07-05

RESOLUTION BY ICCAT FOR REBUILDING OF THE EASTERN ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA STOCK

RECALLING that the Commission adopted the Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Multi-annual Recovery Plan for Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean [Rec. 06-05] at its meeting in 2006;

CONSIDERING the conservation and management measures provided by said recommendation were not fully implemented during 2007 fishing season;

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

- 1. All the CPCs should submit to the Secretariat regulations and other related documents adopted by them to implement ICCAT Recommendation 06-05 before the end of February 2008. In order to have greater transparency in implementing this Recommendation, all CPCs involved in the bluefin fisheries should submit a detailed report on their implementation of the Recommendation in 2008, no later than October 30, 2008. The Commission should, at its 2008 meeting, consider those reports and the actual implementation of the Recommendation in the 2008 fishing season and, if necessary, make adjustments to the Recommendation. In particular, as a result of the above consideration, the Commission should take every available action, including quota adjustment, provided in Recommendation 06-05 and other recommendations so as to ensure full implementation of the Recovery Plan.
- 2. The Commission requests that the CPCs involved in the bluefin fisheries jointly hold in March 2008 (in Tokyo) a Meeting of Managers and Stakeholders in Atlantic Bluefin Fishing (MSAB) inviting stakeholders engaged in Atlantic bluefin fisheries (fishing industry representing all gears, farming establishments, buyers and traders). The objectives of MSAB are:
 - To examine the full process of the chain of bluefin activities from catch to farming/fattening, and to
 markets and to ensure that all the ICCAT relevant rules and regulations in Recommendation 06-05 are
 fully known and respected in the 2008 fishing season by all the segments of the bluefin chain; and
 - To work out joint voluntary actions to achieve an objective of reducing total fishing, caging and imports from the 2007 level so that all the fishing activities in the Convention area be reasonably contained in the decreasing TACs of the multi-annual recovery plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean.

The Commission should review the results of the MSAB and, if appropriate, consider new conservation and management measures based on them, in particular, that of attaining the objective in the second indent above.

3. The Secretariat should collect information on technology of stock enhancement of bluefin tuna and present it to the 2008 Commission meeting so that concerned CPCs can start work in this field for Atlantic bluefin tuna in the near future. The MSAB should also consider possible industry contributions to such work in the future.