

– RESOLUTION –
**NEW APPROACHES TO DETER ACTIVITIES THAT
DIMINISH EFFECTIVENESS OF ICCAT MANAGEMENT MEASURES**

**TITLE: *Resolution by ICCAT Concerning the Need for New Approaches
to Deter Activities that Diminish the Effectiveness of ICCAT
Conservation and Management Measures***
(Transmitted to Contracting Parties: **December 16, 1999**)

RECOGNIZING that ICCAT has adopted a wide variety of conservation and management measures designed to attain the goal of the Convention of maximum sustainable catches of tuna and tuna-like species in the ICCAT Convention Area;

CONCERNED that, despite the adoption of these measures, more than half of the major stocks of species managed by the Commission continue to be at levels below that necessary to provide maximum sustainable catch, while most other stocks appear to be at or near full exploitation levels;

REAFFIRMING the responsibility of flag States to ensure that vessels flying their flags do not engage in fishing activities that diminish the effectiveness of international conservation and management measures, such as those adopted by ICCAT;

NOTING that the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 Relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks and the 1993 Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measure by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas, which set forth in detail the responsibility of flag States in this regard, have not yet entered into force;

AWARE that some flag States remain unable or unwilling to fulfill this responsibility;

ENDORSING, in this regard, paragraph 33 of the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity, adopted in 1999 by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (“FAO”), which provides that “States should recognize the need to deal with the problem of those States which do not fulfill their responsibilities under international law as flag States with respect to their fishing vessels, and in particular those which do not exercise effectively their jurisdiction and control over their vessels which may operate in a manner that contravenes or undermines relevant rules of international law and international conservation and management measures”;

CONVINCED that, to deal with this problem successfully, Contracting Parties, Non-Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities need to consider new measures and approaches beyond those that have been adopted by ICCAT to date;

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

- 1 The Commission fully endorse the initiative of the FAO to develop an international plan of action to combat illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing and encourages all Contracting Parties, Non-Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities to participate actively in this undertaking.
- 2 All Contracting Parties that have not yet done so should consider becoming party to the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 Relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, as well as the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measure by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas as soon as possible.
- 3 The Commission encourages each Contracting Party, Non-Contracting Party, Entity and Fishing Entity to participate in efforts to ensure the sustainability of marine living resources in the Convention Area, as called for in the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity.