, Atlantic Area-Response, Office of Maritime Security and Law Enforcement, 431 Crawford St., Portsmouth, Virginia 23704
Tel: +1 571 607 2157, E-Mail: katie.s.moore@uscg.mil

URUGUAY

Forselledo, Rodrigo * (online)
Dirección Nacional de Recursos Acuáticos - DINARA, Laboratorio de Recursos Pelágicos, Constituyente 1497, CP 11200 Montevideo
Tel: +598 2400 46 89; +598 99 487 401, E-Mail: rforselledo@gmail.com; rforselledo@mgap.gub.uy

VENEZUELA

Vivas Jiménez, María Daniela (online)
Analista de Asuntos Multilaterales de la Oficina de Integración y Asuntos Internacionales, Ministerio del Poder Popular de Pesca y Acuicultura, Parque Central. Piso 17, 1040 Caracas
Tel: 04242808103, E-Mail: minpescaven@gmail.com

OBSERVERS FROM COOPERATING NON-CONTRACTING PARTIES, ENTITIES, FISHING ENTITIES

BOLIVIA

Cortez Franco, Limbert Ismael (online)
Jefe de Unidad, Unidad Boliviana de Pesca Marítima (UBPM), Calle 20 de Octubre 2502, esq. Pedro Salazar, La Paz
Tel: +591 6 700 9787, Fax: +591 2 291 4069, E-Mail: limbert.cortez@protonmail.ch; limbert.cortez@mindef.gob.bo; licor779704@gmail.com

Alsina Lagos, Hugo Andrés (online)
Asesor Internacional, Unidad Boliviana de Pesca Marítima (UBPM), Ministerio de Defensa, Calle 20 de octubre 2502, esq. Pedro Salazar, La Paz
Tel: +1 832 871 1409; +34 685 733 997, Fax: +507 830 1708, E-Mail: hugo@alsina-et-al.org

Olives García, William Eduardo (online)
Asesor Científico, Unidad Boliviana de Pesca Marítima (UBPM), Calle 20 de Octubre 2502, esq. Pedro Salazar, La Paz
Tel: +593 992 236 798, E-Mail: willian.olives@proton.me

CHINESE TAIPEI

Chou, Shih-Chin
Deputy Director, Distant Water Fisheries Division, Fisheries Agency, 8F, No. 100, Sec. 2, Heping W. Rd., Zhongzheng Dist., 10060
Tel: +886 2 2383 5855, Fax: +886 2 2332 7395, E-Mail: chou1967sc@gmail.com; shihcin@ms1.fa.gov.tw

Chou, Ling-Fei
Deputy Director, Representative Office in the EU and Belgium, Square de Meeûs 26-27, 1000 Bruxelles, Belgium
Tel: +32 02 287 2800, Fax: +32 02 513 9590, E-Mail: lingfei@ms1.fa.gov.tw

Hsu, Huang-Wei
Technical Specialist, Distant Water Fisheries Division, Fisheries Agency, 8F., No.100, Sec. 2, Heping W. Rd., Zhongzheng Dist., 10060
Tel: +886 2 238 35912, Fax: +886 2 233 27396, E-Mail: huangwei0510@ms1.fa.gov.tw

Kao, Shih-Ming
Professor, Graduate Institute of Marine Affairs, National Sun Yat-sen University, 70 Lien-Hai Road, 80424 Kaohsiung City
Tel: +886 7 525 2000 Ext. 5305, Fax: +886 7 525 6205, E-Mail: kaosm@udel.edu; kaosm@mail.nsysu.edu.tw

Shang, Yu
First Secretary on Home Assignment, Agriculture, Fisheries and Economic Organizations Section, Department of International Organizations, No.2 Ketagalan Blvd., 100
Tel: +886 2 2348 2527, Fax: +886 2 2361 7694, E-Mail: yshang@mofa.gov.tw

Tsai, Chi-Ting
Associate Professor, Department of Political Affairs, College of Social Sciences, National Taiwan University, No. 1 Sect. 4, Roosevelt Road, 10617
Tel: +886 2 3366 8305, Fax: +886 2 2365 3433, E-Mail: chiting@ntu.edu.tw

Yang, Shan-Wen
Secretary, Overseas Fisheries Development Council, 3F, No. 14, Wenzhou Street, Da'an Dist., 10648
Tel: +886 2 2368 0889 #151, Fax: +886 2 2368 6418, E-Mail: shenwen@ofdc.org.tw

OBSERVERS FROM INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

INTERPOL GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Buckley, Cindy
Criminal Intelligence Officer, Environmental Security, INTERPOL General Secretariat, 200 Quai Charles de Gaulle, 69006 Lyon, France
E-Mail: c.buckley@interpol.int

Kotsovou, Maria
INTERPOL General Secretariat, 200 Quai Charles de Gaulle, 69006 Lyon, France
Tel: +33 472 447 189; +33 660 977 372, E-Mail: m.kotsovou@interpol.int

OBSERVERS FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

BIRDLIFE INTERNATIONAL - BI

Wade, Helen
Birdlife International - RSPB, The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2DL, United Kingdom
E-Mail: Helen.Wade@rspb.org.uk

ECOLOGY ACTION CENTRE

Isnor, Holly
Ecology Action Centre - EAC, 2705 Fern Lane, Halifax Nova Scotia B3K 4L3, Canada
Tel: +1 902 580 0600, E-Mail: hollyisnor@ecologyaction.ca

FISHERY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT - FIP

Canive Pinedo, Itziar (online)
DataFish, Calle Bizkaiko jaurerria 2, 1ºizq, 48370 Bizkaia, España
Tel: +34 604 049 296, E-Mail: icanive@datafishts.com

GLOBAL FISHING WATCH

Arruda Sêga, Luana
Global Fishing Watch, 1025 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington DC 20036, United States
Tel: +554 799 966 3536, E-Mail: luana.sega@globalfishingwatch.org

Bartra, Ariadna
Global Fishing Watch, 2051BB North Holland, Netherlands
Tel: +31 643 281 665, E-Mail: ariadna.bartra-baron@globalfishingwatch.org

Elliott, Brianna
Global Fishing Watch, 1025 Connecticut Ave NW # 200, Washington, DC 20036, United States
Tel: +1 443 226 3379, E-Mail: brianna.elliott@globalfishingwatch.org

INTERNATIONAL SEAFOOD SUSTAINABILITY FOUNDATION - ISSF

Koehler, Holly (online)
International Seafood Sustainability Foundation - ISSF, 3706 Butler Street Suite #316, Pittsburgh PA 15201-1820, United States
Tel: +1 703 226 8101, Fax: +1 215 220 2698, E-Mail: hkoehler@iss-foundation.org

Recio Vázquez, Lorena (online)
Data Analyst and Research Assistant, ISSF, 28003 Madrid, España
Tel: +34 622 86 03 85, E-Mail: lrecio@iss-foundation.org

OCEANA

Rosado Egea, Yago
Oceana, Rue Montoyer 39, 1000 Bruxelles, Belgium
Tel: +31 616 473 235, E-Mail: yrosado@oceana.org

PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS - PEW
Eeles, Laura
Pew Charitable Trusts, 1320 19th St NW, Washington DC 20036, United States
Tel: +1 202 887 8996, E-Mail: leeles@pewtrusts.org

Evangelides, Nikolas
Pew Charitable Trusts, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LA, United Kingdom
Tel: +44 20 7535 4232, E-Mail: nevangelides@pewtrusts.org

Wozniak, Esther (online)
Pew Charitable Trusts, 901 E Street, NW, Washington DC 20004, United States
Tel: +1 202 540 6588, E-Mail: ewozniak@pewtrusts.org

THE SHARK TRUST
Hood, Ali (online)
The Shark Trust, 4 Creykes Court, The Millfields, Plymouth PL1 3JB, United Kingdom
Tel: +44 7855 386083, Fax: +44 1752 672008, E-Mail: ali@sharktrust.org

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

SCRS CHAIRPERSON
Brown, Craig A. (online)
SCRS Chairperson, Supervisory Research Fisheries Biologist, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Southeast Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, Florida 33149, United States
Tel: +1 305 586 6589, E-Mail: craig.brown@noaa.gov

EXTERNAL EXPERTS
Miller, Alexander (online)
Bluefin Data, 3820 Chaumont Circle, MS 39564, United States
Tel: +1 228 217 4188, E-Mail: alex.miller@bluefindata.com

Petersen, Andrew
Fisheries Data and Technology Company, Bluefin Data, 3014 Dauphine St Ste A PMB 29021, New Orleans, LA 70117, United States
Tel: +1 225 407 9192, E-Mail: andrew@bluefindata.com

*****

ICCAT Secretariat
C/ Corazón de María 8 – 6th floor, 28002 Madrid – Spain
Tel: +34 91 416 56 00; Fax: +34 91 415 26 12; E-mail: info@iccat.int

Manel, Camille Jean Pierre
Neves dos Santos, Miguel
Parrilla Moruno, Alberto Thais
Mayor, Carlos (online)
De Andrés, Marisa (online)
Donovan, Karen
García-Orad, María José
Pinet, Dorothée
Acuña, Jose Antonio (online)
Baity, Dawn (online)
Martínez Herranz, Javier (online)
Mergarejo Dremov, Félix (online)
Peña, Esther
Samedy, Valérie (online)
Vieito, Aldana (online)

Appendix 3

Draft Recommendation by ICCAT amending Recommendation 23-18 ~~to establish~~ on minimum standards ~~and programme requirements~~ for the use of Electronic Monitoring Systems (EMS) in ICCAT fisheries

(previously submitted by the United Kingdom as document EMS_03/i2026)

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the *Resolution by ICCAT for the establishing of an ICCAT Working Group on the use of Electronic Monitoring Systems (WG EMS)* (Res. 21-22), and that a primary objective of this Working Group is the establishment of Electronic Monitoring Systems (EMS) minimum standards for ICCAT fisheries;

RECOGNIZING that EMS can be used to improve control and constitutes a significant means for authorities to ensure compliance with the applicable rules;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that EMS can enhance the collection of fisheries data for scientific and management purposes;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the SCRS has identified the need for a future focus on alternative data collection methods from smaller vessels;

RECALLING the SCRS conclusion that when used for scientific purposes, EMS cannot fully replace human scientific observer programmes, and a minimum human observer's coverage is still necessary to collect certain information, in particular biological samples;

FURTHER RECALLING that CPCs can employ an alternative approach to scientific monitoring on vessels under 15 m pursuant to the *Recommendation by ICCAT to establish minimum standards for fishing vessel scientific observer programs* (Rec. 16-14);

ACKNOWLEDGING that several ICCAT Recommendations currently contemplate the use of EMS, in particular, *the Recommendation by ICCAT on a multi-annual conservation and management programme for tropical tunas* (Rec. 22-01), *the Recommendation by ICCAT on the conservation of North Atlantic stock of shortfin mako caught in association with ICCAT fisheries* (Rec. 21-09) and *the Recommendation by ICCAT to establish rebuilding programmes for blue marlin and white marlin/roundscale spearfish* (Rec. 19-05).

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING that some of these recommendations mandate the establishment of minimum standards for this technology, – standards that must be implemented before EMS can be used to meet certain ICCAT requirements, such as expanded observer coverage;

NOTING that the development of EMS minimum programme requirements and technical standards and specifications is fundamental to ensuring both a level playing field among CPCs and that, when these systems are used, they are effective in achieving their intended purpose;

FURTHER NOTING that developing CPCs might need technical assistance and capacity building when implementing EMS for ICCAT fisheries;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

Purpose and scope

1. The purpose of this recommendation is to establish minimum programme requirements and technical standards and specifications for EMS used in ICCAT longline or purse seine fisheries to meet ICCAT requirements for scientific data collection and/or compliance monitoring and ensure that when EMS is used it is effective in achieving its intended purpose.

1. bis For vessels under 15 m the purpose of this Recommendation is to establish minimum standards for the use of EMS in ICCAT longline and purse seine fisheries when a CPC is seeking to employ an alternative approach to scientific monitoring pursuant to paragraph 4b of Rec. 16-14. Previously approved alternative approaches will not be affected by this measure.

2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, the implementation of EMS is optional, and this recommendation does not create any independent obligation for CPCs to implement EMS on board their fishing vessels.

3. CPCs that implement EMS in their fisheries pursuant to such ICCAT recommendations shall ensure that their EMS domestic programmes meet the minimum programme requirements and standards and specifications set out in this Recommendation.

4. Unless otherwise decided by the Commission based on SCRS advice provided pursuant to paragraph 4b or 13 of Rec. 16-14, CPCs shall ensure that they continue to meet the human observer coverage required in accordance with paragraph 4 of Rec. 16-14 and that, if they choose to implement EMS in accordance with this Recommendation for scientific purposes, it shall be used to complement the required level of human observer coverage and the required tasks to be performed by these human observers.

EMS minimum standards

5. EMS shall automatically and autonomously collect required data for each fishing trip and shall be tamper-evident.

6. EMS shall be capable of collecting data:

   a) on the position, and, unless the EMS uses cameras that will record continuously, the speed and course of the vessel;
   b) on starting and ending coordinates and date and time of the setting and haulback operations of each fishing set and in the case of vessels under 15 m without relevant sensors on the start of the fishing operation;
   c) allowing, where applicable, the estimation of fishing effort (i.e., number of sets, number of hooks);
   d) allowing the estimation of total catch, including bycatch and discards, per set, and, where possible, the disposition status (i.e., discarded dead, released alive) of discards;
   e) supporting species identification, and
   f) allowing, where necessary, for the measurement or estimation of the size of individual fish in the retained catch, including bycatch.

7. Minimum EMS components shall include:

   - electronic Monitoring (EM) control box/centre, including a satellite positioning system, e.g., the global positioning system (GPS) or equivalent, hereafter referred to as GPS;
   - video cameras;
   - sensors or other fishing activity recognition tools, unless system video cameras will run continuously;
   - battery and data storage backup systems;

8. The minimum technical requirements for an EMS (control box, sensors, and cameras) are detailed in **Annex 1 to Appendix 3**.

9. The specific data fields that shall be collected by EMS in longline and purse seine fisheries and those areas of longline and purse seine vessels that shall be subject to coverage by the EMS are listed under **Annex 2 and Annex 3 to Appendix 3** respectively. These annexes also distinguish between the EMS requirements needed for compliance purposes versus scientific data collection purposes. The EMS requirements for vessels under 15 m only apply to scientific data collection.

Other Programme requirements

Vessel Monitoring Plan (VMP)

10. CPCs shall ensure that a unique Vessel Monitoring Plan (VMP) for each individual vessel flying their flags on which EMS is to be installed is developed that shall allow the installation of the EMS to be adapted to each vessel's characteristics and describe how fishing operations on that vessel will be conducted to ensure effective monitoring of fishing activities onboard. The VMP shall cover all relevant minimum standards and technical specifications in this Recommendation while optimizing the quality of data the EMS collects from the vessel. A copy of the approved VMP shall be maintained aboard the vessel at all times during fishing operations. The VMP requirements are detailed in **Annex 4 to Appendix 3**.

Data management

11. The requirements applicable to CPCs for data storage and retention, data transmission or retrieval and data review and reporting are detailed in **Annex 5 to Appendix 3**.

Obligations of the vessel Master

12. The Master of the vessel shall ensure that:

- the vessel does not leave port if the EMS is not operating properly unless, the flag CPC authorizes it to do so and ensures that any relevant data collection or other ICCAT obligations, such as minimum observer coverage requirements, can be met through other means;

- in case the EMS malfunctions, report the malfunction, including the display of any critical warning, to the flag CPC competent authorities, through automatic real time notification of the malfunction or manually, within a maximum of 24 hours or as soon as practicable;

- on-board physical access to the EMS components is provided if requested by an ICCAT or CPC authorized observer and/or inspection personnel;

- in accordance with the VMP and the minimum areas of vessel coverage as specified in **Annexes 2 and 3 to Appendix 3** the cameras have an un-obstructed view, and following pre-established protocols, the camera lenses are kept clean;

- the handling of the catch does not hinder the proper identification and estimation of the catch composition by the EMS, including by-catch;

- the transmission or retrieval of EMS data is carried out in accordance with the provisions of **Annex 5 to Appendix 3**;

- unless authorized and instructed by the flag CPC to take a specific action, the EMS is not tampered with (e.g., disconnect the system, rearrange, or obstruct the view of the cameras, disconnect cameras or sensors, switch-off the EMS manually, intentionally break the system, etc.).

Obligations of the flag CPC

13. CPCs that choose to implement EMS to meet ICCAT requirements specified in separate ICCAT recommendations (e.g., regarding observer coverage), shall ensure that the fishing vessels flying their flags meet the EMS minimum standards and requirements established in this Recommendation, including ensuring the following:

    - that domestic EMS programmes are developed, and designed and implemented in a manner that ensures they are independent, transparent, and accountable, in accordance with requirements set out in this Recommendation;
    - that the analysis of the EMS data is done by CPC-authorized independent companies or by CPC institutions or CPC authorities, with the necessary knowledge, skills and abilities to ensure effective data analysis, including sufficiently accurate species identification;

    - that rules and procedures are established in case of EMS failure, including to ensure that any relevant data collection or other ICCAT obligations, such as minimum observer coverage requirements, can be met through other means. This provision will not apply in cases where a CPC is using EMS in accordance with paragraph 4b of Rec. 16-14 on vessels using longlines or purse seines;

    - that appropriate follow-up is undertaken if potential infringements of ICCAT conservation and management measures are detected through the CPC's EMS programme.

14. A CPC that chooses to implement an EMS programme in its longline and/or purse seine fisheries to meet ICCAT requirements for scientific data collection and/or compliance monitoring purposes shall develop and describe an EMS domestic programme. The EMS domestic programme shall meet the requirements in this Recommendation and include at least the following information:

    - an example of the VMPs used in the programme;
    - responsibilities of fisheries authorities and vessel owner/crew with respect to installing and maintaining equipment, including routine cleaning of cameras, and responses to mechanical or technical failure of the EMS;
    - protocols for data storage and retrieval; and
    - list of any ICCAT measures where the use of EMS is necessary for the CPC to meet the requirements of ICCAT recommendation(s) for monitoring compliance, and the protocols for reporting and following up on potential infringements mentioned in **Annex 5 to Appendix 3**.

15. The EMS programme description required in paragraph 14 above shall be submitted to the ICCAT Secretariat within 30 days of the adoption of such programme. In addition, CPCs shall report any changes to their EMS domestic programme to the ICCAT Secretariat whenever such changes occur.

16. A CPC that chooses to implement EMS in its longline or purse seine fisheries to meet ICCAT requirements for scientific data collection and/or compliance monitoring purposes, shall also:

    a) When EMS is used for scientific purposes, report to the SCRS each year, using the electronic formats that are developed by the SCRS, information collected through domestic EMS programmes, in line with procedures in place for other data reporting requirements and consistent with domestic confidentiality requirements; and

    b) report to the Commission in its Annual Report other relevant information on the results of the implementation of its EMS domestic programme during the previous year, including, at least, the number of vessels or fishing effort monitored; the coverage levels achieved by fishery and gear type; details on how those coverage levels were calculated; and, where appropriate, information on compliance monitoring.

Commission roles and responsibilities

17. The WG EMS shall:

- review, with assistance of the SCRS where appropriate, the EMS domestic programme submitted pursuant to paragraph 15, as well as the implementation of those programmes and, if appropriate, suggest improvements and adjustment to such programmes to ensure that ICCAT scientific data collection and/or compliance monitoring requirements are met or that the EMS standards followed by the domestic programme are, with due consideration to the development status of CPCs, equivalent to those set out in this Recommendation.

- request advice from the SCRS on the application of EMS to baitboat, gillnet and trawl fisheries and the data requirements for scientific monitoring;

- review this measure, following SCRS advice, to develop minimum standards for the use of EMS by vessels under 15 m using baitboat, trap, gillnet and trawl gears.

18. The Commission shall:

- explore the availability of sufficient financial resources to support, where needed, the effective introduction and implementation of ICCAT's EMS programme requirements, standards and specifications contained in this Recommendation, including by developing CPCs;

- engage in coordination on EMS activities and programmes with other tuna RFMOs.

- the Commission may delegate this responsibility to the WG EMS.

Secretariat roles and responsibilities

19. The Secretariat shall:

- collaborate with the CPCs implementing EMS domestic programmes to ensure that they can meet the applicable ICCAT reporting obligations;

- summarize and provide Annual Reports to the Commission about the progress of CPCs in implementing EMS domestic programmes;~~.~~

- summarise and provide annual reports to the Commission about the use of small vessel EMS standards and applications by CPCs pursuant to paragraph 4b of Rec. 16-14.

Periodic review

20. The Commission shall review this Recommendation in 202~~3~~6, following SCRS advice or ~~and~~ at least every four years thereafter to evaluate its effectiveness in fulfilling its purpose and consider the need for revisions, taking into account, *inter alia*, relevant information provided by CPCs on the introduction and implementation of their EMS domestic programmes as well as any new technological developments.

Annex 1 to Appendix 3

Minimum technical requirements for longline and purse seine vessels

A. Minimum requirements for Control Box or EM Control Centre

The EM control centre is an on-board computer that acquires and stores all sensor collected information and imagery footage.

For vessels under 15 m, and specifically those under 10 m, that do not have a wheelhouse or similar shelter the EM control centre should be adequately water and weather proofed to allow the system to function in the conditions the vessel is expected to operate.

A.1. The following minimum technical requirements shall be required. Requirements for vessels smaller than 15m are clearly indicated:

- GPS sensor or equivalent capable of automatically recording the position and, unless the EMS uses cameras that will record continuously, the speed and course of the vessel.
- Sufficient data storage capability to store both sensors, where appropriate, and imagery footage for the entire trip. In the case of vessels under 15 m there should be sufficient data storage for a single or specified number of trips.
- At least one removable/swappable back-up data storage device, or equivalent data storage mechanism, to ensure that data are not lost if a storage device fails.
- On-board screen, or equivalent interface, to allow verification by the Master/crew of the correct functioning of the system.
- Uninterrupted power supply (UPS) including a battery backup or other backup power system with capacity to provide power if the main power source from the vessel fails and allowing the continuation of recording for relevant timespan (for e.g., 15 minutes) and all recorded data are saved. In the case of vessels under 10 m an independent battery or solar power source with the capability to record [*time-range to be discussed with CPCs*] of the expected fishing operation.
- Controlled shutdown, preventing the system from being switched off accidentally.
- Digital signature, in accordance with domestic legislation (date and time stamp, vessel name, vessel registration and GPS coordinates).
- Automatic real-time malfunction system alerts.
- Control box shall prohibit tampering with registered vessel information and system setup. Administration rights shall be required to access and modify these settings.
- Radio frequency interference from EMS with other on-board vessel communication, navigation, safety, geolocation devices (e.g., VMS) or fishing equipment should be minimised.

A.2. The following technical requirements are recommended (optional):

- In the case of vessels under 15 m the system should be modular with the capability to be moveable between vessels.
- Cooling system, with high temperature cut out.
- The ability to encrypt and compress sensor and imagery data where necessary.
- GPS sensor or equivalent should be able to automatically record data at configurable time intervals from 1 minute.
- Automatic real-time malfunction notification to the flag CPC.
- Near-real-time remote online "health statements" that assure that the data are recorded during the trip, and alerts when there is evidence of tampering.
- Support built in remote access/configuration for system configuration, updates, verification of system health and possible transmission requests of all or parts of recorded sensor data and video footage.

B. Minimum technical requirements of cameras

The cameras shall be capable to resist rough conditions at-sea on board, and be resistant to tampering to the extent possible, and be tamper-evident. The video cameras shall be mounted and placed to provide clear and unobstructed views of the areas that are being covered. Crew assistance shall be required to clean the camera lenses when appropriate and necessary.

There shall be sufficient lighting to illuminate the area being recorded and the individual specimens captured. If vessels fish at night and use artificial lights to illuminate the deck, the quality of images shall be checked to ensure there is not excessive glare.

For vessels under 15 m there should be either sufficient lighting or night-time capable cameras if a significant proportion of the vessel's expected activity is to take place at night.

The following minimum technical specifications for cameras, video recording and analysis, as a part of an EMS, shall be required:

- Resolution: sufficient resolution to meet the purpose of each camera. For cameras used for species identification, no less than 720p, with a minimum frame rate of 5-10 FPS. Still images shall have a resolution of no less than 2MP.
- Measuring capability: capability to obtain fish length measurements from relevant camera images.
- For vessels under 10 m that do not have a suitable calibrated area [*Discuss with CPCs a lower FPS and image resolution*].

The following technical specifications for cameras, video recording and analysis, as a part of an EMS, are recommended (optional):

- Ingress Protection: IP66 Rating. A higher IP for cameras exposed to heavy weather conditions is recommended.
- Compression: supports standard video compression formats. Minimum H264.
- Automatic switching between day/night lighting conditions. Colour/BW. Option for automatic face blurring, where needed. Dynamic face masking is recommended and preferred instead of blanking out parts of the field of view, as this would potentially blank out regions of interest.
- Possibility to set between video and still photographs and to set the time of taking those photographs.

C. Minimum technical requirements for sensors

Sensors and/or other fishing activity recognition tools (e.g., winch rotation, hydraulic sensors, GPS, computer vision, artificial intelligence) shall automatically identify a fishing related activity, including setting and hauling gear, sorting catch, etc., and if image recording of the EMS is not continuous, trigger the start of the image recording, as well as assisting in the revision and analysis of the video footage.

Annex 2 to Appendix 3

Description of the vessel areas coverage and data fields to be collected when using EMS on longline vessels

EMS cameras, and where appropriate sensors, shall be installed to properly capture all relevant fishing activity, including those in **Table 1** below.

Table 1. General configuration and areas/activities covered by an EMS onboard longline vessels.

Area covered	*Action covered*	*Data fields*
Setting area (usually stern camera)	Setting operation	Setting date, time, and position Use of bycatch mitigation measures or techniques Total number of hooks set, where applicable. In the case of vessels under 15 m estimated total number of hooks. Hook type, where applicable
Hauling area	Hauling operation	Hauling date, time, and position
Catch handling area – Working deck	Retained catches, including bycatch	Number of individuals by species Length and weight, where applicable
Surrounding water area near hauling area	Estimation of discards, including bycatches	Number of discards by species Condition of discards [*Hold for input from CPCs*]

Table 2. Data fields for ICCAT longline activities to be collected and reported when a CPC chooses to implement an EMS domestic programme based on an ICCAT requirement to use EMS to monitor compliance. These data can be identified by the EMS or estimated through data analysis.

Data field name	*Data field description*
1. Setting and hauling information	
Start setting date, time, and position	For those fishing operations that are to be analysed. Date, time and position the first buoy is thrown into the water to start the setting of the line. Use Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). Preferably hh:mm and YYYY/MM/DD.
End setting date, time, and position	For those fishing operations that are to be analysed. Date, time and position the last buoy (usually has radio beacon attached) at the end of the mainline thrown into the water. Use Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). Preferably hh:mm and YYYY/MM/DD.
Start hauling date, time, and position	For those fishing operations that are to be analysed. Date, time, and position when the first buoy is hauled back on-board to start hauling the line. Use Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). Preferably hh:mm and YYYY/MM/DD.

End hauling date, time, and position	For those fishing operations that are to be analysed. Date, time, and position when the last component of the longline gear (usually buoy with radio beacon attached) is hauled back on-board. Use Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). Preferably hh:mm and YYYY/MM/DD.
Use of bycatch mitigation measures or techniques	Where there are specific requirements in an ICCAT Recommendation on the use of bycatch mitigation techniques or devices as well as an ICCAT requirement to use EMS to monitor compliance with the applicable mitigation technique or device. Identify the use of mitigation measures or techniques, i.e., tori lines, low light night setting, branch line weighted, bird scaring lines, hook-shielding devices, acoustic deterrents, etc.
Total number of hooks set	Where there are specific requirements on the total number of hooks in the applicable ICCAT Recommendation.
Hook type	Where there are specific requirements on the type of hooks in the applicable ICCAT Recommendation.
GPS position/track	Including a review of whether fishing activity may have occurred in closed areas or closed periods.
2. Catching details	
Catch number retained on board by species, including bycatch	Record/estimate the number of individuals per species caught and taken on board. Use FAO three figure alpha codes. If species FAO code is not available, record the species scientific name. Record "unknown" for species that cannot be positively identified and give it a reference number. Use the same reference number throughout the trip for that species.
Length of fish retained on board	Where there are specific requirements on the length of fish retained in the applicable ICCAT Recommendation. The establishment of a calibrated area on the deck is usually necessary. May require the establishment of a protocol, which includes the cooperation of the crew. Specify units (preferably cm).
Catch weight retained on board by species, including bycatch	When using length estimation, use the length-weight relationship established by ICCAT. For species where this relationship has not been established, indicate the correlation used and cite the source. Specify units (preferably Kg).
Catches discarded or released, including bycatch	Where there are specific requirements on discards in an ICCAT Recommendation as well as an ICCAT requirement to use EMS to monitor compliance with discards requirements. Record/estimate the number of individuals per species.
Condition of catches discarded or released, including bycatch	Where there are specific requirements on discards in an ICCAT Recommendation as well as an ICCAT requirement to use EMS to monitor compliance with discards requirements. Distinguish at least between: Alive or dead

Table 3. Data fields for ICCAT longline activities to be collected and reported when a CPC chooses to implement an EMS programme for ICCAT scientific data collection purposes. These data can be identified by the EMS or estimated through data analysis.

Data field name	*Data field description and notes*
1. Temporal and geographical attributes	
Flag of vessel	Flag of the vessel. Reported to ICCAT in A3ISO coding.
Base port/zone	Base port/zone of the vessel that the set(s) refers to.
Vessel (size class)	Vessel LOA Class. Usually aggregated in 10m size classes for reporting to ICCAT.
Vessel (carrying capacity)	Carrying capacity of the vessel.
Year	Year that the set(s) data refers to.
Time period	Time Period. Data reported set-by-set, monthly or quarterly.
Square type	Grid Resolution. Data reported in: exact location (latitude & longitude in decimal degrees), aggregated in 1x1 degrees, or aggregated in 5x5 degrees.
Latitude	Centroid of the latitude of the set(s) that the data refers to. Reported as the centroid in decimal degrees (±dd.ddd).
Longitude	Centroid of the longitude of the set(s) that the data refers to. Reported as the centroid in decimal degrees (±dd.ddd).
2. Effort attributes	
No. fishing operations (total)	Total number of fishing operations that were carried out.
No. fishing operations (recorded)	Number of fishing operations that were recorded in the EM System.
No. fishing operations (processed and reported)	Number of fishing operations that were observed and processed from the EMS recordings, and for which the reported data refers to.
Fishing operation Type	Fishing Operation Type: "Set type" usually used for longlines, purse seines, lines, gillnets; "Haul type" usually for trawls. If "Other type" need to specify in notes.
LL type	Specify the longline set type. Examples in ICCAT coding system are: LL-B (Longline: Bottom or Deep longliners); LL-Shrk (Longline: Targeting sharks); LL-surf (Longline: Surface); LLALB (Longline: Targeting ALB); LLAMS (Longline: American style); LLBFT (Longline: Targeting BFT); LLJAP (Longline: Japanese type); LLMB (Longline: With mother boat); LLMESO (Longline: Mesopelagic); LLPB (Longline: "Stone-ball"); LLSWO (Longline: Targeting SWO).
No. hooks (total)	Total number of hooks of the longline fishing set(s). In the case of -vessels under 15 m an estimate based on the vessel's known operation, e.g. the vessel's logbook,- the number of hooks per barrel or hooks between floats.
No. hooks (recorded)	Number of hooks in the longline fishing set(s) that were recorded by the EM System. In the case of -vessels under 15 m an estimate based on the vessel's known operation, e.g. the vessel's logbook, the number of hooks per barrel or hooks between floats.
No. hooks (processed and reported)	Number of hooks that were observed and processed from the EMS recordings, and for which the reported data refers to. In the case of -vessels under 15 m an estimate based on the vessel's known operation, e.g. the vessel's logbook, the number of hooks per barrel or hooks between floats.
Hook type	Type of hook that was used in the set(s). Current codes in the ICCAT databases are: Circle hook, J hook, Tuna hook, Mixed hooks, Other (specified in notes). (Note: might need integration with additional information from logbooks or the skipper).

	In the case of vessels under 15 m the type of hook used should be derived from the vessel's logbook, skipper or inspection by the relevant CPC authorities.
Set depth	Set depth of the hooks in the fishing set(s). In some cases, the hooks per basket are used as a proxy for depth. Depth classes currently categorized for reporting to ICCAT are: <100m; >=100m & <200m; >=200m. In the case of vessels under 15 m the EM system's positional data should be overlaid with relevant bathymetric data relevant to establish set depth.
3. Mitigation measures on bycatch species	
Seabirds' mitigation measures Other bycatch mitigation measures	Mitigation measures that were used in the set(s), both related with seabirds as well as other bycatch. Current classes in ICCAT for reporting mitigation measures on seabirds and other bycatch are: Night setting of the fishing operation; Streamer lines used; Weighted branchlines used; Whole finfish bait used; Seabird scaring lines used; large circle hooks used; Seabirds (unharmed) promptly released; Sea turtles (unharmed) promptly released; Sharks (unharmed) promptly released; Sea mammals (unharmed) promptly release. If other measures are used, need to specify in notes (e.g., hook shielding devices). *[Discuss with CPCs]*
4. Catch composition by fishing operation	
Species	Species FAO Code.
Targeted (Y/N) (*)	Specify if the species is targeted or not. (Note: this field might need integration with additional information from logbooks and/or the skipper).
Catches retained – Number	Number (N) of specimens, by species, that are retained in the catch, in each fishing set(s).
Catches retained – Weight (*)	Weight of the specimens, by species, that are retained in the catch in each of the fishing set(s). (Note: If the vessels have scales or a camera adapted to take measurements of individuals retained on board, it might be possible to adapt cameras facing the scales or connect the scales to the EMS directly). In case of vessels under 15 m, estimated weight and higher taxonomic group.
Product type (*)	Product type that the weight of the catches refers to. Examples currently used to report to ICCAT are: Live (round) weight; Gilled & gutted; Fillet; Dressed weight; Belly meat; Other (specify in notes). (Note: similarly to the catches retained in Weight, this field might be possible to collect only in vessels that have scales, either with the adaptation of cameras facing the scales, or connecting the scales to the EMS directly).
Discard – Number	Number of specimens that are discarded. The data should be reported by species, if possible, or alternatively for higher taxonomic groups (e.g., genus or family) if not possible to detect the species of specimens discarded in the water. (Note: need for cameras in specific positions to cover all areas where specimens are released). In the case of vessels under 15 m, the number of potential or confirmed specimens discarded in the water. The data should be reported by species, if possible, or alternatively for higher taxonomic groups (e.g., genus or family).
Discard – Condition at the time of discarding (*)	Condition of the specimens that are discarded. Current ICCAT codes are: Alive; Dead; Unknown. (Note: The EMS would need cameras or other systems in specific positions to determine specimen condition at release. It would also require video and not only still images, to determine if the specimens are alive/swimming when released). In the case of vessels under 15 m where the specimen has been discarded in the water the code Unknown should be used.

5. Biological data (optional)	
Species	Species FAO Code.
Sex (*)	Sex of the specimens. (Note: might be possible to collect for elasmobranchs with specific specimen position by the crew and cameras).
Length (cm)	Size of the individual specimens that are brought onboard (Note: will need calibrated areas and support from the crew to position the specimens in those calibrated areas). Vessels under 10 m that do not have a suitable calibrated area are exempt from this requirement. Data from port sampling should be reported.
Size class type	Codes for the size class type reported in the length (cm) field. Current codes used in ICCAT are: Straight Fork length, Curved Fork Length, Lower Jaw to 1st Dorsal Length, Straight lower jaw fork length, Curved lower jaw fork length, Posterior edge of eye socket to Fork Length, Total length, Other (specified it in notes).
Weight (kg) (*)	Weight of the individual specimens, reported in Kg (Note: If the vessels have scales or a camera adapted to take measurements of individuals retained on board, it might be possible to adapt cameras facing the scales, or connect the scales to the EMS directly).
Product weight and product type (*)	Product type that the weight of the individual specimens refers to. Examples currently used to report to ICCAT are: Live (round) weight; Gilled & gutted; Fillet; Dressed weight; Belly meat; Other (specify in notes) (Note: similarly to the catches retained in Weight, this field might be possible to collect only in vessels that have scales, either with the adaptation of cameras facing the scales, or connecting the scales to the EMS directly).
Released (Y/N)	Record if the specimen was released (Yes/No) (Note: for specimens discarded in the water the operation is visualized by filming the surrounding water. It is not always possible to reach species level in such cases and might be needed to only report at the level of genus or family. For specimens that are hoisted to the vessel (e.g., to remove the hooks), it should be possible to record the species level in most cases.
External injuries (scale) (*)	Injuries of the specimens that are released. Injury scale used at ICCAT: Unknow (undetermined); Alive: Perfect (no visual injuries); Alive: Moderate (superficial injuries); Alive: Severe (could affect survival); Dead (release). (Note: Injuries from depredation or from the fishing process can only be seen sometimes. It will be more difficult and only occasionally detected when the specimens are released in the water).

(*) Items marked with an asterisk reflect ST-09 data fields that may not be possible to collect through EMS without specific system or fish handling adaptations. In the absence of such adaptations, these data should be collected and reported through human observer programmes or other appropriate means.

Annex 3 to Appendix 3

Description of the vessel areas coverage and data fields to be collected when a CPC chooses to use EMS on purse seine vessels

Table 1. Minimum areas and actions that shall be monitored.

Area covered	*Action covered*	*Data fields*
Work deck (port side)	Brailing	Total catch by set Species composition
	Discards	Total discards by set
	Bycatch handling	Bycatch estimation
Work deck (starboard side)	Bycatch handling	Bycatch estimation
	Bycatch release	Total bycatch by set
In-water purse seine area	Fishing set. Brailing. Net hauling	Total catch by set
	Bycatch handling of big species (whale sharks, manta rays…)	Total bycatch by set Bycatch condition Application of handling and safe release best practices
	Bycatch release of big species (whale sharks, manta rays…)	Total bycatch by set Bycatch condition Application of safe-release best practices
Foredeck or amidships	FAD activity (deploying, replacement, reparation…)	Total number of FAD deployments, FAD design and FAD activities by trip
Well deck and conveyor belt	Catch well sorting	Species composition
	Bycatch handling	Best practices
	Bycatch discarded, released or retained	Total bycatch by set Species composition Application of handling and safe-release best practices

Table 2. Data fields for ICCAT longline activities to be collected and reported when a CPC chooses to implement an EMS domestic programme based on an ICCAT requirement to use EMS to monitor compliance. These data can be identified by the EMS or estimated through data analysis.

Data field name	*Data field description*
1. Setting information	
Set type	Free school set, FAD set.
Start setting date, time and position	Date and time the first buoy is thrown into the water to start the setting of the line. Use Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). Specify units (preferably hh:mm and YYYY/MM/DD).
Use of by-catch mitigation measures or techniques	Where there are specific requirements in an ICCAT recommendation on the use of bycatch mitigation techniques or devices as well as an ICCAT requirement to use EMS to monitor compliance with the applicable mitigation technique or device.
Time start brailing	Date and time (hh:mm and YYYY/MM/DD) that brailing starts.
Time end brailing	Date and time that brailing ends (hh:mm and YYYY/MM/DD).
GPS position	Including a review of whether fishing activity may have occurred in closed areas or closed periods

2. Catching details	
Total catch weight retained on board, including bycatch	Total weight caught and taken on board. Specify units (preferably Kg).
Estimation of catch weight retained on board by species, including bycatch	Use FAO three figure alpha codes. If species FAO code is not available, record the species scientific name. Record "unknown" for species that cannot be positively identified and give it a reference number. Use the same reference number throughout the trip for that species. Specify units (preferably Kg).
Catches discarded or released, including bycatch	Where there are specific requirements on discards in an ICCAT recommendation, as well as an ICCAT requirement to use EMS to monitor compliance with discards requirements. Estimated weight by species (for large fish, record number of individuals). Specify units (preferably Kg). Indicate fate (discarded or release).
Condition of catches discarded or released, including bycatch	Where there are specific requirements on the condition of discards in an ICCAT recommendation, as well as an ICCAT requirement to use EMS to monitor compliance with discards requirements. Distinguish at least between: alive, injured, dead.
3. FAD activities	
Type	Type of floating object (flotsam, natural object, FAD).
FAD activity: deployment	Date, time (hh:mm and YYYY/MM/DD) and position when the FAD is deployed
FAD activity: visit	Date, time (hh:mm and YYYY/MM/DD) and position when the FAD is visited
FAD activity: retrieving	Date, time (hh:mm and YYYY/MM/DD) and position when the FAD is retrieved
FAD ID	When possible and if FAD is marked
Buoy ID	When possible. For every activity involving FADs equipped with a buoy (i.e., buoy marking or any information allowing identifying the owner).

Table 3. Data fields for ICCAT purse seine activities to be collected and reported when an EMS is to be implemented for science purposes. These data can be identified by the EMS or estimated through data analysis.

Data field name	*Data field description and notes*
1. Temporal and geographical attributes fishing operation	
Flag of Vessel	Flag of the vessel. Reported to ICCAT in A3ISO coding.
Base port/zone	Base port/zone of the vessel that the set(s) refers to.
Vessel (size class)	Vessel LOA Class. Usually aggregated in 10m size classes for reporting to ICCAT.
Vessel (carrying capacity)	Carrying capacity of the vessel.
Year	Year that the data refers to.
Time period	Time Period. Data reported set-by-set, monthly or quarterly.
Square type	Grid Resolution. Data reported in: exact location (latitude & longitude in decimal degrees), aggregated in 1x1 degrees, or aggregated in 5x5 degrees.
Latitude	Centroid of the latitude of the set(s) that the data refers to. Reported as the centroid in decimal degrees (±dd.ddd).
Longitude	Centroid of the longitude of the set(s) that the data refers to. Reported as the centroid in decimal degrees (±dd.ddd).
2. Effort attributes	

No. fishing operations (total)	Total number of fishing operations that were carried out.
No. fishing operations (recorded)	Number of fishing operations that were recorded by the EM System.
No. fishing operations (processed and reported)	Number of fishing operations that were observed and processed from the EMS recording, and for which the reported data refers to.
Fish Oper. Type	Fishing Operation Type: "Set type" usually used for purse seines, lines, gillnets; "Haul type" usually for trawls. If "Other type" need to specify in notes.
School type	School type for purse seine set(s): Categories currently used for reporting to ICCAT are: Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs); Free School (FSC), other (specified in notes).
3. Mitigation measures on bycatch species	
Bycatch mitigation measures	Current categories for reporting mitigation measures on bycatch that could be applicable to purse seine are: Seabirds (unharmed) promptly released; Sea turtles (unharmed) promptly released; Sharks (unharmed) promptly released; Sea mammals (unharmed) promptly release. If other measures are used, need to specify in notes. [*Discuss with CPCs*]
4. Catch composition by fishing operation	
Species	Species FAO Code (Note: normally it is possible to collect species-specific identification, but there could be difficulties in identifying specimens at species specific level in some groups during purse seine operations. High-resolution cameras should improve species identification. For some taxonomic groups (e.g., turtles) the crew could be required to place the specimens in designated areas (e.g., calibrated areas) that would improve species identification and allow taking additional information as sizes and condition). In the case of vessels under 10 m that do not have a calibrated area or the vessel releases specimens in the water the data should be reported by species, if possible, or alternatively for higher taxonomic groups (e.g., genus or family).
Targeted (Y/N) (*)	Specify if the species is targeted or not. (Note: this field likely needs integration with additional information from logbooks and/or the skipper).
Catches retained - Weight	Catches by species that are retained in weight and numbers. Report of retained catch data in weight is mandatory, and in numbers is optional. (Notes: technical data as total brail capacity and wells capacity should be known previously for each vessel. EMS trials have tried to estimate species composition by set, but mostly without consistent results to date. It is noted that human observers have the same difficulty when estimating species composition in purse seine operations, due to the large catch volumes that can result in a set, and the speed with which the fish are put into the wells. As such, for retained catch by species,
Catches retained - Number (*)	

	it might be necessary to integrate with additional information from logbooks and/or port-sampling. Artificial intelligence applied on the conveyor belt has been showing preliminary promising results so such methods might be increasingly applied in the future). In case of vessels under 15 m, mandatory reporting of weight, estimated if required, and species to higher taxonomic group.
Product type	Product type that the weight of the retained catches refers to. Examples currently used to report to ICCAT are: Live (round) weight; Gilled & gutted; Fillet; Dressed weight; Belly meat; Other (specify it in notes).
Discards – Number	Number of specimens that are discarded. Should be reported by species, if possible, or alternatively for higher taxonomic groups (e.g., genus or family) if not possible to detect the species. (Note: In purse seine operations, specimens can be released in various areas, so it will be necessary to either have more cameras or require that the releases are always done in the same place, although there may be logistic difficulties. Observers also face similar difficulties, as they cannot monitor the main and wells' decks simultaneously). [*Discuss with CPCs*] In the case of vessels under 15 m, the number of potential or confirmed specimens discarded in the water. The data should be reported by species, if possible, or alternatively for higher taxonomic groups (e.g., genus or family).
Discard – Condition at the time of discarding (*)	Condition of the specimens that are discarded. Current ICCAT codes are: Alive; Dead; Unknown. (Note: Discards of tunas in purse seines are usually composed of dead discards and might be estimated. The condition of other discarded species (e.g., sharks) might be doubtful).
5.FAD activities	
Type/structure	Type of floating object (flotsam, natural object, FAD).
FAD activity: deployment	Date, time (hh:mm and YYYY/MM/DD) and position when the FAD is deployed.
FAD activity: visit	Date, time (hh:mm and YYYY/MM/DD) and position when the FAD is visited.
FAD activity: hauling	Date, time (hh:mm and YYYY/MM/DD) and position when the FAD is hauled.
FAD activity: retrieving	Date, time (hh:mm and YYYY/MM/DD) and position when the FAD is retrieved.
FAD ID (*)	When possible and if FAD is marked.
Buoy ID (*)	When possible. For every activity involving FADs equipped with a buoy (i.e., buoy marking or any information allowing identifying the owner).
6. Biological data (optional)	
Species	Species FAO code. (Note: normally it is possible to collect species-specific ID, but there could be difficulties in reaching the species level in some species groups. High-resolution cameras should improve species identification. For some taxonomic groups (e.g., turtles) and when they are brought onboard, the crew could be required to place the specimens in designated areas (e.g., calibrated areas) that would improve species identification and allow taking additional information as size and condition).

Sex (*)	Sex of the specimens (Male/Female/Unknown). (Note: handling bycatch in purse seine operations is complex as the bycatch can be processed in several different places onboard. The sex of the specimens might in some cases be observed for elasmobranchs and turtles (visible externally). Additional cameras would be needed in specific and various places where bycatch is released. For the target tunas it is not possible to collect sex information (no external characters) with either human observers or EMS).
Length (cm) (*)	Size of the specimens (cm). (Notes: retained specimens are passed through one specific area (i.e., conveyor belt) so it could be possible to have a calibrated area defined for taking size samples. For discarded specimens, as they can be released in various areas, it would be necessary to either have more cameras or require that the releases are always done in the same place, although there may be logistical difficulties). In the case of vessels under 10 m that do not have a suitable calibrated area, estimates of specimen length or the results of port sampling.
Size class type (*)	Codes for the size class type reported in the length (cm) field. Current codes used in ICCAT are: Straight fork length, Curved Fork Length, Lower Jaw to 1st Dorsal Length, Straight lower jaw fork length, Curved lower jaw fork length, Posterior edge of eye socket to Fork Length, Total length, Other (specify it in notes).
Weight (kg) (*)	Weight of the specimens (Kg). (Note: both human observers and EMS can only take individual weights in vessels that have scales. Most vessels don't have these
	onboard. If the vessels have scales then the human observers can take weights directly. For EMS, it might be possible to put cameras facing the scales, or there might be a way to connect the scales to the EMS directly).
Product weight and product type (*)	Product type that the weight of the individual specimens refers to. Examples currently used to report to ICCAT are: Live (round) weight; Gilled & gutted; Fillet; Dressed weight; Belly meat; Other (specify it in notes). (Note: similarly to the catches retained in Weight, this field might be possible to collect only in vessels that have scales, either with the adaptation of cameras facing the scales, or connecting the scales to the EMS directly).
Released (Y/N)	Record if the specimen was released (Yes/No). (Notes: Discarded specimens in purse seine operations can be released in various areas, so it might be necessary to either have more cameras or require that the releases are always done in the same place, although there may be logistical difficulties).
External injuries (scale) (*)	Condition and injuries of the specimens that are released. Injury scale used at ICCAT: Unknow (undetermined); Alive: Perfect (no visual injuries); Alive: Moderate (superficial injuries); Alive: Severe (could affect survival); Dead (release). (Notes: discards of tunas are usually composed of dead discards. The condition and injuries of other discarded species (e.g., sharks, turtles) can be doubtful).

(*) Items marked with an asterisk reflect ST-09 data fields that may not be possible to collect through EMS without specific system or fish handling adaptations. In the absence of such adaptations, these data should be collected and reported through human observer programmes or other appropriate means.

Annex 4 to Appendix 3

Description of the Vessel Monitoring Plan (VMP)

The VMP shall meet the following conditions:

1. The VMP shall be developed for each vessel on which EMS is to be installed and shall be delivered to the flag CPC competent authorities.

2. The VMP shall be developed in collaboration with the EMS service provider, vessel owner and relevant CPC fishing authorities.

3. A survey of the vessel to be fitted with EMS shall be carried out by the EMS provider and/or CPC fishing authorities and the following factors shall be taken into consideration in the development of the VMP, with a view to ensuring the system meets the minimum data collection requirements laid out in **Annex 2** or **3 to Appendix 3**:

    a) Camera positioning and settings.
    b) Number of cameras to be installed to ensure optimization of the view of the catch-handling area.
    c) Key areas to be surveyed are catch handling areas for species identification and storage of the individuals and areas of discards or release.

4. The minimum sections to be contained in a VMP are:

    - Contact information: current contact information for the vessel owner, vessel operator and EMS service provider as long as the contract lasts.

    - General vessel information: basic information about the vessel and its fishing activities and operations (e.g., vessel name, registration number, target fishery, areas, fishing gear, LOA, etc.).

    - Vessel layout: equipment of the vessel with detailed information, plan of the vessel disposition and different areas (deck, processing, storage, etc.).

    - EMS equipment set up: description of the settings of the EMS, such as time running, number of cameras, settings of the cameras (frame rate and resolution), and areas covered, time recording for each of the cameras, number of sensors, where applicable, software used, control box disposition, etc.

    - Catch handling procedures: description of the crew and their operations.

    - A shot and image taken by each camera shall be inserted in the VMP.

5. Any physical changes on the vessel, fishery, categorization of the vessel (fleet segmentation), catch handling deck, etc., shall be reported to the Flag CPC authorities, and the VMP should be updated accordingly before the next fishing trip.

6. The VMP shall be signed off by the vessel owner and approved by the Flag CPC competent authority.

7. The EMS equipment shall not adversely affect vessel stability by posing risk to vessel operations, crew, or environment, nor shall it impede the vessel's safe navigation.

An example template of a VMP is detailed in **Attachment 1 to Annex 4 to Appendix 3**. CPCs may choose another template of a VMP.

Attachment 1 to Annex 4 to Appendix 3

Example Template of a Vessel Monitoring Plan (VMP)
This example is not binding and is provided only for reference purposes

Part A
(Shall be handed over by the vessel owner)

1. Information provided by the owner of the vessel

External registration		Main fishery(es)	
Vessel name		Gear type(s)	
ICCAT Fleet register No.		Crew size	
IRCS		May carry an observer	
Home port		Name of the owner(s) representative	
Vessel length		Phone No.	
Vessel type		E-mail	

2. Description of the crew fish handling and any other useful details

3. If available, copy or image of the vessel general arrangement plan

4. General layout and handling (not necessarily to scale)

5. General remarks

Part B

(Responsibility of the flag CPC competent authority and to be validated by the flag CPC competent authority)

1. Vessel image

2. System Configuration

a) System Operation – General Description

Sensor recording, where applicable:	Description of the settings:
Video recording:	Description of the settings:

b) System Components Location

Control box: - Image of location of the control box	User Interface:
GPS: - Image of location of the GPS	GPS details:
Drum Rotation Sensor: - Image of location of the Drum Sensor	Drum Rotation Sensor details:
Hydraulic Pressure Sensor: - Image of location of the Hydraulic Pressure Sensor	Hydraulic Pressure Sensor details:

Sensor XX - Image of location of the XX Sensor	XX Sensor details:
Sensor XX - Image of location of the XX Sensor	XX Sensor details:
Sensor XX - Image of location of the XX Sensor	XX Sensor details:
Sensor XX - Image of location of the XX Sensor	XX Sensor details:

Camera 1 - Deck Camera	
Image of Location of Camera 1	View and Objectives
Image deck camera	Camera Settings
Camera 2 - Retain/General View Camera	
Image of Location of Camera 2	View and Objectives
Image Retain/General View Camera	Camera Settings
Camera 3 - Sorting Belt Camera	
Image of Location of Camera 3	View and Objectives
Image Sorting Belt Camera	Camera Settings
Camera 4 - Discard Camera	
Image of Location of Camera 4	View and Objectives
Image Discard Camera	Camera Settings

Camera XX - XX Camera	
Image of Location of Camera XX	View and Objectives
Image XX Camera	Camera Settings
Camera XX - XX Camera	
Image of Location of Camera XX	View and Objectives
Image XX Camera	Camera Settings
Camera XX - XX Camera	
Image of Location of Camera XX	View and Objectives
Image XX Camera	Camera Settings
Camera XX - XX Camera	
Image of Location of Camera XX	View and Objectives
Image XX Camera	Camera Settings

Control Box Setting Summary Main Configuration Screen	Camera Setting Summary

Sorting Area Measurement Details

Part C

(To be completed by the service provider)

1. EM User Guide

    a) Description on how to retrieve memory devices
    b) Description on how to power up the system
    c) Description on how to do a function test

2. Vessel-specific handling protocols

Description of any special protocols that may apply to the vessel referred in the VMP

a) Description and diagrams of control points with specific procedures carried out. For each area description, there must be a protocol on how to ensure the catch remains in camera view.

Part D

(To be completed by the service provider)

List of EMS service providers contact information:

Name and Last Name	*Phone*	*Email*	*Office address*

Part E

(To be completed by the vessel owner and the service provider)

This part should certify that the vessel owner/operators have been trained in the function and operation on the EMS installed on the vessel, and that the operator agrees to comply to the VMP.

Vessel operator name and last name: _____

Vessel owner/operator signature: _____

Date and time: _____

EMS Service provider Name and Last name: _____

EMS Service provider signature: _____

Date and time: _____

Annex 5 to Appendix 3

Data management

Data storage and retention

EM service/technology providers and EM analyst shall treat as confidential all information with respect to the fishing operations of the vessel and accept this requirement in writing.

Standards for where, how, and how long video footage will be stored after it has been reviewed, shall be specified in the EMS domestic programmes. Storage decisions shall be based on the EM programme's goals and the personnel who will need to access monitoring records, at what frequency, and for what purpose.

Once footage is reviewed, it shall be stored for at least 3 years, except if national data retention regulations require a shorter period. When the system is to be used for enforcement purposes, the data collected by the EMS shall be stored for as long as necessary until the possible infringement proceedings have been finalized.

EMS shall have sufficient autonomy and capacity to safeguard and store all recorded images and, where appropriate, sensor information for at least the duration of a complete fishing trip.

EMS records shall have an output format that is compatible with the standardized electronic codes list developed by the SCRS to ensure collected information is consistent with current ICCAT data reporting requirements.

EMS video records shall contain at least the following information: the vessel name and vessel ID and trip ID, camera number, geolocation data (date, time (UTC), latitude and longitude), sensor data where appropriate, camera recording status and EM system status, where available, and images.

Data transmission or retrieval

When EMS records are retrieved by extracting the memory device or when a memory device is replaced between trips, traceability of every memory device and information recorded on board shall be guaranteed. The chain of custody of the EMS memory device shall be assured.

A detailed protocol on how to retrieve the data from the vessel to the authorities or to the data analyst shall be detailed and agreed on the vessel monitoring plan by both the vessel owner, the respective authorities.

When EMS records are transmitted (via WI-FI, mobile data network or satellite), the transmission of the data shall be done at the end of the fishing trip where possible. If not possible the data shall be securely stored and transmitted without delay/at the earliest opportunity. This type of transmission shall ensure proper encrypted data, when required/decided by national authorities.

Data review and reporting

The EMS shall have dedicated software to assist in data review. This software shall permit the analysis of all the stored data, images, and sensor data where appropriate, in a synchronized way. CPCs shall ensure that data analysis procedures ensure good traceability and effective analysis of data. At a minimum, analysis software shall allow for the report of the following:

- identification of fishing operations date/time;
- identification of set type;
- estimation of the catch by set, including bycatch;
- estimation of species catch composition and sizes;
- estimation of discards or release species, and its condition;
- FAD deployment (for purse seine vessels).

The CPC shall appoint analysts that have the following qualifications to accomplish their responsibilities:

a) Sufficient knowledge and experience to understand relevant fishing operations and catch handling, identify species, and collect information on different fishing activities. In this regard, previous at sea observer experience is valuable.
b) Satisfactory knowledge of the ICCAT conservation and management measures if the EMS domestic programme is being used for compliance monitoring purposes.
c) The ability to use properly the dedicated analysis software and observe and record accurately data to be collected under the programme.
d) Not be an employee of a fishing vessel company involved in the observed fishery or have other direct conflicts of interest.

When EMS is used for scientific data collection purposes, CPCs shall submit relevant data to ICCAT in a format that is compatible with (1) any data collected and reporting pursuant to their domestic scientific observer programmes (including observer's databases), as well as (2) ICCAT data reporting requirements and templates for data submission.

When the EMS is to be used for compliance monitoring purposes, data analysis shall be based on risk assessment.

Taking into account ICCAT recommendations that authorize or require the use EMS to monitor compliance with certain conservation and management measures, CPCs shall provide a list of relevant ICCAT measures for which it is using EMS for this purpose, to CPC appointed analysts. Each CPC shall establish a protocol for reporting and following up on potential infringements of ICCAT requirements detected using EMS.

Appendix 4

Draft amendment of Recommendation 25-04
[IMM_03/i2026]
(presented by Japan)

Overview

In response to the request made at the 23rd Special Meeting of the Commission in 2022, the 2025 Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) meeting recommended the use of a new growth table, as well as the application of stereoscopic camera systems with Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools from the first transfer. In light of these outcomes, Japan would like to propose revisions to the relevant paragraphs of *Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean* (Rec. 25-04).

Current challenges

Notwithstanding the efforts undertaken by each CPC to date, estimation of the accurate growth rate is a challenge. For instance, Japan, as an importing CPC of Atlantic bluefin tuna, has observed larger growth rates than the SCRS growth table through the import monitoring. Although Japan requests information from faming CPCs if unrealistic growth rates are observed, Japan is facing one practical difficulty to confirm the growth rate.

Under the current Recommendation, monitoring of number and size of tunas caught using stereoscopic camera systems is required only at the caging with a minimum of 20% sampling, and the use of stereoscopic camera is not mandatory at first and further transfers. As long as a catch is transferred and caged without combining other catch, the size can be monitored through the caging. However, when a Group BCD is created at caging, it is impossible to confirm the size of each operation because stereoscopic camera data include all catches from different fishing operations.

Japan's proposal

In order to estimate the actual size of the tunas caught, all transfers of live bluefin tuna from first transfer through to caging shall be fully monitored using the stereoscopic camera, and all recorded footage shall be subject to 100% analysis using AI-based technology as recommended by the SCRS.

The SCRS recognizes that AI-based analytical systems represent an effective tool for significantly reducing analysis time; however, it also acknowledges that additional time will be required before such system can be fully implemented for commercial use. Accordingly, the SCRS recommends that the existing growth tables continue to be applied until AI-based full-scale analysis becomes operational.

Given the above, Japan proposes several amendments to Rec. 25-04.

1. Growth table

It should be clarified that the growth table based on the upper bound of the 75 percent confidence interval as recommended by the SCRS in 2025 shall be used for growth rate evaluation. In addition, Japan would like to clarify what "significant discrepancies" constitutes between the growth table and the growth rate on eBCDs as well as what the Commission requests the SCRS and what the farming CPC should do when such discrepancies are found. Japan also would like to continue the consideration about development of a new eBCD functionality for automatic growth rate monitoring.

2. Monitoring system with Stereoscopic camera system

Based on the trials conducted to date, the SCRS concluded that stereo video cameras can be used in the first transfer and other subsequent transfers and AI-based analysis provides sufficient accuracy for the measurement of fish length and is suitable for practical application. Considering this advice, Japan proposes the following amendments to the Recommendation:

- **Using stereoscopic camera from the first transfer:** As a response to the SCRS recommendation, all transfer, starting from the first transfer, should be monitored by stereoscopic camera systems. As a first step, CPCs are encouraged to use these systems; then mandatory use will be considered at the Integrated Monitoring Measures (IMM) meeting in 2029.

- **Enhancing participation in AI trials:** In order to facilitate the use of AI for the analysis, CPCs are strongly encouraged to participate in the AI trials.

- **Setting the timeline for introduction of AI-based fish monitoring system:** With a view to achieving the practical implementation of AI-based fish counting within foreseeable future, a clear timeline for its use during commercial operations is proposed.

- **Increasing the stereoscopic camera sampling intensity:** Taking into account advances in AI technology, 100% sampling of the stereoscopic camera data is proposed.

- **Continuing SCRS reviews towards full implementation of AI analysis:** The SCRS is requested to continue to review the practicability of AI, especially for counting the size of tuna.

Proposals for each paragraph

Current	*Proposed amendments*
25. Based on new available scientific information, including where relevant the result of the trials on Artificial Intelligence (AI) referred to in paragraph 167, the SCRS should consider reviewing and updating the growth table published in 2022, as soon as possible and present those results to the Commission.	(Delete)
26. Farm CPCs shall endeavor to ensure that the growth rates derived from the eBCDs are coherent with the growth rates published by the SCRS in 2022. If significant discrepancies are found between the 2022 SCRS tables and growth rates observed, that information should be sent to the SCRS for analysis. Import CPCs and farm CPCs shall be encouraged to cooperate in monitoring the growth rates in a comprehensive manner through exchange of relevant data, without prejudice to applicable rules on the protection of personal data, and to report the result of the monitoring to Panel 2, as appropriate.	26. Farm CPCs shall endeavor to ensure that the growth rates derived from the eBCDs are coherent with the growth rates <u>table</u> published by the SCRS in <u>2025, based on the upper 75% confidence interval.</u> <u>Farm CPCs shall confirm</u> ~~I~~<u>if</u> ~~significant~~ <u>any</u> discrepancies are found between the <u>2025</u> SCRS tables and growth rates observed <u>at the end of harvesting of a cage.</u>~~,~~ <u>If any discrepancies are found, the farm CPC shall ensure that all transfer, including first transfer, will be monitored by the stereoscopic cameras to measure the size of all caught tunas using AI tools during the subsequent year's fishing campaign, and</u> ~~that~~ <u>the</u> information should be sent to the SCRS for analysis. <u>The SCRS shall report the result of the analysis to the Commission.</u> Import CPCs and farm CPCs shall be encouraged to cooperate in monitoring the growth rates in a comprehensive manner through exchange of relevant data, without prejudice to applicable rules on the protection of personal data, and to report the result of the monitoring to Panel 2, as appropriate.
27. A functionality within the eBCD system to automatically monitor growth rates shall be considered by the CDS WG in 2025. The CDS WG deliberation, among other considerations, should take into account the development and maintenance costs of the proposed functionality.	27. A functionality within the eBCD system to automatically monitor growth rates shall be considered by the CDS WG in 2025 <u>and following years, giving due regard to the renewal of eBCD system.</u> The CDS WG deliberation, among other considerations, should take into account the development and maintenance costs of the proposed functionality.
(New)	<u>123bis. The Competent authority of the donor CPC operator and the donor operator shall endeavor to use stereoscopic cameras in order to monitor the first and further transfer operation in accordance with the provision of **Annex 9,** and report any difficulties experienced during the operation to the IMM.</u> <u>123ter. In 2029, considering all the reported practical difficulties from the CPCs, the IMM shall consider mandatory use of stereoscopic cameras in all transfers.</u>
Recording of the caging operation by control cameras 167. CPCs with active bluefin tuna farms and the SCRS are encouraged to participate in trials using AI, including under the framework established by *Resolution by ICCAT on a pilot project for the short-term live storage of bluefin tuna* (Res. 22-07), for the analysis of stereoscopic camera footage, with a view to automating the determination of the number and/or weight of caged tuna, in order to reduce workloads and avoid possible human bias.	**Recording of the caging operation by control cameras** 167. CPCs with active bluefin tuna farms and the SCRS are <u>strongly</u> encouraged to participate in trials using AI, including under the framework established by *Resolution by ICCAT on a pilot project for the short-term live storage of bluefin tuna* (Res. 22-07), for the analysis of stereoscopic camera footage, <u>especially for improvement of counting,</u> with a view to automating the determination of the number and/or weight of caged

Current	*Proposed amendments*
	tuna, in order to reduce workloads and avoid possible human bias,.
Analysis of the stereoscopic video footage by the farm CPC competent authority 170. The farm CPC competent authority shall determine the number and weight of bluefin tuna being caged, by analyzing the video footage of each caging operation provided by the farm operator. To carry out this analysis, the authorities shall follow the procedures set out in point 1 of **Annex 9**.	**Analysis of the stereoscopic video footage by the farm CPC competent authority** 170. The farm CPC competent authority shall determine the number and weight of bluefin tuna being caged, by analyzing the video footage of each caging operation provided by the farm operator. To carry out this analysis, the authorities shall follow the procedures set out in point 1 of **Annex 9**. 170 bis. Starting from 2028, CPCs shall endeavor to determine the number and weight of caged fish in paragraph 170 shall be done by using software that incorporates AI, and the sampling intensity stipulated in Annex 9, paragraph 1i, shall be 100%. Copies of the video footage shall be provided by the farm CPC competent authority to the SCRS upon request. The SCRS shall keep the confidentiality of commercial activities. 170 ter. In 2029, Panel 2 Intersessional and IMM shall consider mandatory use of AI with 100% sampling intensity for analyzing stereoscopic camara data taking into account the SCRS advice especially about counting the number of fish.
173. As soon as the technological developments are considered robust and ready for commercial scale-up, as well as the SCRS establishes the technical criteria, and guidelines for their selection, the SCRS shall evaluate the accuracy of video analysis software that incorporates AI and estimates the bluefin tuna length and provide advice to the Commission for its consideration.	173. ~~As soon as the technological developments are considered robust and ready for commercial scale-up, as well as the SCRS establishes the technical criteria, and guidelines for their selection, the SCRS shall evaluate the accuracy of video analysis software that incorporates AI and estimates the bluefin tuna length and provide advice to the Commission for its consideration.~~ The SCRS shall evaluate the accuracy of video analysis, in particular counting the number of fish and provide advice to the Commission for its consideration.
Carry-over 207. Until the SCRS develops an algorithm to convert length into weight for fattened and/or farmed fish, the determination of the weight of the carried-over fish shall be estimated using the most updated growth rates tables produced by the SCRS.	**Carry-over** 207. Until the SCRS develops an algorithm to convert length into weight for fattened and/or farmed fish, the determination of the weight of the carried-over fish shall be estimated using the ~~most updated~~ growth rates ~~tables produced~~ published by the SCRS in 2025, upper 75% confidence interval.

Appendix 5

Proposal for amendments to Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Rec. 25-04)

[IMM_10A/i2026]

(presented by the European Union)

Rec. 25-04	***Proposed modification***	***Explanation***
Para 2.i)	"transfer operations" means: - any transfer of live bluefin tuna from the catching vessel's net to the transport cage; - any transfer of live bluefin tuna from the trap to the transport cage, independent of the presence of a towing vessel; - any transfer of live bluefin tuna from the transport cage to another transport cage; - any transfer of a cage containing live bluefin tuna from a towing vessel to another towing vessel; - any transfer of live bluefin tuna between different cages in the same farm (intra-farm transfer); - any transfer of live bluefin tuna from a farm cage to a transport cage. - any transfer of live bluefin tuna returning back from the farm cage to the trap.	In their clarifications requests for Panel 2, observers raised the fact that 'transfer of live bluefin tuna from a farm cage to a ~~transport~~ trap~~cage~~' happens but is not covered in the definitions. Unless it happens in the framework of a release operation (and then the definition is in annex 10, paragraph 13), we need to cover it in the definitions of transfer operations.
Paras 33 and 36	~~33. The minimum size for bluefin tuna caught in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean shall be~~ either ~~30 kg or 115 cm fork length. Therefore, CPCs shall take the necessary measures to prohibit catching, retaining on board, transshipping, transferring, landing, transporting, storing, selling, displaying or offering for sale bluefin tuna weighing less than 30 kg or~~ and ~~with fork length of less than 115 cm.~~ ~~36. For catching vessels fishing actively for bluefin tuna and tuna traps, CPCs may authorize an incidental catch of no more than 5% by number of bluefin tuna weighing between 8 kg and 30 kg or~~and ~~with fork length between 75 and 115 cm.~~ 33. The minimum size for bluefin tuna caught in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean shall be 30 kg or 115 cm fork length. 33 bis. CPCs shall take the necessary measures to prohibit catching, retaining on board, transhipping, transferring, landing, transporting, storing, selling, displaying or offering for sale bluefin tuna which do not meet at least one of the size or weight requirements listed in paragraph 33.	There is a contradiction between the first sentence and the second sentence of paragraph 33 that needs to be corrected. It is our understanding that the current implementation of this paragraph is that meeting one of the two requirements (size or weight) is sufficient to consider a BFT of legal size. NB: This clarification also needs a modification of the eBCD, as currently the eBCD only takes weight into account. A fish that is under the minimum weight, but over the minimum size, should not be considered undersized, but the eBCD currently considers it as such. This is important in order to control the 5% allowance below minimum size.

	36. For catching vessels fishing actively for bluefin tuna and tuna traps, CPCs may authorize an incidental catch of no more than 5% by number of bluefin tuna, retained on board a vessel at any time after each fishing operation, that either: a. weigh between 8 kg and 30 kg; or b. have a fork length between 75 and 115 cm	
Para 170	**Analysis of the control cameras video footage by the farm CPC competent authority**	The number of bluefin tuna being caged can be determined by using either conventional or stereoscopic camera. In some cases, because of the distance from the port, the stereoscopic video cannot collect all the fish entering into the cage while the conventional video footage is able to do it.
Para 210a (new)	210a. In the event of persistent turbidity conditions in the farm area, the farm CPC competent authority may authorise that the control of the carry-over takes place outside the farm, in an adjacent area where there is sufficient visibility. CPCs shall document the measurement of the turbidity according to standard methods.	Turbidity should be also considered when there is an impediment to comply with other obligations than caging procedures (para 164), as for the determination of the carry-over pursuant para 203. Paragraph 203 sets out a clear deadline for reporting the carry over, therefore it is necessarily to provide for specific measures addressing this issue.
Annex 2 - A - Para 2	The logbook must be filled in every day (by midnight) or before port arrival. The figures related to the weight and number of fish may be amended after first transfer video footage assessment and prior arrival in port.	PNC have been issued due to non-compliance with the timing to report information recorded in the logbook. To avoid this situation, it is relevant to note that the estimated figures sent before midnight may be amended after the assessment of the video footage.
Annex 6 – ROP tasks – Para xxii	xxi. as regards releases after caging, observe and report on the prior segregation of fish and the subsequent release operation, in accordance with the release protocol in Annex 10, including verifying that the quality of the video footage of the prior segregation satisfies the minimum standards of Annex 8 and estimating the number of fish segregated for release.	We consider important to clarify that the estimation of fish is related to the amount that has been segregated previously to the release.
Annex 8 – Para 1.a)	At the beginning and/or the end of each video, where requested, the ICCAT transfer or caging authorization number or release order and the number of both the receptor and the donor cages (as indicated in the transfer declaration-ITD or caging declaration) shall be displayed;	It is unclear whether the number of the cages involved in a caging operation should be identifiable in the video footage. It is our understanding that the aim is to identify unequivocally the video recording with the related operation at any time. To ensure consistency with transfers, both cages (donor and recipient) must be identifiable in the video footage.
Annex 10 – Para 9	9. Release operations from farms as referred to in paragraph 2 a) of this Annex, must be	It is our understanding that the timing for releasing set up in this paragraph only refers to those situations where the weight

and para 9a (new)	executed within 3 months of the last caging operation of the fish concerned. 9a. Release operations from farms as referred to in paragraph 2 of this Annex, must take place at a minimum distance of 10 miles from the farm. For releases of less than 5 tonnes of bluefin tuna, the farm CPC competent authority may set a shorter distance, of minimum 5 miles, for the release.	caged exceeds the reported caught by the operator. We also consider that there is a need to clarify that the compulsory minimal distance set up in paragraph 9 shall be applied to both release operations indicated in paragraph 2(a) and 2(b). Otherwise, it could be understood that such distance is to be applied to just releases after caging.

Appendix 6

Draft Recommendation by ICCAT establishing rules on driftnets for the capture of certain ICCAT species [IMM_09/i2026]
(presented by the European Union)

CONSIDERING that in November 1993, and November 1994, ICCAT adopted Resolutions in support of the Resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly, 44/225, 45/197 and 46/215, concerning large-scale, high seas, pelagic driftnets and their impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas, requesting its Contracting Parties to support these Resolutions;

CONSIDERING that following those Resolution, in November 1996, ICCAT adopted Resolution 96-15 on large-scale pelagic driftnets, to further reinforce ICCAT concerns about the possibility that certain stocks under ICCAT mandate, as well as other marine resources, are being adversely affected by such fishing;

FURTHER CONSIDERING that in its Resolution 96-15 ICCAT charged the Compliance Committee and the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG) to monitor compliance with the U.N. Resolutions within the ICCAT Convention area with a view to adopting adequate measures;

NOTING that in 2003 ICCAT adopted the *Recommendation by ICCAT relating to Mediterranean swordfish* (Rec. 03-04), to protect small swordfish in the Mediterranean and requesting Contracting Parties, Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities prohibit the use of driftnets for fisheries of large pelagic in the Mediterranean;

CONSIDERING that in UN Resolution 76/71 of 9 December 2021, the General Assembly, while recognizing efforts to implement the moratorium, expresses its concern for the persistent practice of large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing, and thereby urged member States through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt effective measures, or strengthen existing measures, to implement and enforce the present global moratorium on the use of large scale pelagic drift nets on the high seas, and calls upon States to ensure that vessels flying their flag that are duly authorized to use large-scale drift nets in waters under their national jurisdiction do not use such gear for fishing while on the high seas;

RECOGNISING the demonstrated negative impact that driftnets have on incidental catches of sensitive marine species that are a result of fishing, which shall be minimized and where possible eliminated so that they do not represent a threat to the conservation status of these species;

RECALLING that the Commission has reaffirmed its commitment as regards the concept of responsible fishing, such as established within the framework of the United National Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Code of Conduct;

CONSIDERING that weaknesses have been identified in the enforceability of the current ban on the use of driftnets for large pelagic in Recommendation 03-04, and whereas it is necessary to strengthen the legislation, including establishing a definition of driftnet to improve the enforceability of the prohibition, even when the driftnet is not in use;

CONSIDERING the need for harmonized and effective provisions in ICCAT and General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) for the use of driftnets in the Mediterranean Sea;

RECOGNISING the ICCAT mandate for the conservation of tuna and tuna-like fishes in the Atlantic Ocean and its adjacent Seas;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE
CONSERVATIONOF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. Definitions. For purposes of this Recommendation:

   a) "driftnets for large pelagic species" means a string of gillnets kept more or less vertical by floats on the upper line (headrope) and that may have small weights on the lower line (groundrope), with a mesh size in any part of the net of 90 mm or more, to be used near the surface or in mid-water, either independently or with the boat to which it may be attached.

   b) "driftnets for small tuna species" means a passive fishing gear consisting of one or more panels of gillnets set to drift with the current and maintained in a near-vertical position by means of floats on the upper line (headrope), and small weights on the lower line (groundrope). The mesh size of such nets shall be less than 90 mm in any part of the net.

   c) "mesh size" of a driftnet means the inside maximum distance between the opposite joints or knots in the same mesh when fully extended along its longest possible axis, not including meshes that, are at the top, bottom or side of a net selvedge; meshes within three meshes of lacings and ropes, and meshes that have been broken or have been repaired.

   d) "small tuna species" means the species listed in **Annex 1 to Appendix 6**.

   e) "Large pelagic species" means the species listed in **Annex 2 to Appendix 6.**

2. Contracting Parties, Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, Entities, or Fishing Entities shall prohibit the possession on board vessels, as well as the use of driftnets for large pelagic species, as defined in paragraph 1(a), for the fishing of ICCAT species within the ICCAT Convention area. ICCAT coastal Contracting Parties, Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities, or Fishing Entities shall also prohibit the possession, transport or storage of such fishing gear within their respective territories.

3. The use of driftnets for fishing small tuna species, as specified in paragraph 1.b, is permitted only within coastal areas extending up to a maximum distance of 3 nautical miles from the shore and using one or more driftnets with a combined total length which shall not exceed 2500 meters. The possession of driftnet(s) whose aggregate length exceeds 2500 meters is prohibited.

   Such driftnets must remain attached to the fishing vessel throughout the entire duration of the fishing operation, and the soak time shall not exceed 24 hours.

   The authorization to use driftnets for the capture of small tuna species is limited exclusively to artisanal vessels less than 10 meters in total length.

4. Where the use of driftnets is authorized, as provided in paragraph 3 above, any bycatch of ICCAT species other than small tuna species authorized shall be promptly released or discarded. All such discards shall be counted against the CPC quota and reported to the ICCAT Secretariat through the regular submission of Task 1 and Task 2 catch statistics reports.

5. To evaluate the impact of the use of driftnets in the Mediterranean, the ICCAT Secretariat shall cooperate and coordinate with the GFCM, pursuant to the provisions of Resolution GFCM/46/2023/10 concerning the restriction and prohibition of driftnets in the Mediterranean Sea.

6. To ensure the enforceability and verifiability of the prohibition on the use of driftnets for large pelagic species in ICCAT fisheries, CPCs shall not issue any driftnet license to vessels holding licenses targeting ICCAT species other than the small tuna species authorized under paragraph 1d).

7. The provisions of this Recommendation shall be reviewed and, if necessary, amended following any scientific advice from SCRS or any outcomes arising from the ICCAT-GFCM joint activities referenced in paragraph 5.

Annex 1 to Appendix 6

List of ICCAT small tuna species

- BLF Blackfin tuna (*Thunnus atlanticus*)
- BLT Bullet tuna (*Auxis rochei*)
- BON Atlantic bonito (*Sarda sarda*)
- BOP Plain bonito (*Orcynopsis unicolor*)
- BRS Serra Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus brasiliensis*)
- CER Cero (*Scomberomorus regalis*)
- COM Narrow-barred Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus commerson*)
- FRI Frigate tuna (*Auxis thazard*)
- KGM King mackerel (*Scomberomorus cavalla*)
- LTA Little tunny (*Euthynnus alletteratus*)
- MAW West African Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus tritor*)
- SSM Atlantic Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus maculatus*)
- WAH Wahoo (*Acanthocybium solandri*)

Annex 2 to Appendix 6

List of ICCAT large pelagic species

BFT	Atlantic bluefin tuna	*Thunnus thynnus*
YFT	Yellowfin tuna	*Thunnus albacares*
ALB	Albacore	*Thunnus alalunga*
BET	Bigeye tuna	*Thunnus obesus*
SKJ	Skipjack tuna	*Katsuwonus pelamis*
SFA	Atlantic sailfish	*Istiophorus albicans/ Istiophorus platypterus*
BUM	Blue marlin	*Makaira nigricans*
WHM	White marlin	*Tetrapterus albidus/Kajikia albida*
SWO	Swordfish	*Xiphias gladius*
SPF	Longbill spearfish	*Tetrapturus pfluegeri*
SBF	Southern bluefin tuna	*Thunnus maccoyii*
BLM	Black marlin	*Makaira indica*
SLT	Slender tuna	*Allothunnus fallai*
GES	Snake mackerel	*Gempylus serpens*
OIL	Oilfish	*Ruvettus pretiosus*
NPH	Japanese Spanish mackerel	*Scomberomorus niphonius*
LEC	Escolar	*Lepidocybium flavobrunneum*
BUK	Butterfly kingfish	*Gasterochisma melampus*
KAW	Kawakawa	*Euthynnus affinis*
MSP	Mediterranean spearfish	*Tetrapturus belone*
MLS	Striped marlin	*Tetrapturus audax*
SSP	Shortbill spearfish	*Tetrapturus angustirostris*
RSP	Roundscale spearfish	*Tetrapturus georgii*
SMA	Shortfin mako	*Isurus oxyrinchus*
POR	Porbeagle	*Lamna nasus*
BSH	Blue shark	*Prionace glauca*
ALV	Thresher	*Alopias vulpinus*
BSK	Basking shark	*Cetorhinus maximus*
BTH	Bigeye thresher	*Alopias superciliosus*
CCG	Galapagos shark	*Carcharhinus galapagensis*
CYW	Roughskin dogfish	*Centroscymnus owstonii*
ETU	Lined lanternshark	*Etmopterus bullisi*
EUP	Pygmy shark	*Euprotomicrus bispinatus*
EUZ	Taillight shark	*Euprotomicroides zantedeschia*
FAL	Silky shark	*Carcharhinus falciformis*
HXN	Bigeye sixgill shark	*Hexanchus nakamurai*
ISB	Cookie cutter shark	*Isistius brasiliensis*
ISP	Largetooth cookiecutter shark	*Isistius plutodus*
LMA	Longfin mako	*Isurus paucus*
LMO	Goblin shark	*Mitsukurina owstoni*
LMP	Megamouth shark	*Megachasma pelagios*
OCS	Oceanic whitetip shark	*Carcharhinus longimanus*
PLS	Pelagic stingray	*Pteroplatytrygon violacea*
PSK	Crocodile shark	*Pseudocarcharias kamoharai*

QUL	Spined pygmy shark	*Squaliolus laticaudus*
RHN	Whale shark	*Rhincodon typus*
SPK	Great hammerhead	*Sphyrna mokarran*
SPL	Scalloped hammerhead	*Sphyrna lewini*
SPZ	Smooth hammerhead	*Sphyrna zygaena*
WSH	Great white shark	*Carcharodon carcharias*

Appendix 7

Discussion paper on AIS requirements [IMM_12/i2026]
(presented by the European Union)

1. What is AIS

The Automatic Identification System (AIS) is an automated tracking system initially designed to enhance marine radar by helping prevent collisions between vessels at sea. Ships equipped with AIS transceivers transmit short-range signals to notify nearby vessels of their position. These signals can also be picked up by land-based receivers, enabling maritime safety agencies and port authorities to track vessel movements in real time.

The key distinction between AIS and vessel monitoring systems (VMS) lies in their accessibility and data sharing. AIS operates as an "open" system, meaning its data is widely accessible to various end users, including other vessels, maritime organisations, and even the public. In contrast, VMS is a "closed" system, where the transmitted data is encrypted and generally restricted to government authorities, such as fisheries enforcement or coastguard agencies.

2. The added value of requesting AIS for fishing vessel

While the use of AIS was started as a tool to enhance safety at sea, there are many useful applications of AIS to a fisheries management context.

By tracking vessel locations, AIS data offers critical insights into fishing patterns, compliance, and resource management.

Its applications include:

- Vessel monitoring and fishing effort analysis

AIS enables near real-time tracking of fishing vessels, allowing authorities to monitor the activities of their fishing vessel and to establish a vessel position in case of VMS failure.

It can also help monitor vessel movements to assess where, when, and how long fishing activity occurs: verify compliance with spatial restrictions (e.g., protected areas, depth limits) and temporal regulations (e.g., seasonal closures) and cross-check against VMS position.

- Combating IUU fishing

AIS helps detect suspicious vessel behaviour linked to IUU fishing, such as unauthorised transshipments, unusual movement patterns, fishing activity inconsistent with vessel authorisations.

This data supports targeted enforcement actions, including patrol planning for fisheries inspections.

- Fisheries research and marine conservation

AIS data can also contribute to scientific research and sustainable fisheries management by mapping high-density fishing grounds and analysing spatial-temporal trends in fishing effort.

3. Conclusion

In conclusion, the European Union believes it is timely for ICCAT, beginning with the IMM Working Group, to discuss the opportunity and appropriateness to request the installation and continuous use of AIS for all fishing vessels above 20 m, as well as those above 15 m who are fishing outside of the EEZ of their flag State. A way forward to provide for the requirement to use AIS could be to amend *Recommendation by ICCAT concerning minimum standards for vessel monitoring systems in the ICCAT Convention area* (Rec. 18-10). A draft text is provided for in **Annex 1 to Appendix 7** of this discussion paper.

Annex 1 to Appendix 7

Potential way forward - amendment to the ICCAT Rec. 18-10

Introducing two new paragraphs under paragraph 1 in *Recommendation by ICCAT concerning minimum standards for vessel monitoring systems in the ICCAT Convention area* (Rec. 18-10):

1. Notwithstanding stricter requirements that may apply in specific ICCAT fisheries, each flag Contracting Party, Cooperating non-Contracting Party, Entity or Fishing Entity (hereinafter referred to as CPC) shall implement a Vessel Monitoring System (hereinafter referred to as VMS) for its commercial fishing vessels exceeding 20 meters between perpendiculars or 24 meters length overall (LOA) as well as, beginning no later than 1 January 2020, those above 15 meters LOA authorized to fish in waters beyond jurisdiction of the flag CPC and:

   (…)

   f) From 1 January 2027/2028/2029, ensure that vessels subject to this Recommendation are also fitted with and maintain in continuously operation an Automatic Identification System (AIS), meeting performance standards outlined by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) according to Chapter V, Regulation 19, Section 2.4.5 of the 1974 SOLAS Convention.

   g) Ensure that AIS transmissions are not intentionally disabled or manipulated while vessels are engaged in fishing or related activities in the ICCAT Convention area, except in exceptional circumstances when the master considers that the safety or security of the crew is imminently at risk of being compromised. Where the AIS is switched off in accordance with this paragraph, the master shall report that action and the reason for doing so to the flag State Competent Authority without undue delay. When the situation referred to in this paragraph has elapsed, the master shall restart the AIS as soon as the source of danger has disappeared.

   (…)

Appendix 8

Seabird bycatch mitigation - safety issues when using weighted branch lines
[IMM_06/i2026]
(presented by the United Kingdom)

In discussions of the UK proposal on seabird bycatch mitigation "Draft Recommendation by ICCAT to amend Recommendation 07-07 and supplemental Recommendation 11-09 on reducing incidental bycatch of seabirds in ICCAT longline fisheries" [PA4_811/2025] at the 29th Regular Meeting of the Commission in Seville in November 2025, some CPCs noted potential crew safety concerns if new longline branch line weighting specifications were adopted for use in conjunction with hook-shielding devices.

Ensuring crew safety should be a top priority in any fishing operation, and should be taken into account in developing new management measures for ICCAT fisheries.

It is the UK's intention to develop a further proposal on seabird bycatch mitigation measures for the Commission meeting in November 2027, once the Subcommittee on Ecosystems and Bycatch (SC-ECO)/ Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) scientific review of current measures concludes (also in 2027).

We want to ensure that this proposal takes sufficient account of the need to prioritise crew safety. To do this, we will aim to review all relevant information and discuss the issue with interested CPCs. The following process is proposed:

1. We request all CPCs to provide, by 11 September 2026, any information they have on:

   i) crew safety risks arising from the use of weighted longline branch lines, either in combination with hook-shielding devices or as a standalone measure;

   ii) the wider risk of 'flyback' of weighted branch lines; or

   iii) measures that have/could be implemented to mitigate such risks e.g. through use of appropriate safety equipment or procedures.

   Such information could include, but is not limited to, reports of trials undertaken, reports of safety incidents, or other/anecdotal information.

2. We will review all information available and submit a summary/analysis to discuss at the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG) meeting in November 2026.

3. CPCs will then have a second opportunity to submit information, by 2 April 2027. We will also welcome bilateral discussion with interested CPCs during that period.

4. We will then aim to provide a further paper or draft proposal, based on the outcomes of the above, for discussion at the Working Group Integrated Monitoring Measures (IMM) meeting in 2027. The aim will be to endorse suggested ways forward at the IMM meeting.

All information requested should be sent to the ICCAT Secretariat to compile and make available to the UK delegation.

In this way we can have an open, collaborative and structured discussion on this important issue to identify agreeable ways forward.

We would like to thank all interested CPCs in advance for their cooperation.

Appendix 9

Discussion paper on chartering
[IMM_13/i2026]
(presented by the European Union)

1. Key issues to consider

I. Definitions

- Chartering; chartering CPC; flag CPC
- Include bareboat chartering as a specific type of chartering where there is change of flag

II. Eligibility

- Both CPCs engaged in the chartering agreement must be ICCAT CPCs
- Link chartered vessels to authorized vessel lists maintained by the ICCAT Secretariat
- Exclude vessels included in IUU lists
- IMO number? Beneficial ownership?

III. Notification

- CPCs to notify ICCAT and provide detailed information in advance of chartering any vessels
- Secretariat shall circulate information

IV. Authorisation and register

- Chartering CPC to issue fishing authorisation containing details of the chartering. Carry authorization onboard
- List/record of chartered vessels to be maintained? by the ICCAT Secretariat
- Authorization shall specify duration, quota, and area
- Details of the charter in the record of fishing vessels

V. Quotas and catch reporting

- Catches by chartered vessels count against the chartering CPC's quota and subject to ICCAT reporting rules. Flag CPC quota should not be used (unless explicitly specified)
- Vessels should not engage in "flag hopping" to gain access to more than one CPC's quota

VI. Responsibilities of the chartering and flag CPCs

- Flag CPC should have primary responsibility for control and monitoring of the chartered vessel. Chartering CPC responsible for reporting catches and the compliance of the authorization
- When a HSBI is established in ICCAT, clarify under which jurisdiction the vessel operates in international waters

VII. Duties of the ICCAT Secretariat

- Assessment
- Maintenance of the chartered vessel lists

2. Recommendation XX/XX on vessel chartering

RECALLING the objective of the ICCAT Convention ('the Convention') to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of fisheries resources covered by the Convention;

RECOGNIZING that, under the Convention, Contracting Parties shall cooperate with a view to ensuring the conservation of tuna and tuna-like species and promoting their optimum utilization;

RECALLING that, according to Article 92 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, of 10 December 1982, ships shall sail under the flag of one State only and shall be subject to its exclusive jurisdiction on the high seas except as otherwise provided in relevant international instruments;

ACKNOWLEDGING the needs and interests of all States to develop their fishing fleets to enable them to fully utilize the fishing opportunities available to them under relevant ICCAT conservation and management measures;

MINDFUL that unless properly regulated, the practices of chartering arrangements might seriously undermine the effectiveness of conservation and management measures established by ICCAT;

CONCERNED with ensuring that charter agreements do not promote illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities or undermine ICCAT conservation and management measures;

MINDFUL of the need to ensure transparency among CPCs in respect of conditions for accessing the waters of coastal States, in particular to facilitate joint efforts to IUU fishing;

REALIZING that there is a need for ICCAT to regulate charter agreements with due regard to all relevant factors.

Definitions

1. For the purposes of this Recommendation:

   a) "chartering of a fishing vessel" means an agreement or a contractual arrangement whereby a fishing vessel flying the flag of a Contracting Party or Cooperating non-Contracting Party, Entity, or Fishing Entity (hereinafter referred to as CPCs) is contracted, for the purpose of conducting fishing or fishing-related activities and for a defined period of time, by an operator in another CPC without the change of flag or transfer of ownership.

   b) "chartering CPC" means the CPC under whose jurisdiction the natural or legal person that has chartered a fishing vessel operates or is established; the chartering CPC holds the quota allocation or fishing possibilities to be used under the chartering arrangement;

   c) "flag CPC" means the CPC whose flag a fishing vessel flies and under whose authority the vessel is registered;

   d) "charter operator" means the natural or legal person established in or under the jurisdiction of the chartering CPC who has entered into the chartering agreement and is responsible for the vessel's fishing operations under the charter arrangement;

   e) "sub-chartering" means any arrangement whereby the charter operator transfers operational control of the chartered vessel, or any part of its fishing capacity or fishing opportunities, to a third party;

   f) "bareboat chartering" means a form of chartering under which a fishing vessel is chartered and temporarily registered under the flag of a CPC other than its original flag CPC, without change of ownership.

Eligibility

2. Chartering arrangements shall only be permitted where:

   a) Both the chartering CPC and the flag CPC are ICCAT CPCs;

   b) The vessel is included in the Record of Authorized Fishing Vessels;

   c) The vessel is authorized to fish by both the flag CPC and the chartering CPC;

d) The vessel is not included in the IUU Vessel List of ICCAT or that of any other regional fisheries management organization [for the last 5 years];

e) The flag CPC has consented in writing to the chartering arrangement and has confirmed in writing that: (i) the vessel's fishing authorization under the flag CPC will be suspended for the entire duration of the charter; and (ii) the flag CPC is fulfilling its flag State obligations under applicable ICCAT conservation and management measures.

Authorisation

3. The chartering CPC shall issue a fishing authorization to each chartered vessel.

4. The fishing authorization shall specify:

a) The name and identification of the vessel and its IMO number;
b) The duration of the charter, including start and end dates;
c) The authorized fishing area;
d) The authorized gear type;
e) The species and fishing opportunities allocated;
f) Applicable reporting requirements.

5. The chartered vessel shall carry on board at all times a copy of the fishing authorization issued by the chartering CPC and a copy of the chartering agreement.

6. A vessel shall not operate under more than one chartering arrangement at the same time.

7. Sub-chartering is prohibited. The charter operator shall not re-let or otherwise transfer operational control of the chartered vessel, or any part of its fishing capacity or fishing opportunities, to any third party.

Notification and register

8. The chartering CPC shall notify the Executive Secretary of any chartering arrangement no later than 15 calendar days prior to the commencement of fishing activities.

9. Such notification shall include:

a) Vessel name, registration number, and IMO number, where available;
b) Name and address of the vessel owner and beneficial owner;
c) Name and address of the chartering operator;
d) Flag CPC;
e) Vessel characteristics, including overall length, tonnage, engine power and gear type;
f) Dates of commencement and end of the chartering agreement;
g) Species and fishing opportunities allocated;
h) The fishing authorisation issued by the chartering CPC;
i) Copy of the chartering agreement;
j) Confirmation of the consent of the flag CPC.

10. Both the chartering CPC and the flag CPC shall notify the Executive Secretary, without delay, of: (a) the start of fishing operations under the chartering agreement; (b) any suspension, resumption, or termination of such operations; and (c) any proposed amendment to the chartering agreement.

11. The Executive Secretary shall establish and maintain a record/list of chartered vessels. The record/list shall include, at least, the information provided under paragraph 9 a) to g) and shall be updated to reflect any change notified under paragraph 9 within five calendar days of receipt.

12. Upon receipt of a notification under paragraph 8, the Executive Secretary shall, within 10 calendar days:

    a) Cross-check the notified vessel against the ICCAT IUU Vessel List and the IUU vessel lists of other RFMOs;

    b) Verify that the vessel is included in the ICCAT Record of Authorized Fishing Vessels;

    c) Verify that the chartering CPC holds fishing opportunities for the species and area indicated in the notification;

    d) Update the Record of Authorized Fishing Vessels (RAV) to indicate that the vessel is operating under a charter arrangement.

The RAV shall include, at least, the chartering CPC, the flag CPC, the duration of the charter, and the areas of application, the authorized fishing gear and the species targeted, and fishing opportunities allocated.

13. An amendment to the chartering agreement shall take effect only once both CPCs have submitted notifications of the amendment to the Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary shall update the [ICCAT list of chartered vessels] and the RAV accordingly within 7 calendar days of receiving both notifications.

14. After confirmation of the chartering arrangement, the Executive Secretary shall circulate promptly to all CPCs the information under paragraph 9 a) to g).

No chartering arrangement shall be considered operative, and no fishing activities under the arrangement shall commence, until the Executive Secretary has confirmed registration under paragraph [d) and] e).

Quotas and catch reporting

15. All catches taken by chartered vessels shall be counted against the fishing opportunities of the chartering CPC. During the period that the charter agreement is active, the flag CPC fishing quotas shall not be used.

16. The chartering CPC shall report such catches in accordance with the relevant ICCAT reporting requirements, clearly identifying such catches as taken under a chartering arrangement.

[For catches taken by chartered vessels that are subject to RFMO catch documentation schemes or statistical document programmes the responsibility for issuing and where appropriate validating the catch or statistical document shall lie with the [chartering / flag] CPC.]

CPCs responsibilities

17. The flag CPC shall:

    a) Maintain primary responsibility for exercising jurisdiction and effective control over the vessel;

    b) Before the charter commences, formally suspend the vessel's fishing authorization under the flag CPC for the entire duration of the chartering arrangement and notify the Executive Secretary of such suspension;

    c) Monitor the activities of the vessel and ensure that the chartered vessel complies with ICCAT conservation and management measures, its own flag CPC regulations, relevant regulations of the chartering CPC and the relevant regulations of the coastal State in whose waters the vessel operates;

    d) Provide [in real time/on a regular basis/immediately after each fishing trip] the chartering CPC with information on the vessel's fishing activities, in particular fishing logbook data, landing declarations and observer reports where available;

e) Investigate any alleged violations involving the vessel, irrespective of where the alleged violation occurred, and cooperate fully with any investigation conducted by the chartering CPC;

f) Take appropriate enforcement action, including the imposition of sanctions, where violations are confirmed, and report promptly the outcome to the chartering CPC and the Executive Secretary.

18. The chartering CPC shall:

a) Ensure that the chartered vessel operates in accordance with the fishing authorization issued under paragraph 3, including all applicable limitations on area, species, gear, period of validity, and reporting obligations;

b) Ensure that it receives the information referred to in point 17(c) from the flag CPC in a timely manner;

c) Ensure that the VMS data of the chartered vessel is transmitted simultaneously to both the chartering CPC's fisheries monitoring centre and the flag CPC's fisheries monitoring centre during the entire charter period;

d) In fulfilment of its obligations as a coastal CPC, where a chartered vessel operates in waters under its jurisdiction, ensure that such vessel complies with all applicable monitoring, control and surveillance requirements, as well as relevant national laws and regulations;

e) Ensure that all catches taken under the charter arrangement are accurately recorded, fully and timely reported, and counted exclusively against its fishing opportunities.

f) Ensure that the chartered vessel calls at a port under the jurisdiction of the chartering CPC, or another port agreed by both CPCs, at the conclusion or suspension of the charter period and before the vessel resumes fishing under the flag CPC's authorization.

19. The flag CPC and chartering CPC shall cooperate to ensure compliance and enforcement of the Convention measures, including:

a) Exchanging all relevant information concerning chartered vessel activities;

b) Promptly notifying each other and the Executive Secretary of any suspected violations;

c) Cooperating in investigations;

d) Taking complementary enforcement actions where appropriate.

Bareboat chartering

20. For cases of bareboat chartering as defined in paragraph 1.d):

a) The chartering CPC shall assume full and exclusive flag State responsibility during the period of bareboat charter registration, including international responsibility, compliance, and enforcement obligations;

b) The original flag CPC shall, before the bareboat charter period commences, suspend its registration and notify the ICCAT Executive Secretary of the suspension, and shall not exercise jurisdiction as flag State during that period.

c) During the period of bareboat charter registration, the vessel shall fly exclusively the flag of the chartering CPC. The ICCAT RAV entry for the vessel shall be updated to reflect the new flag for the duration of the bareboat charter and shall revert to the original flag upon termination.

Monitoring, control and enforcement

21. Chartered vessels shall comply with all relevant ICCAT monitoring, control, and surveillance measures.

22. During the entire period of a chartering arrangement, the chartered vessel shall transmit VMS data simultaneously to the fisheries monitoring centres of both the flag CPC and the chartering CPC, at the intervals required by the applicable ICCAT VMS measure.

23. The minimum observer coverage of chartered vessels shall be in line with the requirements of the relevant ICCAT recommendation. The observer coverage rate during the chartering arrangement on board such vessels shall be counted against the observer coverage rate of the chartering CPC.

24. Prior to the activation of the charter agreement, the flag CPC shall ensure that the vessel has landed all catches taken under its fishing authorization. Where landing prior to the activation of the charter agreement is not feasible, the flag CPC and the chartering CPC shall ensure that all catches taken before and after the activation of the charter agreement are clearly identified, physically separated on board, and duly recorded in the vessel's logbooks.

25. The procedures adopted to ensure proper separation, identification, recording, and attribution of catches shall be specified in the notification of the chartering arrangement submitted to the Executive Secretary.

Duties of the Executive Secretary

26. The Executive Secretary shall:

    a) Establish and maintain the ICCAT Chartered Vessel Record in accordance with paragraph 11;
    b) Update the ICCAT Record of Vessels with the information received on chartering;
    c) Verify, process, and circulate to all CPCs notifications received under paragraph 9;
    d) Verify that the chartering CPC holds fishing opportunities for the species and area indicated in the notification;
    e) Cross-check chartered vessels against the ICCAT IUU Vessel List and the IUU vessel lists of other RFMOs;
    f) Prepare an annual report on chartering arrangements to be submitted to the Commission, including data on: vessels chartered, duration and geographic scope of charters, catches reported, observer coverage rates, and compliance and enforcement actions notified;
    g) Provide relevant information to the Compliance Committee.

Compliance review

26. The Compliance Committee shall review the implementation of this measure.

27. The Commission may take appropriate action in cases of failure by the chartering CPC or the flag CPC to ensure compliance with this measure.

Final provisions

28. This Recommendation supersedes and replaces the *Recommendation by ICCAT on vessel chartering* (Rec. 13-14).

Appendix 10

Discussion Paper: Towards an alternative observer approach in the Norwegian purse seine fishery [IMM_17/i2026]
(presented by Norway)

Introduction and background

The *Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean* (Rec. 25-04) (paragraph 101) requires 100% observer coverage under the Regional Observer Program (ROP) on all purse seine vessels authorized to catch bluefin tuna. This requirement has been developed primarily in the context of the Mediterranean bluefin tuna fishery, which is characterised by:

- Predictable and well-established fishing seasons;
- High concentrations of fish in spawning areas;
- Specialised vessels operating in a targeted fishery;
- Large-scale operations with live transfer of fish to farming cages.

In such a setting, the fishing activity is planned well in advance, operations are highly concentrated in time and space, and catch volumes are significant. The observer scheme is therefore well aligned with the operational reality: vessels know when they will fish, trips have a defined start and end point, and observer deployment can be organised efficiently.

Moreover, the Mediterranean fishery involves operational features that require close monitoring, including catch capacity and quota management, transfers to farming cages, and fishing pressure in spawning areas. In this context, the requirement for 100% observer coverage is both practical and justified.

The Norwegian purse seine fishery - A different fishing operation

The Norwegian purse seine fishery for bluefin tuna operates under fundamentally different biological, environmental, and operational conditions.

Key characteristics include:

- Seasonality and environmental conditions: The fishery takes place late in the year, with limited daylight and highly variable and often challenging weather conditions.
- Fish behaviour and availability: Fish are dispersed, highly mobile, and occur unpredictably. Fishing opportunities depend on short and uncertain windows.
- Operational flexibility: Vessels must react at short notice when weather conditions allow and fish are observed.
- Fleet structure: The vessels are not specialised tuna vessels, but multi-purpose pelagic vessels also engaged in fisheries such as herring, mackerel, and blue whiting.
- Landing practices: Catches are landed directly. There is no farming component or live transfer operations.
- Scale and intensity: The fishery has low effort, limited activity, and relatively low quota utilisation.

Unlike the Mediterranean, the Norwegian fishery is unpredictable, heavily contingent on weather conditions and with a less specialised fleet.

The challenge

The requirement of 100% onboard observer coverage across fundamentally different fisheries creates disproportionate consequences. In the Norwegian context, this requirement presents several challenges:

- Operational constraints: The need to deploy observers at short notice is difficult given the unpredictable nature of fishing opportunities.

- High costs relative to activity: Costs are incurred regardless of catch success, meaning that trips without catch generate significant financial burden.
- Logistical complexity: Weather conditions, timing, and vessel availability make observer placement difficult and sometimes impractical.

As a result, the current regime contributes to reduced participation in the fishery, lower quota utilisation, and barriers to develop the fishery.

This raises the question of whether a more flexible and risk-based approach could achieve the same or improved level of monitoring and compliance, and at the same time allow the Norwegian bluefin tuna fishery to develop.

Alternative approach: A risk-based monitoring framework

ICCAT could consider a more flexible and risk-based alternative to the current observer requirement for vessels operating within the frames described for the Norwegian purse seine fishery. Rather than relying exclusively on physical observers, effective control of fishing activity can be achieved through a combined monitoring system integrating strengthened reporting requirements, data-driven risk analysis, and targeted use of observers. Such an approach would enable a more continuous and comprehensive coverage of fishing activity, improved compliance through system-wide verification, reduced operational and financial burden and better adaptation to fisheries with low effort.

Key elements of an alternative monitoring framework

An alternative monitoring approach could include:

1. Enhanced VMS/AIS and activity analysis.
2. Increased positional reporting during active periods.
3. Cross-checking of vessel activity with logbooks and catch reports.
4. Detection of anomalies and inconsistencies.
5. Electronic reporting and near real-time catch documentation.
6. Standardised electronic logbooks.
7. Early reporting of catches.
8. Automated plausibility checks based on historical and scientific data.
9. Risk-based deployment of observers.
10. National observers onboard prioritised in higher-risk situations:
11. Systematic inspection upon landing. Verification of consistency between catch, documentation, and quota
12. Enhanced cooperation and information sharing.
13. Clear requirements for national control systems.
14. Reporting of monitoring and enforcement actions.

Points for discussion

Norway wants to raise the discussion for the possibility of an alternative observer framework focused on fishing activity rather than full trip coverage. Such an approach could provide continuous and verifiable documentation of fishing operations and ensure full traceability of catch handling, as well as reduce the need for onboard observers and have a more cost-effective and reliable monitoring solution.

A combined and risk-based monitoring approach offers a practical and robust alternative to full observer coverage in fisheries such as the Norwegian purse seine fishery. This approach would maintain high standards of transparency and compliance and improve proportionality in monitoring requirements. It would also reduce costs and operational constraints for the vessels and support more efficient and sustainable quota utilisation.

The purpose of this discussion is to explore whether equivalent monitoring outcomes can be achieved through a combined control system focused on fishing activity, catch documentation and landing verification, rather than relying exclusively on full-trip observer deployment in fisheries where fishing opportunities are short-notice, weather-dependent and not associated with live transfer or farming operations.

Norway would invite the Working Group to provide its views on the following questions for discussion:

1. What combination of tools could provide equivalent monitoring compared to 100% observer coverage?

2. How can ICCAT ensure that alternative measures deliver continuous and verifiable documentation of fishing activity?

3. What minimum criteria should be defined to ensure credibility and comparability of alternative monitoring approaches?

Appendix 11

Draft Recommendation by ICCAT ~~to amend Recommendation 14-07~~ on Access Agreements
[IMM_08A_REV_1/i2026]
(presented by the United States)

MINDFUL of the data reporting requirements for all Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities, and Fishing Entities (CPCs) and the importance of complete statistical reporting to the work of SCRS and the Commission;

MINDFUL of the need to ensure transparency among CPCs in respect of conditions for accessing the waters of coastal States, in particular to facilitate joint efforts to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing;

~~*RECALLING* the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Vessel Chartering* (Rec. 02-219 that establishes reporting and other requirements for chartering arrangements, which are distinct from access agreements;;~~

RECALLING the *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Duties of Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities in Relation to their Vessels in the ICCAT Convention Area* (Rec. 03-12), which requires CPCs to ensure that their vessels do not conduct unauthorized fishing within areas under the national jurisdiction of other States, through appropriate cooperation with coastal States concerned, and other relevant means available to the flag CPC;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. For the purposes of this Recommendation, an "access agreement" is an agreement between a coastal CPC ~~and a~~ or non-Contracting Party (NCP), and a CPC or commercial entity, that allows a foreign-flagged vessel or foreign flagged vessels to fish for ICCAT species in waters under the jurisdiction of the coastal CPC or NCP in the ICCAT Convention area. ~~Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities, and Fishing Entities (CPCs) that allow foreign-flagged vessels to participate in ICCAT fisheries in waters under their jurisdiction, and CPCs whose vessels fish in waters under the jurisdiction of another CPC or non-Contracting party (NCP) for species managed by ICCAT pursuant to an agreement, shall ensure the fulfillment of the following provisions.~~

2. CPCs that allow foreign-flagged vessels to ~~participate in ICCAT fisheries~~ fish for ICCAT species in waters under their jurisdiction in the ICCAT Convention area shall only authorize CPC-flagged vessels for such activity.

3. Prior to the commencement of fishing activity pursuant to an access agreement, CPCs that are party to the access agreement shall ensure the following information is included in the agreement and shall, individually or jointly, notify the Commission of information concerning the agreement, including: ~~CPCs that allow foreign-flagged vessels to participate in ICCAT fisheries in their waters under their jurisdiction, and CPCs whose vessels fish in waters under the jurisdiction of another CPC or NCP for species managed by ICCAT pursuant to an agreement, shall ensure the following information is included in the agreement and shall, individually or jointly, notify the Commission prior to beginning fishing activities of information concerning these agreements, including:~~

   a) The CPCs, and if relevant, NCPs~~, and, if relevant,~~ or commercial entities involved in the agreement;
   b) The time period or periods covered by the agreement;
   c) The number of vessels and gear types authorized;
   d) The names and ICCAT numbers of authorized vessels;
   e) The names and ICCAT numbers of authorized vessels;
   f) The stock or species authorized for harvest, including any applicable catch or effort limits;
   g) Monitoring, control, and surveillance measures required by the flag CPC and coastal State involved, including, for the coastal CPC or NCP, a particular specification of:

i) the National authority responsible for issuing fishing licenses or permits,
ii) the National authority responsible for MCS activities,
iii) Relevant contact information for these National authorities;

g) Data reporting obligations stipulated in the agreement, including those between the parties involved, as well as those regarding information that must be provided to the Commission;
h) A copy of the fishing license issued by the coastal CPC or non-CPC; and
i) A copy of the written agreement.

The Secretariat shall circulate this information to the Commission upon receipt.

3bis. If the information specified in paragraphs 3d) and 3h) is not included in the agreement and is unavailable at the time of the notification required in paragraph 3, CPCs that are party to the access agreement shall provide it as soon as it becomes available. The Secretariat shall circulate it upon receipt.

4. When an access agreement is modified in a manner that changes any of the information specified in paragraph 3 and 3bis, CPCs that are party to the access agreement shall notify these changes ~~shall be promptly notified~~ to the Commission within [60] days of such change.

5. All ~~catch~~ data on catches made pursuant to ~~as a result of~~ an access agreement shall be shared with the coastal CPC or non-CPC. Consistent with ICCAT data reporting requirements, flag CPCs involved in the agreements specified in paragraph 3 shall ensure that all target and incidental catches made pursuant to these agreements are reported to ICCAT.

6. In cases where coastal CPCs allow foreign-flagged vessels to fish for ICCAT species in waters under their jurisdiction in the ICCAT Convention area~~participate in ICCAT fisheries in waters under their jurisdiction for species managed by ICCAT~~ through a mechanism other than a CPC-to-CPC agreement, the coastal CPC shall be solely responsible for providing the information required by this Recommendation. Flag CPCs with vessels involved in such an agreement, however, shall endeavour to provide to the Commission relevant information regarding that agreement as indicated in paragraph 3.

7. For the previous calendar year, flag CPCs, with the support of relevant coastal CPCs, shall report to the Executive Secretary of ICCAT by ~~31~~15 July the summary of the activities carried out pursuant to each access agreement, including all catches made pursuant to these agreements, fishing effort deployed by the vessels involved, in a manner consistent with CPC confidentiality requirements

Each year the Executive Secretary of ICCAT shall present a summary of all the access agreements to the Commission which, at its annual meeting, shall review compliance with this recommendation.

8. Catches made under access agreements shall be attributed to the flag CPC and shall count against any relevant allocations of the flag CPC~~, except that catches made by a chartered vessel fishing under an access agreement shall be attributed to the chartering Contracting Party~~.

9. The Secretariat shall establish and maintain records of authorized vessels under access agreements within the ~~an~~ ICCAT Record of authorized vessels ~~under access agreements~~. All vessels, regardless of size, shall be listed on the Record prior to undertaking fishing activities under access agreements.

10. Conditions and procedures referred to in the *Recommendation by ICCAT amending Recommendation 21-14 concerning the establishment of an ICCAT Record of vessels 20 metres in length overall or greater authorized to operate in the Convention area* (Rec. 25-12) shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the ICCAT Record of authorized vessels under access agreements.

~~11. This recommendation does not apply to chartering arrangements covered by the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Vessel Chartering* (Rec. 02-21)[1*].~~

[1*] Recommendation 02-21 was replaced by Recommendation 13-14.

~~11.~~12. All information provided pursuant to this Recommendation shall be consistent with domestic confidentiality requirements.

~~12.~~13. This Recommendation repeals and replaces the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Access Agreements* (Rec. 14-07)~~.~~.

Appendix 12

Draft Recommendation by ICCAT for a joint international inspection scheme in the Convention area in areas beyond national jurisdiction
[IMM_16/i2026]
(presented by Canada)

RECALLING the *ICCAT Scheme of Joint International Inspection* (Ref. 75-02), Annex 7 of the *Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 18-02 establishing a Multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean* (Rec. 19-04), establishing a joint international inspection scheme for the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna fishery and Annex 1 of the *Recommendation by ICCAT replacing the Recommendation 13-04 and establishing a Multi-annual recovery plan for Mediterranean swordfish* (Rec. 16-05), establishing a joint international inspection scheme for the Mediterranean swordfish fishery;

FURTHER RECALLING the *Recommendation by ICCAT on vessel sightings* (Rec. 19-09), and the *Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the ban on landings and transhipments of vessels from non-Contracting Parties identified as having committed a serious infringement* (Rec. 98-11);

RECALLING ALSO the *General outline of integrated monitoring measures adopted by ICCAT* (Ref. 02-31) at the 13th Special Meeting of the Commission;

DESIRING to collaborate in the adoption of a system of joint international enforcement as provided in paragraph 3 of Article IX of the ICCAT Convention;

INTENDING to strengthen the ICCAT monitoring, control, and surveillance regime to promote compliance with the ICCAT Convention and the Recommendations of the Commission by expanding the use of a joint international inspection regime to the entire Convention area beyond areas of national jurisdiction;

RECOGNIZING the value of establishing a Scheme of joint international inspection for the Convention area beyond areas of national jurisdiction that reflects current international standards and is available to all fisheries or areas under the jurisdiction of ICCAT;

[*ENCOURAGING* Contracting Parties, as appropriate, to support, join and participate in regional and international monitoring, control and surveillance initiatives, working groups and networks and to share information and practices that strengthen enforcement of the ICCAT inspection scheme to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing;]

[*ENCOURAGING* Contracting Parties, as appropriate, to support, join and participate in regional and international monitoring, control and surveillance initiatives, working groups and networks and to share information and practices that strengthen the implementation of this Recommendation;]

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE
CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS RECOMMENDS THAT:

A Scheme of Joint International Inspection be established as follows:

Section I. Definitions

For the purpose of the Scheme of joint international inspection:

1. "Fishing" means the catching, taking, or harvesting of fishery resources under the competence of ICCAT; the attempted catching, taking, or harvesting of such resources; or any other activity which can reasonably be expected to result in the catching, taking, or harvesting of such resources;

2. "Fishing activities" means fishing and any other activity in preparation for, in support of, or related to fishing, including storage, processing, transporting, transhipping, transferring fish to or from cages, and transshipment of fish or fish products;

3. "Fishing vessel" means any vessel used for, intended to be used for, or equipped for use for fishing activities including catching vessels, support vessels, fish processing vessels, towing vessels, transport vessels, carrier vessels and any other vessel directly engaged in fishing activities;

4. "Inspection vessel" means any vessel authorized by a Contracting Party and assigned to the ICCAT register of inspection vessels under the Joint International Inspection Scheme;

5. "Inspector" means an official designated and authorized by a Contracting Party and assigned to conduct boarding and inspections in the ICCAT Convention area beyond areas of national jurisdiction under the Joint International Inspection Scheme;

6. "Scheme" means the Joint International Inspection Scheme established by this Recommendation;

7. "IUU fishing" means activities as defined in paragraph 3 of the FAO International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, and as further defined in paragraph 1 of *Recommendation by ICCAT amending Recommendation 18-08 establishing a list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activity* (Rec. 21-13).

Section II: Purpose and area of application

8. International boarding and inspection conducted pursuant to this Scheme is intended to monitor compliance with the ICCAT Convention and related Recommendations in force.

9. This Scheme applies in the ICCAT Convention area beyond areas under national jurisdiction and to the fishing activities by Contracting Parties that occur in that area.

Section III: General rights and provisions

10. Each Contracting Party can, according to the provisions of this Recommendation, participate in this Scheme by conducting sightings, boarding and inspection of Contracting Parties' fishing vessels in the ICCAT Convention area beyond areas under national jurisdiction and to fishing activities that occurred in that area.

Duties of the Contracting Parties

11. All Contracting Parties are encouraged to provide inspectors and inspection vessels according to their capacity to do so, and may begin to participate in conducting inspections under this Scheme at any time.

12. Each Contracting Party shall take such measures as may be necessary to ensure that fishing vessels entitled to fly its flag, their Masters, and its inspection vessels and/or inspectors if applicable, fulfil their respective duties and requirements as described in this Recommendation.

13. The arrangements set out in this Recommendation and the plans for participation shall not apply between two Contracting Parties that have made an agreement to that effect and notified the Executive Secretary, specifying the date of entry into force of that agreement.

14. Within 30 days of the start date of this Scheme, each Contracting Party shall advise the Executive Secretary of a point of contact for the purposes of receiving notifications, inspection reports and immediate notification of infringements pursuant to this Scheme. It shall notify any changes to this information to the Executive Secretary as soon as possible, but no more than 14 days after the effective date of the change.

15. Boarding and inspections shall be carried out by inspectors and inspection vessels assigned to the Scheme by a Contracting Party pursuant to paragraph 16 below.

Notification requirements

16. A Contracting Party that intends to participate in this Scheme by conducting boarding and inspection under the Scheme, including by deploying inspectors on board the inspection vessel of another Contracting Party pursuant to an agreement under paragraph 17, shall:

    a) so notify the Commission, no later than 30 days in advance of the inspection vessel or inspector's deployment, providing the following particulars:

        i. its national authority responsible for at-sea inspection, as well as the name and contact details (including telephone and e-mail address) for a point of contact within that authority;

        ii. with respect to inspectors it assigns pursuant to these procedures: (a) the names of the authorities responsible for boarding and inspection; (b) notification that such authorities' inspectors are fully familiar with the fishing activities to be inspected and the provisions of the Convention and conservation and management measures in force; and (c) notification that such authorities' inspectors have received and completed training in carrying out boarding and inspection activities at sea in accordance with any standards and procedures as may be adopted by the Commission;

        iii. an example of the credentials issued to inspectors by the national authority referred to in subparagraph (i) above, except where a Recommendation requires the following ICCAT-approved credential:

Dimensions: Width 10.4cm, Height 7cm

AT **INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNA** **ICCAT** **INSPECTOR IDENTITY CARD** . **Contracting Party:** **Inspector Name:** **Card No.:** **Issue Date:** Validity five years	AT **ICCAT** The holder of this document is an ICCAT inspector duly appointed under the terms of the ICCAT Scheme of Joint International Inspection and has the authority to act under the provision of the ICCAT Control and Enforcement measures CP Authority Inspector

and

        iv. for each inspection vessel designated by a national authority referred to in subparagraph (i) above, its name, description, image, registration number, port of registry and, if different from the port of registry, the name of the port as marked on the hull, international radio call sign and particulars of any other communication capabilities.

b) notify the Executive Secretary of any changes to the information it has provided pursuant to subparagraph (a) above as soon as possible and, in all cases, before a new inspection vessel or national authority participates in the Scheme;
c) ensure that each inspection vessel it authorizes to participate in the Scheme is clearly marked and identifiable as being on government service, and displays the ICCAT inspection flag or pennant approved by the Commission and depicted in **Annex 1 to Appendix 12**;
d) ensure that the inspectors of any inspection vessel authorized and assigned to participate in the Scheme have the authority to inspect the vessel, its license, gear, equipment, records, facilities, fish and fish products and any relevant documents necessary to verify compliance with the Recommendations in force pursuant to the Convention; and
e) ensure that any inspector it authorizes to participate in the Scheme remains under its operational control, is fully familiar with the fishing activities being inspected and has been issued the credentials notified pursuant to this paragraph.

Exchange of inspectors

17. Consistent with *the Resolution by ICCAT amending Resolution 18-11 by ICCAT establishing a Pilot Program for the Voluntary Exchange of Inspection Personnel in fisheries managed by ICCAT* (Res. 19-17), Contracting Parties are encouraged to enter into standing or ad hoc arrangements to allow for an inspector, authorized by a Contracting Party, to be deployed on inspection vessels of another Contracting Party to facilitate communication and coordination for the purpose of implementing the Scheme.

a) Such arrangements should establish a process for the timely identification of the authorized inspection vessels involved and include provisions for the cooperative deployment of personnel and the use of vessels, aircraft or other equipment for fisheries surveillance and law enforcement purposes.

b) In addition to the notification requirements of paragraph 16, the Contracting Parties involved shall notify the Executive Secretary of any arrangement reached under this paragraph.

c) Contracting Parties deploying inspection vessels should, subject to having an agreement as outlined in this paragraph, embark authorized inspectors from another Contracting Party if such inspectors are available. Foreign inspectors may participate in all inspections conducted by the inspection vessel under this Scheme as inspectors or as observing members of the inspection party, as agreed upon by the two Contracting Parties prior to deployment.

Duties of the Executive Secretary

18. The Executive Secretary shall,

a) establish, maintain and post to the secure part of the ICCAT website accessible to all Contracting Parties:

i. a register, including the information notified by the Contracting Parties under subparagraph 16 a); and

ii. information on the arrangements referred to in paragraph 17;

b) issue the ICCAT inspection flag or pennant depicted in **Annex 1 to Appendix 12** of this Recommendation to Contracting Parties deploying inspection vessels pursuant to the Scheme.

Section IV: Inspection

19. Inspection shall be conducted in a transparent, non-discriminatory manner taking into account, *inter alia*, vessel fishing patterns and compliance records, the presence of observers, the frequency and results of prior inspections, and the full range of measures available to monitor compliance with ICCAT Recommendations.

Priorities for inspections

20. The inspecting Contracting Party should give priority to inspecting a fishing vessel:

    a) that does not have an observer deployed - either human observer or an Electronic Monitoring System (EMS) - on the vessel;

    b) that is considered to be large-scale fishing vessel as per *Recommendation by ICCAT amending Recommendation 13-13 concerning the establishment of an ICCAT Record of vessels 20 metres in length overall or greater authorized to operate in the Convention area* (Rec. 21-14);

    c) entitled to fly the flag of a Contracting Party that is eligible for inclusion in the ICCAT Record of Fishing Vessels, but is not included;

    d) where there are reasonable grounds to suspect the fishing vessel is, or has been, engaged in IUU fishing or in any activity in contravention of the ICCAT Convention or Recommendations;

    e) included in the list of vessels that have engaged in IUU fishing adopted by a regional or sub-regional fisheries management organization;

    f) pursuant to a request by a Contracting Party or a regional or sub-regional fisheries management organization supported by evidence of IUU fishing by the vessel in question;

    g) with a known history of violating conservation measures adopted by international agreement or any country's national laws and regulations; or

    h) any other priority criteria identified by the HSBI Steering Group.

Optimal use of inspection resources

21. Contracting Parties shall direct their inspection vessels to seek to establish regular contact with other inspection vessels or coastal States conducting monitoring, control, and surveillance operating in the same area for the purpose of sharing information, as appropriate, on sightings, inspections and other operational elements relevant to their activities under the Scheme.

Fishing vessels without nationality and vessels of undetermined flag

22. In accordance with the notification requirements of paragraph 2(b) of the *Recommendation by ICCAT on vessel sightings* (Rec. 19-09) and taking into account *Recommendation by ICCAT on vessels without nationality* (Rec. 21-12), an inspecting Contracting Party that sights or identifies a fishing vessel without nationality or of indeterminate flag, engaged in fishing activities in the Convention area beyond areas under national jurisdiction, shall report the sighting or identification to the Executive Secretary, who shall forward the reports to all Contracting Parties. Where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that such a fishing vessel is targeting ICCAT species and is stateless, the inspecting Contracting Party may take such action as may be appropriate in accordance with international law and relevant ICCAT Recommendations.

23. In accordance with paragraph 2(b) of the *Recommendation by ICCAT on vessel sightings* (Rec. 19-09), an inspection vessel that sights or identifies a fishing vessel that may be fishing contrary to ICCAT conservation and management measures shall immediately report such sighting to the authorities of the inspecting Contracting Party who shall notify the flag State of the fishing vessel and the Executive Secretary of such sighting.

24. The inspection vessel shall, if possible, advise the Master of the sighted vessel that they are operating within the ICCAT Convention area beyond areas under national jurisdiction and may be fishing contrary to conservation and management measures adopted by ICCAT. The inspecting Contracting Party shall request permission from the flag State of the fishing vessel to board and inspect the fishing vessel. A report of the encounter and of any ensuing inspection shall be transmitted to the flag State of the fishing vessel and to the Executive Secretary.

Duties of the Executive Secretary

25. The Executive Secretary shall,

    a) upon receipt, immediately distribute to the Contracting Parties the reports received pursuant to paragraphs 22, 23, and 24; and

    b) compile, maintain, and post to the secure part of the ICCAT website a list of vessels reported pursuant to paragraphs 22 and 23.

Section V: Boarding and inspection procedures

Conduct of inspections

26. An inspection vessel that intends to undertake boarding and inspection of a fishing vessel entitled to fly the flag of a Contracting Party pursuant to the Scheme shall:

    a) seek to establish contact with the fishing vessel by radio, using the appropriate International Code of Signals or other internationally accepted means of alerting the vessel;

    b) identify itself as an inspection vessel by communicating its name, registration number, international radio call sign and frequency;

    c) advise the vessel of its intention to board and inspect the vessel pursuant to the Scheme;

    d) initiate notice through its authorities to the flag Contracting Party point of contact of the fishing vessel; and

    e) display the ICCAT inspection flag or pennant depicted in **Annex 1 to Appendix 12** in a clearly visible fashion.

27. The inspectors shall make best efforts to communicate with the Master of the fishing vessel in a language that the Master can understand. In doing so, inspectors are encouraged to use modern technology and the multi-language questionnaires developed by the HSBI Steering Group.

28. The number of inspectors assigned to an inspection party by the inspecting Contracting Party shall be determined by the commanding officer of the inspection vessel taking into account relevant circumstances. The inspection party should be as small as possible to conduct an effective inspection safely and securely.

29. Boarding and inspection shall be conducted:

    a) in accordance with generally accepted international standards, regulations, procedures and practices relating to the safety of the fishing vessel and its crew;

    b) in a manner that minimizes undue interference with lawful fishing activities or stowage of the product, and;

    c) to the extent possible, in a manner that avoids:

        i. actions that would adversely affect the quality of the catch; and

        ii. harassment of the fishing vessel, its officers or crew.

30. In conducting an inspection pursuant to this Scheme, the inspectors shall:

    a) upon boarding, present their credentials, in accordance with paragraph 16 (a) (iii), to the Master;

b) present a copy of the text of the relevant measure in force pursuant to the Convention in the relevant area of the high seas;

c) avoid interfering with the Master's ability to communicate with the flag Contracting Party of the fishing vessel;

d) inspect and record such images of the fishing vessel's license, certificate of registry, gear, equipment, electronic monitoring devices such as vessel monitoring system (VMS) and EMS (when applicable) facilities, fish and fish products on board, and logbooks, records and documents as may be necessary to verify compliance with, or identify any suspected infringements of, the ICCAT Convention or Recommendations, including relevant information provided by the Observer - if present;

e) collect, and clearly document in the inspection report, any evidence of a suspected infringement of the ICCAT Convention or Recommendations;

f) take all necessary actions to ensure safekeeping of the evidence pertaining to such suspected infringement;

g) record the inspection and any suspected infringement in the fishing vessel's logbook or, where the vessel's logbook is electronic, provide a written record of the inspection and any suspected infringement;

h) affix an identification mark approved by the Commission to fishing gear inspected which appears to be in contravention of ICCAT Recommendations in force and record this fact in their report;

i) provide the Master with a copy of the inspection report including any objection or statement which the master wishes to include in the report;

j) limit their enquiries to the ascertainment of the observance of the Commission's Recommendations in force in relation to the flag CP of the vessel concerned;

k) complete the inspection within four (4) hours unless evidence of a serious infringement is found, or where a longer time period is required to monitor ongoing fishing operations and obtain related documentation issued by the Master;

l) sign the report in the presence of the Master who should also sign it. If the Master refuses to sign the report, the inspector should record this refusal in the inspection report, and;

m) except where they have reasonable grounds to suspect that the fishing vessel has committed a serious infringement and where other action is authorized pursuant to paragraph 41, promptly leave the vessel following completion of the inspection.

31. Where the inspectors have reasonable grounds to suspect that the fishing vessel has committed an infringement of the ICCAT Convention or Recommendations, they shall seek to so advise, without delay, any inspection vessel of the flag Contracting Party of the fishing vessel that may be present in the vicinity.

Restrictions on the use of force

32. Only when the personal safety of the inspectors whose authorization has been duly verified is endangered may inspectors take appropriate compulsory measures necessary to stop such threat of violence. The use of force shall be avoided except when and to the degree necessary to ensure the safety of the inspectors, and shall not exceed that reasonably required in the circumstances.

33. The inspectors shall promptly report any incident involving the use of force to their national authorities responsible for at-sea inspection, who shall advise the contact point of the flag Contracting Party of the fishing vessel, and the Executive Secretary.

Duties of the Master of the fishing vessel

34. Each Contracting Party shall require that the Master of every fishing vessel entitled to fly its flag:

a) when signalled by an inspection vessel displaying the ICCAT flag or pennant, using the International Code of Signals, accepts and, to the extent compatible with good seamanship, facilitates boarding by the inspectors, unless the vessel is directly engaged in fishing activities, in which case the Master shall manoeuvre to safely facilitate boarding as soon as possible;

b) provides a standardized boarding ladder and ensures safety measures are in place to prevent and respond as required to an accident during boarding, and ensures that the boarding ladder meets the requirements of IMO Resolution A.889(21);

c) cooperates with and assists in the inspection;

d) facilitates the inspection of, and provides access to such equipment, catch, gear and documents as the inspectors may consider necessary to verify compliance with the ICCAT Convention or Recommendations;

e) ensures that the crew avoids interfering with or obstructing the inspectors in the performance of their duties;

f) facilitates the taking of samples of processed fish by inspectors, for the purpose of species identification through DNA analysis;

g) makes available the use of the vessel's communication equipment and operator, to the extent required by the inspectors;

h) facilitates communication by the inspectors with the crew and the flag Contracting Party of the inspection vessel;

i) provides the inspectors with reasonable facilities, including, where appropriate, food and accommodation;

j) takes such action as may be necessary to preserve the integrity of any seal affixed by an inspector and of any evidence remaining on board;

k) where the inspectors have made an entry in the logbooks, provides the inspectors with a copy of each page where such entry appears and, at the request of the inspector, signs each page to confirm that it is a true copy;

l) refrains from resuming fishing activity until the inspectors have completed the inspection and, in the case of a serious infringement, secured the evidence; and

m) facilitates the safe disembarkation of the inspectors;

n) resistance to inspectors or failure to comply with their direction shall be treated by the flag CP of inspected vessels in a manner similar to such conduct committed with respect their national authorities and shall be responsible to them.

Refusal of boarding and inspection

35. Where the Master of a fishing vessel refuses to allow boarding and inspection pursuant to this Scheme, the inspecting Contracting Party shall immediately so advise the point of contact of the flag Contracting Party of the fishing vessel and the Executive Secretary.

36. Upon receiving notification under paragraph 35, the flag Contracting Party of the fishing vessel shall:

    a) except where generally accepted international regulations, procedures or practices relating to safety at sea make it necessary to delay the inspection, direct the Master to accept the inspection forthwith; and

    b) where the Master does not comply with such direction:

        i. order the Master to justify the refusal;

        ii. where appropriate, take action in accordance with subparagraphs 43 (a) and (b); and

        iii. promptly notify the Executive Secretary and the inspecting Contracting Party of the action it has taken.

Section VI: Inspection report and follow-up

Inspection reports

37. Each Contracting Party shall require that its inspectors:

    a) upon completion of an inspection, complete an inspection report in the form set out in **Annex 2 to Appendix 12**;

    b) sign the inspection report in the presence of the Master, who shall be given the opportunity to add or have added to the report any observations;

    c) request the Master to sign the report only as an acknowledgement of receipt; and

    d) before disembarking, provide a copy of the report to the Master, duly noting any refusal by the Master to acknowledge receipt.

Transmission and dissemination of inspection reports

38. Upon completion of the inspection, the inspecting Contracting Party shall transmit the inspection report, including a copy of all documents, and photographs taken within 30 days, or sooner if possible, to the point of contact of the flag Contracting Party of the fishing vessel and to the Executive Secretary.

39. Notwithstanding paragraph 38, where inspectors have noted a serious infringement in the inspection report, the inspecting Contracting Party shall transmit, within 5 days, a copy of the inspection report and all supporting documents, images or audio recordings, to the point of contact of the flag Contracting Party of the fishing vessel and to the Executive Secretary.

Section VII: Procedures relating to serious infringements

Serious infringements

40. Each of the following constitutes a serious infringement:

    a) fishing without a valid license, permit or authorization;

    b) significant failure to maintain accurate records of catch or catch related data in contravention of the ICCAT Convention or Recommendations, or significant misreporting of catch or catch related data;

    c) fishing in a closed area;

    d) fishing during a closed season;

e) intentional taking or retention of species in contravention of ICCAT Recommendations;

f) significantly exceeding applicable catch limits or quotas;

g) intentional removal of fins and discarding of shark carcasses at sea in contravention of the *Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by ICCAT* (Rec. 04-10);

h) using prohibited fishing gear;

i) falsifying or intentionally concealing the markings, identity or registration of a fishing vessel or its gear, or failing to mark fishing gear;

j) concealing, tampering with or disposing of evidence related to an inspection or investigation of an infringement, including the breaking or tampering of marks or seals, or accessing sealed areas;

k) committing multiple infringements which, taken together, constitute a serious disregard of the ICCAT Convention or Recommendations;

l) assaulting, resisting, intimidating, harassing, interfering with, obstructing or unduly delaying inspectors or observers in the performance of their duties;

m) tampering with, disabling, or interfering with the vessel monitoring system (VMS) of the fishing vessel where VMS is required by ICCAT Recommendations;

n) operating a fishing vessel without VMS in contravention of ICCAT Recommendations;

o) presenting falsified documents or providing false information to an inspector so as to prevent a serious infringement from being detected;

p) fishing with the assistance of spotter planes in contravention of ICCAT Recommendations;

q) failure for the master of a vessel flagged to a Contracting Party to submit to an inspection;

r) transshipping at sea in contravention of ICCAT Recommendations;

s) operating a fishing vessel without an observer or EMS in contravention of ICCAT Recommendations;

t) such other violations identified as a serious infringement in future ICCAT Recommendations; and

u) not providing to ICCAT inspectors a boarding ladder meeting the requirements mentioned in paragraph 34 (b) to facilitates safe access to any fishing vessel.

Duties of the inspectors

41. Each Contracting Party shall require that, where its inspectors have noted a serious infringement in the inspection report, they:

a) immediately notify their national authority responsible for at-sea inspection of all relevant particulars;

b) take all such measures as may be required to ensure the security and continuity of the evidence, including, as appropriate, marking or sealing the vessel's hold or gear for further investigation; and

c) where feasible, advise any inspection vessel of the flag Contracting Party of the fishing vessel they know to be in the vicinity of the serious infringement and of the action they have taken.

Duties of the inspecting Contracting Party

42. Where notified by its inspectors of a serious infringement, the inspecting Contracting Party shall immediately transmit written notification of the serious infringement and a description of the supporting evidence to the point of contact of the flag Contracting Party of the fishing vessel and to the Executive Secretary.

Duties of the flag Contracting Party of the fishing vessel

43. Upon receiving notification pursuant to paragraph 42, the flag Contracting Party of the fishing vessel shall:

    a) acknowledge receipt of the notification without delay;

    b) require that the fishing vessel concerned:

        i. ceases all fishing activity until it is satisfied that the infringement will not continue or be repeated and has so notified the Master;

        ii. where appropriate to the conduct of a full and thorough investigation, proceed immediately to a port or other location it designates for investigation under its authority; and

        iii. report to the Executive Secretary the measures it has taken pursuant to its laws in relation to the infringement.

44. The flag Contracting Party of the fishing vessel may authorize the inspecting Contracting Party to take such enforcement action as it may specify with respect to the vessel. It may also authorize an inspector from another Contracting Party to board or remain on board the vessel as it proceeds to port and to participate in the port inspection.

Failure of the flag Contracting Party to respond

45. Where the flag Contracting Party of the fishing vessel fails to take action as required pursuant to paragraph 43, the inspectors shall immediately so advise their national authority responsible for at-sea inspection and record the failure in the inspection report.

46. The inspecting Contracting Party shall notify the Executive Secretary of the flag Contracting Party's failure to respond.

47. The flag Contracting Party shall, without delay, provide to the Executive Secretary a written explanation of its failure to respond.

Duties of the Executive Secretary

48. The Executive Secretary shall,

    a) upon receipt, post any notifications received pursuant to paragraphs 42 or 46, and any explanation received pursuant to paragraph 43, to the secure part of the ICCAT website;

    b) transmit, upon receipt, the justification received pursuant to paragraph 47 to the inspecting Contracting Party;

    c) maintain a record of actions reported by the flag Contracting Party pursuant to paragraph 43, post such record to the secure part of the ICCAT website, and refer the information to the Commission for its consideration; and

d) review a serious violation under the procedures described in the *Recommendation by ICCAT amending Recommendation 18-08 on establishing a list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities* (Rec. 21-13), taking into account any response actions and other follow-up.

Section VIII: Follow-up enforcement action

Cooperation

49. Contracting Parties shall cooperate to facilitate judicial or other proceedings initiated as follow-up to a report submitted by an inspector pursuant to the Scheme.

National treatment

50. Each Contracting Party shall:

a) without prejudice to their national legislation, treat interference by its fishing vessels, their Masters or crew with an inspector or an inspection vessel of another Contracting Party in the same manner as interference with its own inspectors within areas under its national jurisdiction; and

b) accord treatment to reports of inspections conducted by inspectors of another Contracting Party consistent with that accorded to reports of their own inspectors.

Duties of the Flag Contracting Party of the fishing vessel

51. A Contracting Party that has been notified of an infringement committed by a fishing vessel entitled to fly its flag shall:

a) investigate immediately and fully, including as appropriate, by physically inspecting the fishing vessel at the earliest opportunity or, authorize the inspecting Contracting Party to take enforcement action as appropriate under the circumstances;

b) cooperate with the inspecting Contracting Party to preserve the evidence in a form that will facilitate proceedings in accordance with its laws;

c) if the evidence so warrants, take judicial or administrative action, as appropriate; and

d) ensure that any sanctions applied are adequate in severity to be effective in securing compliance, deterring further infringements and, to the extent possible, depriving the offenders of the benefits accruing from the infringement, including, *inter alia*:

i. fines;
ii. seizure of the fishing vessel, illegal fishing gear and/or catches;
iii. suspension or withdrawal of authorization to fish; and
iv. reduction or cancellation of any fishing allocations.

e) notify the Executive Secretary of the measures taken pursuant to this paragraph as soon as possible.

Section IX: Annual compliance report

Reports by the Contracting Parties

52. Each Contracting Party shall for the period ending on September 30 of that year, include in its annual report to the Commission, a summary of:

a) the boarding and inspection activities it has conducted pursuant to the Scheme;

b) the action it has taken in response to reported infringements by its fishing vessels, including any enforcement procedures and the sanctions it may have applied; and

c) an explanation regarding every reported infringement concerning which it has taken no action.

Report of the Executive Secretary

53. The Executive Secretary shall submit to the ICCAT Commission before each annual meeting a report setting out a description of:

a) the boarding and inspection activities and follow-up actions taken, as reported by each Contracting Party, for the period ending 30 September;

b) the instances where boarding and inspection was refused by a fishing vessel of a Contracting Party, and any follow-up action taken by that Contracting Party in respect of such fishing vessel; and

c) the cases where force was used including the reported circumstances thereof.

Section X: Coming into force, transition from existing schemes, and review

54. This Recommendation shall become effective as of 1 January 2027, except that application of this Scheme in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna and Mediterranean swordfish fisheries may be further delayed until such time as the Commission agrees that the specificities of the inspection schemes included in the relevant Recommendations for those fisheries have been fully incorporated into the Scheme in this Recommendation.

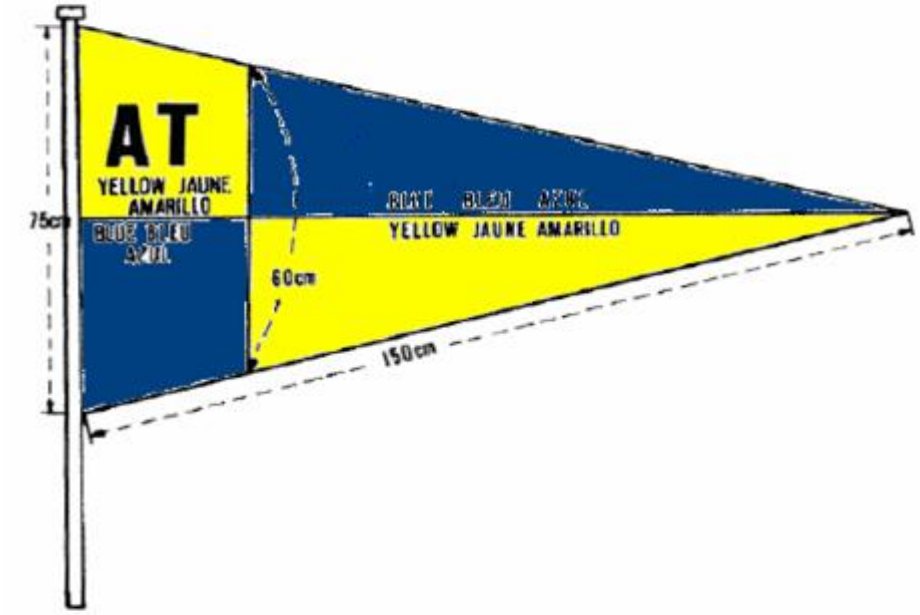
55. This Scheme shall be reviewed by the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG), to identify areas for improvement, no more than 2 years after adoption and at regular intervals thereafter.

56. An HSBI Steering Group (HSBI SG) shall be established, to begin meeting regularly in 2027 to develop an HSBI joint strategic plan, as laid out in **Annex 3 to Appendix 12**. At its first meeting, the HSBI SG will elect a Chair from among its members. All CPs are encouraged to participate in the Group. Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities, or Fishing Entities (CNCPs) may attend as observers. The HSBI SG will consist of no more than [one] [two] participant[s] from each CPC, participating as experts in HSBI. The reports of the HSBI SG will be circulated to the Commission and submitted to the PWG, for consideration during its annual review of this Recommendation.

Annex 1 to Appendix 1

ICCAT Inspection Flag or Pennant

ICCAT Pennant



Annex 2 to Appendix 12

ICCAT Boarding and Inspection Report Form

1. Inspection report No.		2. Inspection Vessel			
3. Inspecting authority					
4. Name of principal inspector			ID		
5. Location of inspection (as determined by inspecting vessel)	Lat.		Long.		
6. Location of inspection (as determined by fishing vessel)	Lat.		Long.		
7. Commencement of inspection	YYYY	MM	DD	HH	
8. Completion of inspection	YYYY	MM	DD	HH	
9. Last port and date of last port call			YYYY	MM	DD
10. Vessel name					
11. Flag State					
12. Type of vessel					
13. International Radio Call Sign					
14. Certificate of registry ID					
15. IMO ship ID, if available					
16. External ID, if available					
17. Port of registry					
18. Vessel owner(s) and address					
19. Vessel beneficial owner(s), (if known and different from vessel owner) and address					
20. Vessel operator(s), if different from vessel owner					
21. Vessel master name and nationality					
22. Fishing master name and nationality					
23. Vessel agent					
24. VMS	Type:				

25. Status in ICCAT and other RFMOs, including any IUU vessel listing

Vessel identifier	RFMO	Flag State status	Vessel on authorized vessel list	Vessel on IUU vessel list

26. Relevant fishing authorization(s)

Identifier	*Issued by*	*Validity*	*Fishing area(s)*	*Species*	*Gear*

27. Catch retained onboard (quantity)

Species	*Product form*	*Catch area(s)*	*Quantity declared*	*Quantity retained (based on inspection)*

28. Examination of logbook(s) and other documentation	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments*
29. Compliance with applicable catch documentation scheme(s)	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments*
30. Compliance with applicable statistical document scheme(s)	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments*

31. Type of gear used	

32. Gear examined	*Yes*	*No*	*Comments*

33. Findings by inspector(s)

34. Description of photographs taken

35. Apparent infringement(s) noted including reference to relevant legal instrument(s)

36. Comments by the Master
37. Action taken
38. Master's signature*
39. Inspector's signature

* The Master's signature serves only as acknowledgment of receipt of a copy of the inspection report.

Annex 3 to Appendix 12

HSBI Joint Strategic Plan for planning, participation and assessment

Each year, a HSBI Joint Strategic Plan (JSP) will be established by the HSBI Steering Group (HSBI SG). Activities will be implemented according to the following phases: planning, implementation and participation, and assessment and evaluation.

Planning

HSBI activities are year-round activities covering a wide range of fisheries with ongoing information exchange and activity planning informed by risk assessment outcomes and the availability of CP personnel and assets.

At the HSBI SG, CPs may engage in the discussion of HSBI activities and assessment of the risks of non-compliance with ICCAT measures, taking into account, *inter alia*, the potential impact on the stocks, main fishing areas and IUU threats, to help inform inspection priorities annually, in accordance with an agreed risk-assessment methodology and planning framework, as follows:

- Strategic planning: to support long-term spatial and temporal planning for the conduct of HSBI activities, aligned with CP availability and broader compliance objectives, without prescribing specific operational actions;
- Risk management: to highlight priority fisheries and areas/fleets under specific threats;
- Operational cooperation: to facilitate the exchange of best practices and targets on a short-term tactical level.

Implementation and participation

The Joint Strategic Plan shall inform the deployment of CP inspection resources. Participating CPs shall seek to conduct HSBI activities in alignment with the HSBI Joint Strategic Plan in a manner that ensures broad participation, including through the voluntary exchange of inspection personnel, as laid out in Rec. 19-17. The Scheme will be implemented through at least four levels:

- The implementation of the HSBI Joint Strategic Plan shall be done in consultation with the ICCAT Secretariat and CPs, through a regular meeting of the HSBI SG;
- A protocol facilitating participation and establishing mechanisms for inspectors from one CP to board the inspection vessels of other CPs;
- HSBI Contact Points including from the ICCAT Secretariat and participating CPs, responsible for the reporting obligations set out in this Scheme, and;
- Mechanisms for exchanging information necessary, as described above.

Assessment and evaluation

The HSBI Steering Group, with the assistance of the ICCAT Secretariat, shall review the implementation of the Joint Strategic Plan annually. A report detailing HSBI activities that took place the previous year shall be presented annually to the PWG for its review.

At a minimum, this report shall include details on the number of inspection resources deployed, geographic areas and time periods covered, participating CPs, details of the inspections and sightings carried out, infringements detected and their type, as well as details of their notification to the flag CPs and any actions taken by flag CPs in response to such notifications.

Appendix 13

Discussion paper on the next steps for the development of an electronic Port State Measures system for ICCAT fisheries [IMM_07/i2026]
(*presented by the United Kingdom*)

Summary

This paper is intended to facilitate a discussion at the 19th IMM Meeting on the electronic exchange of information related to Port State Measures. This paper considers the options available to ICCAT for the creation of an electronic Port State Measures (e-PSM) system. It invites CPCs to share their views, evaluate any existing systems that might meet ICCAT's needs, and consider how to minimise costs, avoid creating extra or duplicate work and, in the long term, minimise additional process work process time for the ICCAT Secretariat.

At the 18th IMM Meeting, CPCs expressed interest in adding language to *Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 23-17 on port State measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing* (Rec. 25-11) to reference and explore the potential use of the Agreement on Port State Measures (PSMA) Global Information Exchange System (GIES). The PSMA GIES is an FAO-led digital platform that enables port States and other authorities to securely share information on fishing vessels and port inspection outcomes. The GIES supports countries in implementing the PSMA and prevent illegally caught fish from entering global markets. At its 2025 Annual Meeting, ICCAT adopted the Rec. 25-11. The United Kingdom extends its appreciation to CPCs for their support in strengthening this important measure, particularly in relation to improving real-time information exchange, which is critical to minimise the risk of IUU-caught fish reaching the market.

Recommendation 25-11 tasks the Secretariat with examining options for accessing and/or sharing relevant information with the PSMA GIES to avoid duplicative reporting for PSMA signatories, with findings to be presented to the IMM. This discussion paper is intended to complement the Secretariat's findings, to be presented to the 19th IMM meeting, and explores the options for further modernising ICCAT's port State control framework. This proposal examines the feasibility and potential scope of developing an ICCAT electronic Port State Measures (e-PSM) system, including consideration of utilising and/or building on existing platforms, such as the GIES system or the IOTC e-PSM system, that could either meet ICCAT's requirements or serve as a foundation for further development. The overall aim is to enable efficient, secure, and interoperable exchange of port-related information among CPCs.

Background

Recommendation 25-11 highlights that each CPC should "utilise a communication mechanism, including the use of national, regional systems and, for example, the Global Information Exchange System where appropriate, that allows for direct electronic exchange of information…". It further tasks the Secretariat to "examine potential options to access and/or share relevant information with the FAO Global Information Exchange System (GIES)… with the aim to avoid duplication of reporting requirements… and present its findings to IMM in 2026."

The Secretariat's findings will help ICCAT consider all the options for a more integrated digital approach that facilitates secure, timely information exchange on port entry requests, inspection outcomes, and potential infringements to inform effective decision making at port. An e-PSM system would help streamline communication among CPCs, ensuring that critical information reaches port authorities and flag States in a timely manner and in a standardised form. It would also reduce administrative burden by automating data flows that are currently manual, minimising the risk of errors or delays. In addition, an electronic system would strengthen risk assessment by enabling CPCs to cross-check vessel histories, inspection records, and IUU listings in real time.

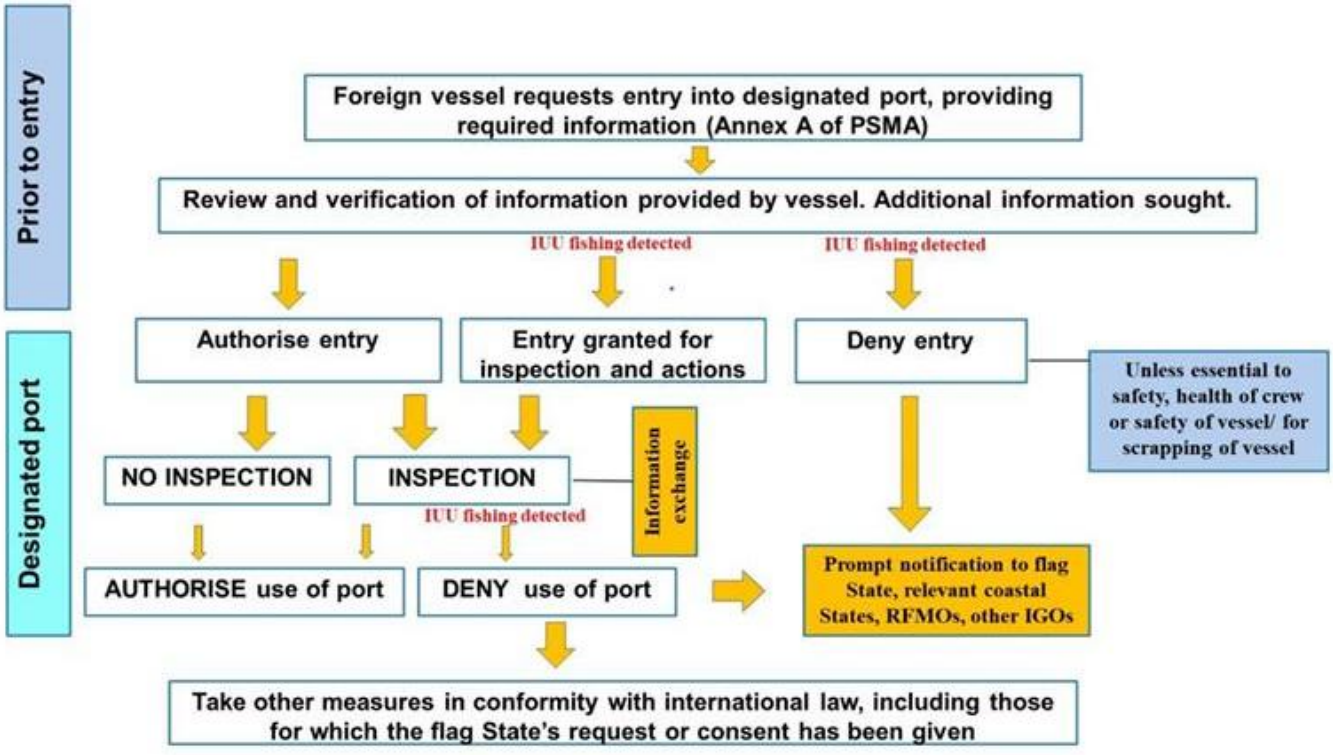
By improving traceability and data consistency across the Convention area, an e-PSM system would enhance the overall effectiveness of ICCAT's monitoring, control and surveillance regime while supporting CPCs in meeting both ICCAT and PSMA reporting obligations (where appropriate).

Alignment with global developments

Other regional fisheries bodies are also advancing the digitalisation of port State information exchange and connecting their systems to the PSMA GIES to meet PSMA reporting obligations. The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) operates an e-PSM system that has been connected to GIES since January 2025, making it the first RFMO to automatically transfer PSMA related data into the platform. This year IOTC agreed to provide its e-PSM system to ICCAT to adapt and utilise at ICCAT's cost (**Annex 1 to Appendix 13**). This could support greater alignment in e-PSM approaches across RFMOs and, where appropriate, facilitate more consistent information exchange. The Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) launched its e-PSM system in 2024, with full operational capability reached in April 2025, becoming the second system globally to automatically transmit inspection reports directly to GIES. In addition, the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) agreed in 2025 to work towards transmitting relevant information to GIES. Other RFMOs are also exploring the utilisation of e-PSM systems such as GIES. Ongoing FAO enhancements to GIES further strengthen the case for exploring an ICCAT-specific digital system that aligns with, and complements, these global developments. There is an opportunity to learn best practices and challenges from these other RFMOs that are leading the way on the development and utilisation of e-PSM systems.

Potential elements of an ICCAT e-PSM system

An ICCAT e-PSM system could offer a simple digital way for CPCs to meet their obligations under Rec. 25-11 throughout the whole process. This includes the sharing of key port inspection information and intelligence in real time to ensure consistency in decision making between members while minimising resource requirements. At its core, the system would allow a vessel master or the agent of the vessel (owner/operator) to submit their port entry requests electronically and in a standard format, making it easier for relevant port authorities to review and validate information before a vessel arrives. Relevant authorities could also upload decisions made at port including inspection findings electronically, helping flag States receive information on time and in the same format, especially for potential infringements. The below image indicates how information could be shared across the various port stages and an image in **Annex 2 to Appendix 13** indicates IOTC's current e-PSM information exchange process.



The system could also help countries identify higher-risk vessels by automatically checking information against ICCAT's IUU Vessel List and other risk assessment mechanisms. Basic data summaries and alerts from intelligence sharing between States could support CPCs in spotting patterns or concerns more easily, without requiring additional reporting. Importantly, an ICCAT system could link smoothly with national systems and the GIES, meaning countries would not need to report the same information twice. This will help align ICCAT's work with global efforts to modernise port controls. The UK has identified four potential options for an ICCAT e-PSM system. Our initial findings and considerations are summarised in the table below.

Option	Approach	What this would involve	Key considerations
1. Develop a bespoke ICCAT e-PSM system linked to GIES	ICCAT builds its own electronic PSM platform and connects it to FAO's GIES	• ICCAT develops a dedicated e-PSM system • System links to GIES to share agreed data (e.g. port entry, port denials, inspection reports) • ICCAT acts as a connector between national/regional CPC systems	• Likely expensive and resource-intensive • Would require extensive consultation with external contractors • High level of ICCAT ownership and control
2. New IOMS module	A new e-PSM module is developed in the ICCAT Integrated Online Management System (IOMS)	• Integrate e-PSM elements into IOMS • Share required data with GIES for the CPCs which have signed the PSMA	• More efficient use of CPC time and budget • Builds on systems already in use • Technical and practical feasibility would need to be assessed. This PSM module is not included in the IOMS priority/developments list, nor its timeline. This should be amended by the WG-ORT and time-cost estimated accordingly
3. Use GIES as ICCAT's e-PSM platform	ICCAT uses the FAO GIES platform as its e-PSM system (subject to PSMA Secretariat agreement)	• Build additional ICCAT-specific requirements into GIES • Allow reporting by all ICCAT members, including non-PSMA Parties • Link ICCAT data directly with GIES	• Dependent on agreement from the PSMA Secretariat • Technical and political feasibility currently unclear • ICCAT Secretariat have indicated that costs may be covered by the PSMA Secretariat • ICCAT Secretariat have informed us that new developments and evolutionary maintenance are being carried out by the PSMA Secretariat. ICCAT's ability to influence the timelines and delivery schedule for the next phases of the GIES will be limited
4. Adapting the existing IOTC e-PSM system (Annex 1)	ICCAT adapts an existing e-PSM system developed by another RFMO such as IOTC	• Explore use of the IOTC e-PSM system • System could also share data across two RFMOs	• Requires close cooperation between ICCAT and IOTC Secretariats • Potentially less expensive than option 1 • Would require consultation with external contractors • Some level of ICCAT ownership and control

Each option varies in cost and complexity, and IMM in collaboration with the Secretariat should explore which approach offers the best balance of affordability, practicality and benefit. The United Kingdom suggests that option two and four should be explored in greater detail.

Conclusion

The Rec. 25-11 establishes a clear direction of travel for ICCAT: strengthening information exchange and harnessing electronic communication mechanisms to support effective PSM implementation.

The development of an ICCAT electronic PSM system presents an opportunity to:

- advance ICCAT's monitoring, control and surveillance framework,
- improve efficiency and integrity of port-State operations,
- reduce duplication of effort for CPCs,
- enhance cooperation with national, regional and global systems, and
- minimise the risk of IUU fishing in the Convention area

The UK looks forward to working collaboratively with CPCs and the ICCAT Secretariat as we explore the feasibility and options for such a system.

Next steps

At the 19th IMM meeting, we propose that ICCAT should:

- discuss and consider the options outlined above, examine potential cost as well as the positives and negatives of each approach.
- agree a maximum of two options which can be taken forward and explored further.
- provide clear request to the Secretariat as to how these options should be assessed for example costs, technical concerns etc.

Following the 19th IMM meeting, we propose that the Secretariat should:

- continue engagement with FAO (on the PSMA GIES) and if relevant with IOTC (on potential adaptation of their e-PSM system).
- compile all further information/considerations for presentation at the PWG in November 2026.

Annex 1 to Appendix 13

IOTC electronic PSM system for potential adaptation for ICCAT

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS

COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'ATLANTIQUE

ICCAT CICTA CICAA

ICCAT-SALIDA
2026-01-20
S26-00353

COMISION INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACION DEL ATUN ATLANTICO

IOTC-2026-S30-09

20 January 2026

Mr Paul De Bruyn
Executive Secretary
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission – IOTC
SEYCHELLES

SUBJECT: EXPLORATION OF THE IOTC E-PSM SYSTEM FOR POTENTIAL ADAPTATION FOR ICCAT

Dear Mr Paul De Bruyn

During the 29th Regular Meeting of the Commission, a new Recommendation on Port State measures to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing, aimed at bringing the ICCAT Port Inspection Scheme in line with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA), was approved.

It was noted that there is a need to develop an information system to support the effective implementation of port State measures, capable of exchanging relevant information with the FAO's Global Information Exchange System (GIES), with a view to avoiding duplication of reporting for those CPCs that are signatories to the PSMA. In this context, the Secretariat was invited to explore the possibility of adapting the existing electronic port State measures system (e-PSM) of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC).

With a view to responding to this request of the Commission and assessing the suitability of the aforementioned system for ICCAT's needs, we are contacting you to seek your guidance on the possible next steps. In particular, we should welcome the opportunity to exchange information on the design of the IOTC e-PSM system and its relevant technical components, including, where appropriate, source code, technical specifications, system architecture, and technologies used. Kindly note that should any costs be incurred, they will be borne by ICCAT.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Executive Secretary

Camille Jean Pierre Manel

cc: Mr Gerard Domingue, Compliance Manager, IOTC
Mr Florian Giroux, Compliance Coordinator, IOTC

Corazón de María, 8 – 28002 MADRID – Spain, Espagne, España – Tel: +34 91 416 5600 – Fax+34 91 415 2612 – *http://www.iccat.int- info@iccat.int*

Annex 2 to Appendix 13

IOTC e-PSM process

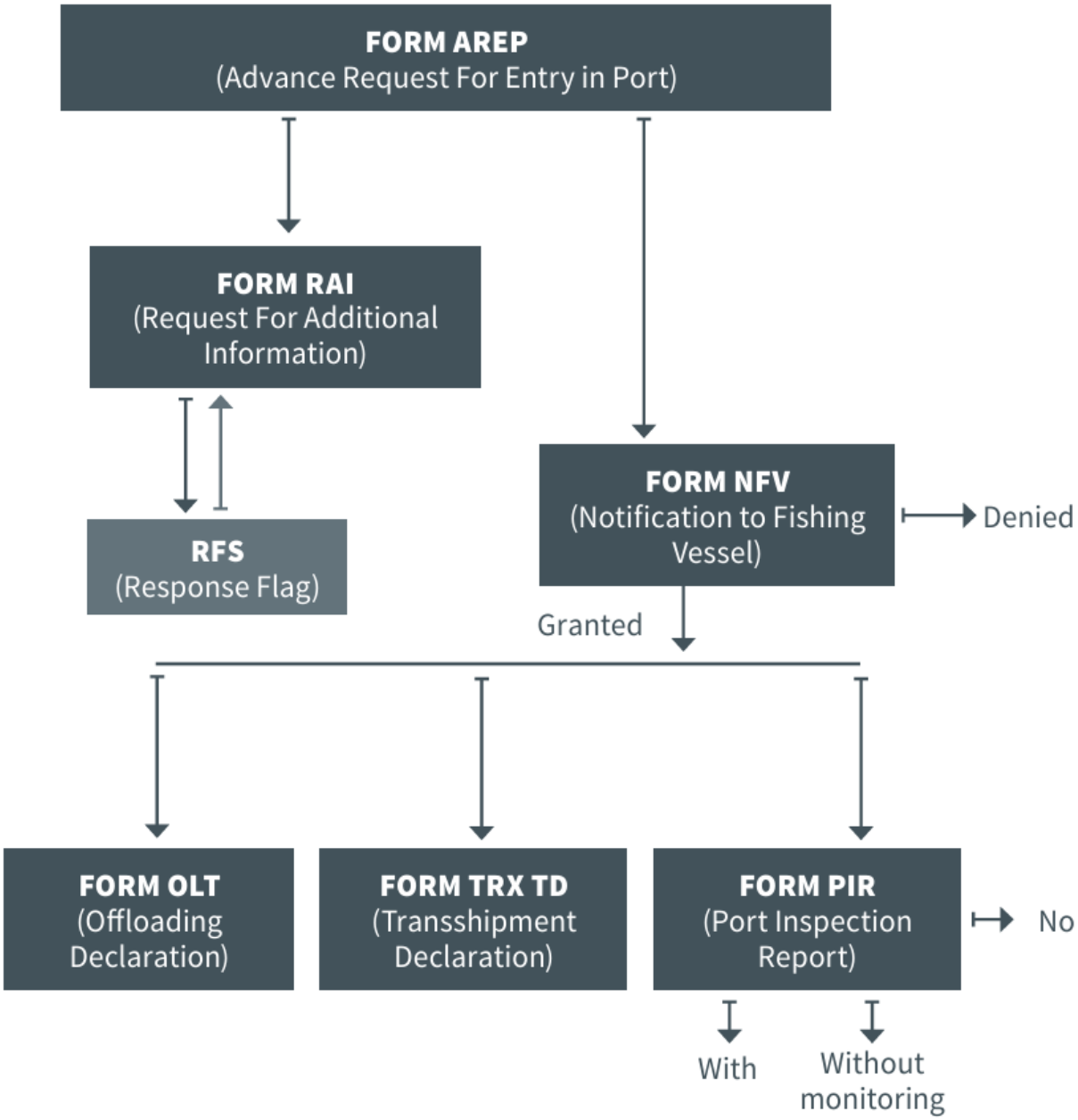


Figure 1 *The e-PSM process*

Appendix 14

Discussion paper on IMO number and ICCAT Record of fishing vessels
(presented by the European Union)

1. IMO number

In 2017, the International Maritime Organization of the United Nations (IMO) adopted Resolution A.1117(30), expanding the IMO number eligibility criteria to all motorised inboard fishing vessels, including wooden ones, down to a size limit of 12 metres authorised to operate outside waters under the national jurisdiction of the flag State.

The IMO number has been identified as the best tool for uniquely identifying a vessel. Unlike call signs, names, external marks, or other registration numbers, IMO numbers remain consistent and permanent throughout a vessel's lifecycle. This is why an IMO number constitutes a basic tool in the fight against Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, counteracting methods such as changing the name, ownership or flag of fishing vessels, which can be used to continue illegal fishing activities.

The 31st session of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Committee on Fisheries (COFI) agreed that the IMO number should be used as the Unique Vessel Identifier (UVI) for Phase I of the Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels (the Global Record). UVIs are recognised as a prerequisite for the successful implementation of this Global Record.

Obtaining an IMO number does not incur any costs for the operator or administration. IHS Maritime (IHSM), manages the IMO scheme and assigns IMO numbers on behalf of the IMO. Applications can be made online (here) using the free registration system, or by post. IHSM, at its discretion, may also issue IMO numbers in bulk (i.e. to multiple vessels) following a request from a flag State.

The details that must be submitted to IHSM in the application form are relatively comprehensive, but in general, they are in-line with data requested by flag States at the time of registration, so it should not place too much of a workload on administrations or operators.

Since then, Resolution A.1117(30) has been implemented by most of the main Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) (all except General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) and the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)) (see **Annex 1 to Appendix 14**). At the annual GFCM meeting in November 2025, there was a proposal to extend the requirements for having an IMO number to vessels equal to or greater than 15 metres in overall length that fish in waters outside the jurisdiction of their flag CPC.

2. Scope of the ICCAT Record of fishing vessels

IMO number requirements in ICCAT are included in *Recommendation by ICCAT amending Recommendation 13-13 concerning the establishment of an ICCAT Record of vessels 20 metres in length overall or greater authorized to operate in the Convention area* (Rec. 21-14) establishing an ICCAT Record of vessels 20 metres in length overall authorise to operate in the ICCAT Convention area.

The general rule is that only vessels equal to or greater than 20 metres have to be included in the ICCAT Vessel register. However, specific rules for swordfish and albacore in the Mediterranean, and for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean require that all catching vessels, regardless of length, authorised to fish actively for these species, be reported to the ICCAT Secretariat. This means that, in practice, all or almost all vessels actively fishing for ICCAT species in the Mediterranean must be included in the Record, while in Atlantic fisheries only vessels over 20 metres are included.

This significant disparity and asymmetry between the Mediterranean and the Atlantic not only create an unlevel playing field between coastal CPCs in these two sea basins, but also leads to a significant lack of basic information that prevents from obtaining a clear picture of the fleet and fishing importance of the different CPCs.

As an example, of the approximately 14,217 vessels in the Vessel record, 4,534 (31,9%) are less than 4 metres and 5,474 (38,5%) are between 4 and 8 metres (see **Annex 2 to Appendix 14**).

It should also be noted that the obligation to have an operational Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) now exists for vessels over 15 meters.

3. Conclusion

Addressing these two aspects, the European Union (EU) highlights the importance of adapting Recommendation 21-14 to extend the requirement to have an IMO number and to register fishing vessels targeting ICCAT species in the ICCAT Record of vessels, to all fishing vessels with an overall length of 15 metres or more.

An example of the amendment required to *Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 21-14 concerning the establishment of an ICCAT Record of vessels 20 metres in length overall or greater authorized to operate in the Convention area* (Rec. 25-12) concerning the ICCAT Record of vessels in included in **Annex 3 to Appendix 14** of this discussion paper.

Annex 1 to Appendix 14

IMO number requirements in the main RFMOs

RFMO	*IMO No. requirement*	*Follows IMO Resolution A.1117(30)*	*RFMO Measure*
CCAMLR	12 m	Yes	Conservation Measure 10-02 (2022)
CCSBT	12 m	Yes	Resolution on a CCSBT Record of vessels of authorised to fish for southern bluefin tuna
GFCM	20 m	No (non-binding)	Resolution GFCM 44/2021/6 on the application of an IMO number on the application of the IMO number, amending Resolution GFCM/41/2017/6
IATTC	12 m	Yes	Resolution (amended) on a regional vessel register
ICCAT	20 m	No	Recommendation by ICCAT amending Recommendation 13-13 concerning the establishment of an ICCAT Record of vessels 20 metres in length overall or greater authorised to operate in the Convention area
IOTC	12 m	Yes	Resolution 19/04 concerning the IOTC Record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC area of competence
NAFO	12 m	Yes	NAFO conservation and enforcement measures 2023
NEAFC	12 m	Yes	NEAFC scheme of control and enforcement
NPFC	12 m	Yes	Conservation and management measure on information requirements for vessel registration
SEAFO	All vessels	Yes	SEAFO-System of observation, inspection, compliance and enforcement 2024
SIOFA	12 m	Yes	Conservation and management measure for vessel authorisation and notification to fish (vessel authorisation)
SPRFMO	12 m	Yes	CMM 05-2022 conservation and management measure for the establishment of the commission record of vessels authorised to fish in the Convention area
WCPFC	12 m	Yes	CMM 2018-06 – Conservation and management measure on the record of fishing vessels and authorisation to fish

Source: Enhancing vessel identification in GFCM: The need to strengthen IMO number standards. May 2024. Oceana, Environmental Justice Foundation, WWF – corrected.

Annex 2 to Appendix 14

Number of vessels in the ICCAT Record of fishing vessels broken down by total length

LOA (meters)	*Number of vessels*
<4	4534
4-8	5474
8-12	2154
12-15	1003
15-20	502
>20	3963
Total	

Source: ICCAT Record of fishing vessels, July 2025.

Annex 3 to Appendix 14

Potential amendments to Recommendation 25-12

Draft Recommendation by ICCAT ~~replacing Recommendation 21-14~~ concerning the establishment of an ICCAT Record of vessels ~~20 metres in length overall or greater~~ authorized to operate in the Convention area

RECALLING that ICCAT adopted at its 2000 meeting a *Recommendation by ICCAT concerning registration and exchange of information of fishing vessels fishing for tuna and tuna-like species in the Convention area* (Rec. 00-17);

FURTHER RECALLING that the~~–~~ United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Council adopted on 23 June 2001 an International Plan of Action (IPOA) aiming to prevent, to deter and to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, that this plan stipulates that the regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) should take action to strengthen and develop innovative ways, in conformity with international law, to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing and in particular to establish records of vessels authorized and records of vessels engaged in IUU fishing;

FURTHER RECALLING that the Commission, in 2002, established an ICCAT Record of Vessels 24 meters in length overall or greater and then, in 2009, expanded the list to include all vessels 20 meters in length overall or greater;

ACKNOWLEDGING that in 2017 the International Maritime Organization (IMO) adopted Resolution~~-~~ A.1117(30), expanding the IMO Number eligibility criteria to all motorised inboard fishing vessels, including wooden ones, down to a size limit of 12 metres authorised to operate outside waters under the national jurisdiction of the flag State;

RECOGNIZING the utility and practicality of using IMO numbers as a unique vessel identifier (UVI) for fishing vessels;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the added value of identifying active vessels for monitoring and scientific purposes;

NOTING paragraph 32 of Recommendation by ICCAT on a multi-annual conservation and management programme for tropical tunas (Rec. 16-01) and paragraphs 67 and 68 of Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 22-08 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Rec. 24-05) establishing a partial list of active vessels;

RECOGNIZING the importance to commensurate fishing fleet to available stocks and fishing opportunities to avoid overcapacity and limit risk of overexploitation of stocks;

NOTING paragraph 14 of Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 22-08 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Rec. 24-05) calling to adjust fishing capacity to fishing opportunities;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF
THE ATLANTIC TUNA (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. The Commission shall establish and maintain an ICCAT record of fishing vessels ~~20~~15 meters in length overall or greater (hereinafter referred to as "large scale fishing vessels" or "LSFVs") authorized to fish for tuna and tuna-like species in the Convention area. For the purpose of this recommendation, LSFVs fishing for ICCAT species not entered into the record are deemed not to be authorized to fish for, retain on board, transship or land tuna and tuna-like species or species taken in association with those species.

2. Each CPC shall submit to the ICCAT Executive Secretary, the list of its LSFVs that are authorized to operate in the Convention area. The initial list and any subsequent changes shall be submitted electronically in a format provided by the Secretariat. This list shall include the following information:

   - Name of vessel, register number
   - IMO or LR number[2]
     Previous name (if any)
   - Previous flag (if any)
   - Previous details of deletion from other registries (if any)
   - International radio call sign (if any)
   - Type of vessels, length, and gross registered tonnage (GRT), or, where possible, Gross Tonnage (GT)
   - Name and address of owner(s) and operator(s)
   - Gear used
   - Time period authorized for fishing and/or transshipping. However, in no case shall the authorization period include dates more than 45 days prior to the date of submission of the list to the Secretariat.

   The ICCAT Record shall consist of all LSFVs submitted under this paragraph~~.~~ and any other vessels whose communication to ICCAT is mandatory under other ICCAT Recommendations.

3. Each CPC shall promptly notify the ICCAT Executive Secretary of any addition to, any deletion from and/or any modification of the ICCAT record at any time such changes occur. Periods of authorization for modifications or additions to the list shall not include dates more than 45 days prior to the date of submission of the changes to the Secretariat. The Secretariat shall remove from the ICCAT Record of Vessels any vessel for which the period of authorization has expired.

4. The ICCAT Executive Secretary shall maintain the ICCAT record, and take any measure to ensure publicity of the record and make the record available through electronic means, including placing it on the ICCAT website, in a manner consistent with confidentiality requirements noted by CPCs.

5. The flag CPCs of the vessels on the record shall:

   a) authorize their LSFVs to operate in the Convention area only if they are able to fulfil in respect of these vessels the requirements and responsibilities under the Convention and its conservation and management measures;
   b) take necessary measures to ensure that their LSFVs comply with all the relevant ICCAT conservation and management measures;
   c) take necessary measures to ensure that their LSFVs on the ICCAT record keep on board valid certificates of vessel registration and valid authorization to fish and/or transship;
   d) ensure that their LSFVs on the ICCAT record have no history of IUU fishing activities or that, if those vessels have such history, the new owners have provided sufficient evidence demonstrating that the previous owners and operators have no legal, beneficial or financial interest in, or control over those vessels, or that having taken into account all relevant facts, their LSFVs are not engaged in or associated with IUU fishing;
   e) ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners and operators of their LSFVs on the ICCAT record are not engaged in or associated with tuna fishing activities conducted by LSFVs not entered into the ICCAT record in the Convention area; and
   f) take necessary measures to ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners of the LSFVs on the ICCAT record are citizens or legal entities within the flag CPCs so that any control or punitive actions can be effectively taken against them.

6. Flag CPCs shall authorize their commercial LSFVs to operate in the Convention area only if the vessel has an IMO number or a number in the seven-digit numbering sequence allocated by IHS-Fairplay (LR- number), as applicable. Vessels without such a number shall not be included in the ICCAT record.

7. Paragraph 6 shall not apply to:

[2] All LSFVs must obtain an IMO or LR number unless an exception specified in paragraph 7 of this Recommendation applies.

a) LSFVs unable to obtain an IMO/LR number, provided that the flag CPC provides an explanation of its inability to obtain an IMO/LR number in its submission of information pursuant to paragraph 2.

b) ~~Wooden~~ LSFVs that are not authorized to fish on the high seas, provided that the flag CPC notifies the Secretariat of the LSFVs for which it is exercising this exemption in its submission of information pursuant to paragraph 2.

8. CPCs shall review their own internal actions and measures taken pursuant to paragraph 5, including punitive and sanction actions and in a manner consistent with domestic law as regards disclosure, report any relevant results of the review to the Commission at its annual meeting. In consideration of any CPC reports on the relevant results of such reviews, the Commission shall, if appropriate, request the flag CPCs of LSFVs on the ICCAT record to take further action to enhance compliance by those vessels to ICCAT conservation and management measures.

9. a) CPCs shall take measures, under their applicable legislation, to prohibit the fishing for, the retaining on board, the transshipment and landing of tuna and tuna-like species, and species taken in association with those species, by the LSFVs which are not entered into the ICCAT record.

b) To ensure the effectiveness of the ICCAT conservation and management measures pertaining to species covered by Statistical Document Programs:

i) Flag CPCs or, if the vessel is under a charter arrangement, the exporting CPC shall validate statistical documents only for the LSFVs on the ICCAT record,

ii) CPCs shall require that the species covered by Statistical Document Programs caught by LSFVs in the Convention area, when imported into the territory of a Contracting Party be accompanied by statistical documents validated for the vessels on the ICCAT record and,

iii) CPCs importing species covered by Statistical Document Programs and the flag States of vessels shall cooperate to ensure that statistical documents are not forged or do not contain misinformation.

10. Each CPC shall notify the ICCAT Executive Secretary of any factual information showing that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting LSFVs not on the ICCAT record to be engaged in fishing for and/or transshipment of tuna and tuna-like species and species taken in association with those species in the Convention area.

11. a) If a vessel mentioned in paragraph 10 is flying the flag of a CPC, the Executive Secretary shall request that CPC to take measures necessary to prevent the vessel from fishing for tuna and tuna~~-~~-like species in the Convention area.

b) If the flag of a vessel mentioned in paragraph 10 cannot be determined or is of a non-Contracting Party without cooperating status, the Executive Secretary shall compile such information for future consideration by the Commission.

12. Each CPC shall, by 15 July each year, submit to the Executive Secretary the list of authorized vessels flying their flag that have made catches of tuna and tuna-like species in the Convention area in the previous calendar year through their Task 1 data. The Secretariat shall make this list of vessels available on the ICCAT website, in a manner consistent with confidentiality requirements noted by CPCs. The Executive Secretary shall also submit this list of vessels to the Compliance Committee and to the SCRS.

13. The *Recommendation by ICCAT* ~~*amending*~~ *replacing Recommendation* ~~*13-13*~~ *21-14 concerning the establishment of an ICCAT Record of vessels 20 meters in length overall or greater authorized to operate in the Convention area* (Rec. ~~21-14~~25-12) is repealed and replaced in its entirety by this Recommendation.

Appendix 15

Discussion paper on a horizontal measure on monitoring, control and enforcement in ICCAT
(presented by the European Union)

1. Main issues

ICCAT has progressively built an extensive body of conservation and management measures (CMMs) over more than five decades. However, the provisions governing monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) have developed in a largely unsystematic manner, accumulating as individual, stand-alone recommendations or included in measures governing the various fisheries, adopted at different points in time to address specific problems as they arose. This has resulted in a control framework with some structural weaknesses.

Excessive fragmentation

MCS obligations are currently dispersed across at least 21 stand-alone recommendations and resolutions (**Annex 1 to Appendix 15**), as well as included, sometimes inconsistently, across the individual species-specific CMMs. Navigating these rules is difficult and burdensome for national competent authorities and fishing operators alike.

Outdated provisions

Several of the stand-alone control recommendations date from the mid-1990s and early 2000s and have never been substantially revised. They fail in some cases to reflect best practices and the extent to which these outdated measures are being enforced remains unclear.

Unequal standards across fisheries and areas

Because many MCS rules have been developed fishery by fishery, obligations differ significantly depending on the species and area targeted. Some critical tools or provisions apply only to some fisheries but are absent or incomplete in others. This can create competitive distortions and enforcement gaps that ultimately undermine the Commission's conservation objectives.

2. A single horizontal instrument

A horizontal control measure consolidating the core MCS obligations applicable across all ICCAT fisheries would directly address the weaknesses identified above. It would serve a dual purpose: simplifying the existing framework by repealing and absorbing up to 21 stand-alone recommendations, while at the same time strengthening and modernising ICCAT's overall control standards. The benefits of such an instrument are:

- Harmonisation and consistency: A single instrument would establish uniform MCS standards across all ICCAT fisheries and all areas of the Convention area, replacing the current patchwork with a more coherent framework.

- A level playing field: Uniform standards eliminate the competitive advantage currently enjoyed by operators in less regulated fisheries and by fishing entities from CPCs with lighter domestic control frameworks. All operators fishing for ICCAT-managed species would be subject to the same core obligations.

- More effective controls and alignment with international best practice: Consolidation creates the opportunity to introduce several key instruments that are currently absent from ICCAT but are well established in comparable international frameworks.

- Significant simplification of the ICCAT Compendium: The repeal of up to 21 stand-alone recommendations - replacing them with a single instrument - would substantially reduce the size and complexity of the ICCAT compendium of measures. This facilitates compliance, reduces the risk of inconsistency, and makes the work of national authorities, fishing operators and the Secretariat easier.

3. Main elements

The proposed measure would cover the full MCS cycle, from vessel authorisation through to enforcement. Dedicated measures such as the VMS, port State measures, record of vessels or transhipment recommendations would continue to operate as standalone instruments. Where a specific CMM establishes more detailed or stricter requirements, it would prevail.

The table below is a preliminary outline of what a horizontal control measure might include. The columns on content should be regarded as incomplete and non-exhaustive.

No.	*Provision*	*No.*	*Provision*
1	General provisions	13	Fleet capacity
2	Fishing licence / authorisation	14	Recreational fisheries
3	Marking of fishing vessels	15	Market control / traceability
4	Fishing logbook	16	Sightings
5	Landing declaration	17	Nationals
7	Prior notification (PNO)	18	IUU fishing
9	Rules on bycatches	19	Inspections
10	Rules on minimum size	20	Infringements
11	Marking of fishing gear + ALDFG	21	Sanctions
12	Quota exhaustion / closures / deductions	22	Cooperation

4. Proposed next steps

If the CPCs consider this initiative appropriate and the IMM endorse the approach, the EU will undertake to prepare a detailed annotated draft recommendation for the consideration of the Commission through the PWG, drawing on the existing ICCAT compendium and when appropriate on best practices from other tuna RFMOs.

Annex 1 to Appendix 15

ICCAT Recommendations that may be incorporated into a horizontal control measure and repealed

1. *Recommendation by ICCAT regarding compliance in the bluefin tuna and North Atlantic swordfish fisheries* (Rec. 96-14)
2. *Recommendation by ICCAT to improve compliance with minimum size regulations* (Rec. 97-01)
3. *Recommendation by ICCAT regarding compliance in the South Atlantic swordfish fishery* (Rec. 97-08)
4. *Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the ban on landings and transhipments of vessels from non-Contracting Parties identified as having committed a serious infringement* (Rec. 98-11)
5. *Resolution by ICCAT calling for further actions against illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing activities by large-scale longline vessels in the Convection area and other areas* (Res. 99-11)
6. *Recommendation by ICCAT regarding compliance with management measures which define quotas and/or catch limits* (Rec. 00-14)
7. *Recommendation by ICCAT regarding the temporary adjustment of quotas* (Rec. 01-12)
8. *Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT regarding compliance in the bluefin tuan and Atlantic swordfish fisheries* (Rec. 01-13)
9. *Resolution by ICCAT further defining the scope of IUU fishing* (Res. 01-18)
10. *Resolution by ICCAT concerning cooperative actions to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities by large-scale longline vessels* (Res. 02-26)
11. *General outline of integrated monitoring measures adopted by ICCAT* (Ref. 02-31)
12. *Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the duties of CPCs and cooperating non-CPCs in relation to their vessels fishing in the ICCAT Convention area* (Rec. 03-12)
13. *Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the recording of catch by fishing vessels in the ICCAT Convection area* (Rec. 03-13)
14. *Recommendation by ICCAT to adopt additional measures against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing* (Rec. 03-16)
15. *Recommendation by ICCAT to adopt measures concerning sport and recreational fishing activities in the Mediterranean Sea* (Rec. 04-12)
16. *Resolution by ICCAT concerning the change in the registry and flagging of vessels* (Res. 05-07)
17. *Recommendation by ICCAT to harmonize the measurement of length of the vessels authorized to fish in the area of the Convention* (Rec. 08-10)
18. *Recommendation by ICCAT on vessels sightings* (Rec. 19-09)
19. *Recommendation by ICCAT on abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded gear* (Rec. 19-11)
20. *Recommendation by ICCAT on vessels without nationality* (Rec. 21-12)
21. *Recommendation by ICCAT to replace Recommendation 06-14 to promote compliance by nationals of CPCs, cooperating non-CPCs with ICCAT conservation and management measures* (Rec. 22-14)