

RECALLING the 1994 Resolution by ICCAT Concerning an Action Plan to Ensure Effectiveness of the Conservation Program for Atlantic Bluefin Tuna [94-3], the 1995 Resolution by ICCAT Concerning an Action Plan to Ensure the Effectiveness of the Conservation Program for Atlantic Swordfish [95-13], and the 1998 Resolution by ICCAT Concerning the Unreported and Unregulated Catches of Tunas by Large-Scale Longline Vessels in the Convention Area [98-18]; and,

FURTHER RECALLING its deliberations in 2002 regarding the fishing activities of Sierra Leone pursuant to these resolutions, specifically, that catches by Sierra Leone of bluefin tuna, bigeye tuna, and swordfish from within the Convention area have continued in 2001 despite previous identifications pursuant to the aforementioned Bluefin Tuna Action Plan, Atlantic Swordfish Action Plan, and the 1998 Resolution; and,

CONCLUDING that such fishing activities by Sierra Leone have continued in 2001 in a manner that diminishes the effectiveness of ICCAT conservation and management measures;

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

1. Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities take appropriate measures consistent with the provisions of the 1998 Resolution to the effect that the import of Atlantic bigeye tuna, Atlantic swordfish and Atlantic bluefin tuna and their products in any form from Sierra Leone be prohibited effective from the time this Recommendation enters into force.
2. Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities lift the import prohibitions on Sierra Leone upon the decision of the Commission and receipt of notification from the ICCAT Executive Secretary that fishing practices of Sierra Leone have been brought into conformity with ICCAT measures.
3. The Commission again request Sierra Leone to cooperate with ICCAT by ensuring that vessels entitled to fly its flag are fishing in a manner which does not diminish the effectiveness of the ICCAT conservation and management measures and by providing catch statistics and other data in accordance with ICCAT procedures.
4. The Commission encourage participation by Sierra Leone in ICCAT meetings.