

**91-2      RESOLUTION CONCERNING CATCHES OF BLUEFIN TUNA BY  
NON-CONTRACTING PARTIES**

Whereas it is the objective of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, established under the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, to provide for the effective conservation and management of Atlantic tunas;

Whereas the Commission has made recommendations concerning regulatory measures designed to maintain the populations of tuna and tuna-like fishes, including Atlantic bluefin tuna, at levels that permit the maximum sustainable catch;

Whereas the Commission recognizes that the effective implementation of its regulatory measures requires the participation and support of all tuna fishing nations in the Atlantic Ocean;

Whereas several non-Contracting Parties have harvested and continue to harvest Atlantic bluefin tuna outside the regulatory regime of the Commission and contrary to the principles of customary international law, as articulated in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

Whereas the Commission has previously addressed appeals to non-Contracting Parties urging them to join the Commission and abide by its regulatory measures;

**The International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas :**

1. Resolves that it should again invite all non-Contracting Parties fishing tuna in the Convention area to join the Commission as a member or to participate as an observer;
2. Resolves that the Contracting Parties should actively seek to encourage non-Contracting Parties fishing tuna in the Convention area to join the Commission as a member or to participate as an observer;
3. Resolves that the Commission should invite all non-Contracting Parties fishing tunas in the Atlantic Ocean to facilitate, during the following year, catch statistics of their fleets of tuna and tuna-like species.
4. Resolves that the Contracting Parties should actively seek to encourage non-Contracting Parties fishing tunas and tuna-like species in the Atlantic Ocean to facilitate the aforementioned statistics.
5. Resolves that all Contracting Parties should, by January 1, 1993, implement measures to collect statistical information for the purpose of ensuring that ICCAT will have at its disposal sufficient annual import and export statistics to ensure proper management and administration of tuna and tuna-like species. Taking into account the specific problems of the western bluefin tuna stock, these measures for that species will be adopted by Contracting Parties within six months.
6. Given the shared concerns of Contracting Parties as to the western Atlantic bluefin tuna stock, requests that the Executive Secretary convene a specific working group before the 1992 ICCAT meeting to develop, the technical details for implementation of this resolution, to accomplish the following:
  - obtain and compile all available information on the fishing activities of non-Contracting Parties, including details on the type, flag and name of vessels and reported or estimated catches by species and area;
  - obtain and compile all available information on landings and transshipments of fish caught by non-Contracting Parties, including details on the name and flag of the vessels; the quantities landed and transhipped, and the countries' landing ports through which the product was shipped;

- review recommendations to prohibit the transfer at sea of western Atlantic bluefin tuna between vessels from different countries;
- consider and outline measures to prevent the re-flagging of vessels of Contracting Parties for the purpose of avoiding fisheries management measures established by the Commission;
- recommend measures to the Commission. The Contracting Parties will ensure that these measures will be consistent with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).