

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT ON THE CONSERVATION OF BIGEYE THRESHER
SHARKS (*ALOPIAS SUPERCILIOSUS*) CAUGHT IN ASSOCIATION
WITH FISHERIES MANAGED BY ICCAT**

RECALLING that the Commission adopted the *Resolution by ICCAT on Atlantic Sharks* [Res. 01-11], the *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Conservation of Sharks Caught in Association with Fisheries Managed by ICCAT* [Rec. 04-10], the *Recommendation of ICCAT to Amend the Recommendation 04-10 on the Conservation of Sharks Caught in Association with the Fisheries Managed of ICCAT* [Rec. 05-05] and the *Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Sharks* [Rec.07-06];

RECALLING the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (the FAO) International Plan of Action for Sharks;

CONSIDERING that bigeye thresher sharks (*Alopias superciliosus*) are caught as by-catch in many of the fisheries in the ICCAT Convention area;

RECALLING the need to annually report Task I and Task II for catches of sharks in conformity with the *ICCAT Recommendation Concerning the Conservation of Sharks Caught in Association with Fisheries Managed by ICCAT* [Rec. 04-10];

NOTING that at its 2008 Meeting the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) recommended that ICCAT reduce the mortality of bigeye thresher shark (*Alopias superciliosus*), in view of the vulnerability of this species, and that the prohibition of landings could be considered;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNA (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

CPCs shall require vessels flying their flag to promptly release unharmed, to the extent practicable, bigeye thresher sharks (*Alopias superciliosus*) caught in association with fisheries managed by ICCAT which are alive, when brought along side for taking on board the vessel. CPCs shall also require that incidental catches as well as live releases shall be recorded in accordance with ICCAT data reporting requirements.