

RESOLUTION BY ICCAT ON THE SARGASSO SEA

RECALLING the *Resolution by ICCAT on Pelagic Sargassum* [Res. 05-11] which called upon the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) to examine available and accessible information and data on the status of pelagic *Sargassum* and its ecological importance to tuna and tuna-like species;

RECOGNISING that relevant new information is available concerning *Sargassum* and the Sargasso Sea;

NOTING also that the United Nations Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks calls for the protection of biodiversity in the marine environment and refers to the need to take ecosystem considerations into account;

NOTING further that the International Commission for the Conservation of Tunas (ICCAT) has already incorporated ecosystem considerations into fisheries management;

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

1. The SCRS will examine the available data and information concerning the Sargasso Sea and its ecological importance to tuna and tuna-like species and ecologically associated species.
2. The SCRS will provide an update on the progress of this work in 2014 and report back to the Commission with its findings in 2015.