

**SUPPLEMENTAL RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT CONCERNING
THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALBACORE REBUILDING PROGRAM**

RECALLING the 1998 *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Limitation of Fishing Capacity on Northern Albacore* [Rec. 98-08], the *Recommendation by ICCAT on North Atlantic Albacore Catch Limits for the Period 2008-2009* [Rec. 07-02], and the *Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Rebuilding Program on North Atlantic Albacore* [Rec. 09-05];

NOTING that the objective of the Convention is to maintain populations at levels that will support maximum sustainable catch (usually referred to as MSY);

CONSIDERING that the 2009 Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) stock assessment concluded that the northern albacore stock is overfished and overfishing is occurring, and recommended a level of catch of no more than 28,000 t to meet the Convention management objective by 2020;

RECALLING the importance that all fleets participating in the northern albacore fishery submit the required data (catch, effort and catch-at-size) on their fisheries for transmission to the SCRS;

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

1. An annual Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 28,000 t is established for 2012 and for 2013.
2. This annual TAC shall be allocated among the ICCAT Contracting Parties, Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities (hereafter referred to as CPCs) according to the following:

<i>Party</i>	<i>2012 and 2013 Quota (t)</i>
European Union	21,551.3
Chinese Taipei	3,271.7 ^{1,2}
United States	527
Venezuela	250

3. With the exception of Japan, CPCs other than those mentioned in paragraph 2 shall limit their catches to 200 t.
4. Japan shall endeavour to limit its total northern albacore catches to a maximum of 4% in weight of its total bigeye tuna longline catch in the Atlantic Ocean.
5. Any unused portion or excess of a CPC's annual quota/catch limit may be added to/shall be deducted from, according to the case, the respective quota/catch limit during or before the adjustment year, in the following way:

<i>Year of Catch</i>	<i>Adjustment Year</i>
2012	2014 and/or 2015
2013	2015 and/or 2016

However, the maximum underage that a Party may carry-over in any given year shall not exceed 25% of its initial catch quota.

If, in any year, the combined landings of CPCs exceed the TAC of 28,000 t, the Commission will re-evaluate the northern albacore recommendation at its next Commission meeting and recommend further conservation measures, as appropriate.

¹ Chinese Taipei will each year transfer 100 t from its quota to St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

² Chinese Taipei will transfer annually 200 t in 2012 and 2013 from its quota to Belize.

6. The 1998 *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Limitation of Fishing Capacity on Northern Albacore* [Rec. 98-08] remains in force.
7. The SCRS shall conduct an assessment of this stock in 2013 and provide advice to the Commission on the appropriate management measures to achieve and maintain the Convention objectives. In support of this work, CPCs should promote a scientific program to collect data/information on changes to distribution and/or migratory routes and factors that influences these changes.

In advance of the next assessment of Northern Atlantic Albacore, the SCRS shall develop a Limit Reference Point (LRP) for this stock. Future decisions on the management of this stock shall include a measure that would trigger a rebuilding plan, should the biomass decrease to a level approaching the defined LRP as established by the SCRS.

8. This Recommendation replaces *Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Rebuilding Program on North Atlantic Albacore* [Rec. 09-05].