

- RECOMMENDATION -
BFT CATCH LIMITS IN EAST ATLANTIC & MEDITERRANEAN

TITLE: *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Bluefin Tuna Catch Limits in the East Atlantic and Mediterranean*
(Entered into force: **June 26, 2001**)

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) at its 2000 meeting reiterated that the Commission should note that there are numerous sources of uncertainty since no quantitative assessment of East Atlantic bluefin tuna has been conducted and given this situation it maintains its advice of 1998 whereby a level of annual catches equal to or greater than 33,000 MT would not be sustainable;

RECOGNIZING that it is essential to reconcile conservation with the needs of the coastal communities that are dependent mainly on the fishing of this stock;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that Morocco and Libya, in 1999, presented and confirmed their objection to the *Recommendation by ICCAT on the Limitation of Catches of Bluefin Tuna in the East Atlantic and Mediterranean*;

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

- 1 A total allowable catch (TAC) of 29,500 MT be established for 2001.
- 2 In order to establish the fishing allocations, the 1993 and 1994 catches (whichever is higher of the two), as established by the SCRS before 1998, be used as a reference.
- 3 In accordance with paragraph 2, the following allocation plan be established:

| <i>Party</i> | <i>Quota (2001)</i> |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| China (People's Republic) | 76 MT |
| Croatia | 876 MT |
| European Community (EC) | 18,590 MT |
| Japan | 2,949 MT |
| Korea | 619 MT |
| Tunisia | 2,144 MT |

- 4 Paragraphs 2 and 3 do not apply to Morocco and Libya, which for 2001, will apply independent conservation and management measures on this stock and will inform ICCAT of these measures.
- 5 It is noted that Morocco and Libya have indicated they will establish bluefin tuna catch limits for 2001 as follows:

Morocco: 3,028 MT Libya: 1,570 MT
- 6 For the non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities that caught bluefin tuna in the East Atlantic and Mediterranean during the period starting in 1993, the catch limit for the year 2001 will be calculated according to paragraph 2:

2001: 2,291 MT¹

* This total includes a special allocation of 658 MT for Chinese Taipei in 2001, in virtue of their having been granted Cooperating Status.