

Original: English

**DRAFT RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT ON A MULTI-ANNUAL CONSERVATION  
AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR TROPICAL TUNAS**

*(Proposal by the European Union, Japan and Gabon)*

*CONSIDERING* that the further implementation of a multi-annual program for the medium-term will contribute to the conservation and sustainable management of the tropical tunas fishery;

*RECOGNIZING* the necessity to adopt monitoring and control measures to ensure implementation of conservation and management measures and to improve the scientific assessment of those stocks;

*RECOGNIZING* the necessity to adopt data collection and transmission mechanisms to allow improvement of the monitoring and the scientific assessment of the related fisheries and associated stocks;

*NOTING* that further to the SCRS assessment conducted in 2015, the SCRS concluded that the bigeye tuna stock is overfished and that overfishing is occurring;

*CONSIDERING* that the SCRS recommended taking measures to reduce the bigeye TAC to levels that would allow a recovery with a high degree of probability and within a short timeframe and to find effective measures to reduce FAD-related and other fishing mortality of small bigeye tunas;

*RECOGNISING* that, in view of the state of the stock, it would be appropriate to carry out the stock assessment of bigeye in 2018;

[...]

*RECOGNIZING* that the SCRS concluded that the current area/time closure has not been effective at reducing the mortality of juvenile bigeye tuna, and any reduction in yellowfin tuna mortality was minimal, largely due to the redistribution of effort into areas adjacent to the moratorium area;

[...]

[...]

[...]

*NOTING* that Recommendation 14-01 brought the coverage of national observers for purse seiner fishing for tropical tunas during the area/time closure period from the minimum of 5% of the fishing effort established by Recommendation 10-10 to a 100% coverage of fishing;

*CONSIDERING* that it would be appropriate to review the coverage of observers in view of the SCRS advice in 2016;

*FURTHER CONSIDERING* that it is appropriate to review the ICCAT programme for transshipment at sea;

*RECALLING* recommendations by the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) to address the lack of reliable data collection mechanisms, particularly in tropical tuna fisheries carried on in association with objects that could affect fish aggregation, including FADs;

*FURTHER RECALLING* that as regards skipjack tunas SCRS stated in its 2014 report that the increasing use of FADs since the early 1990s has changed the species composition of free swimming schools, and that association with FADs may also have an impact on the biology and on the ecology of yellowfin and skipjack tunas;

*NOTING* that, according to the 2014 SCRS advice, increasing harvests and fishing effort for skipjack could lead to involuntary consequences for other species that are caught in combination with skipjack in certain fisheries;

[...]

*NOTING* that in its 2013 report, SCRS recognized the effect of FADs on both sea-turtle and shark by-catch and the need to provide advice on the design of FADs that would lessen their impact on by-catch species. Therefore, information on dimension and material of the floating part and of the underwater hanging structure should be provided. More particularly the entangling or non-entangling feature of the underwater hanging structure should be reported;

*FURTHER NOTING* that the activities of supply vessels and the use of FADs are an integral part of the fishing effort exerted by the purse seine fleet;

*RECALLING* measures related to FAD management plans in other tuna RFMOs;

*CONSIDERING* that the multispecies characteristics of the tropical tuna fisheries makes it appropriate to extend to skipjack tuna the multi-annual management and conservation plan for yellowfin and bigeye tuna;

*TAKING INTO ACCOUNT* the discussions and the preliminary conclusions of the 2015 ICCAT ad-hoc Working Group on FADs;

*ACKNOWLEDGING* that the structure of *Recommendation by ICCAT on a Multi-Annual Conservation and Management Program for Tropical Tunas* [Rec. 14-01] should be reviewed to improve clarity;

[...]  
[...]  
[...]

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

## **PART I GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### ***Multi-annual Management and Conservation Program***

1. Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities (CPCs) whose vessels fish bigeye and/or yellowfin tunas in the Convention area shall implement the Multi-annual Management and Conservation Program initiated in 2012. As from 2015, such programme shall also apply to the eastern stock of skipjack tuna.

## **PART II CATCH LIMITS**

### ***Catch limits for bigeye tuna***

2. The annual Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for 2016 and subsequent years of the Multi-annual Program is 65,000 t for bigeye tuna. The following shall apply:
  - a) If the total of catches exceeds the TAC in a given year, the excess amount shall be paid back by CPCs to which a catch limit has been granted for the species concerned. Excess quantities shall be deducted the following year on a *pro rata* basis from the adjusted quotas/catch limits of the CPC concerned, as per paragraphs 8 and 9.
  - b) The TAC and catch limits for 2016 and subsequent years of the Multi-annual Program shall be adjusted based on the latest scientific assessment available. Whatever the outcome, the relative shares used to establish the annual catch limits for the CPCs appearing in paragraph 3 shall remain unchanged.
3. The following catch limits shall be applied for 2016 and subsequent years of the Multi-annual Program to the following CPCs:

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Annual catch limits for the period 2016-2018 (t)</i>
China	5376
European Union	16,989
Ghana	4,250
Japan	17,696
Panama	2,975
Philippines	286
Korea	1,486
Chinese Taipei	11,679

4. Catch limits shall not apply to CPCs whose annual catch of bigeye tuna in the Convention area in 1999, as provided to the SCRS in 2000, is less than 2,100 t. However, the following shall apply:
- a) CPCs which are not developing coastal States shall endeavour to maintain their annual catch less than 1,575 t;
- b) if the catch of bigeye tuna of any developing coastal CPC not listed in paragraph 3 above exceeds [3,150 t] for any one year, a catch limit shall be established for that developing CPC for the following years. In such a case, the relevant CPC shall adjust its fishing effort so as to be commensurate with their available fishing possibilities.
- [5. CPCs shall report quarterly the amount of bigeye caught by vessels flying their flag to the Secretariat by the end of the following month. When 80% of the catch limit or threshold for a CPC is exceeded, the Secretariat shall notify that to all CPCs.]

5bis. If the total catch exceeds in any year the TAC in paragraph 2, the Commission shall review these measures.

***Quota transfers of bigeye tuna***

6. The following annual transfer of bigeye tuna shall be authorized in 2016-2018:
- a) from [CPC] to [CPC]: xx t
7. Notwithstanding the Recommendation by ICCAT Regarding the Temporary Adjustment of Quotas [Rec. 01-12], in between meetings of the Commission, a CPC with a catch limitation of bigeye tuna as per section 3 may make a one-time transfer within a fishing year of up to 15% of its TAC allocation to other CPCs with TAC allocations, consistent with domestic obligation and conservation considerations. Any such transfer may not be used to cover over harvests. A CPC that receives a one-time catch limit transfer may not retransfer that catch limit.

***Underage or overage of catch of bigeye tuna***

8. Overage of an annual catch limit shall be deducted from the annual catch limit as follows:

<i>Year of catch</i>	<i>Adjustment Year</i>
2015	2016 and/or 2017
2016	2017 and/or 2018
2017	2018 and/or 2019
2018	2019 and/or 2020

However,

- a) The maximum underage that a CPC may carry over in any given year shall not exceed 15% of its annual initial catch limit;
- b) For Ghana, the overage catch of bigeye tuna in the period 2006 to 2010 shall be repaid by reducing the catch limit of Ghana for bigeye tuna by a yearly amount of 337 t for the period 2012 to 2021.

9. Notwithstanding paragraph 8 if any CPC exceeds its catch limit or threshold during any two consecutive years, the Commission will recommend appropriate measures, which may include, but are not limited to, reduction in the catch limit equal to a minimum of 125% of the excess harvest, and, if necessary, trade restrictive measures. Any trade measures under this paragraph will be import restrictions on the subject species and consistent with each CPC's international obligations. The trade measures will be of such duration and under such conditions as the Commission may determine.

**TAC for yellowfin tuna**

10. The annual TAC for 2012 and subsequent years of the Multi-annual program is 110,000 t for yellowfin tuna and shall remain in place until changed based on scientific advice.

If the total catch exceeds the TAC for yellowfin tuna the Commission shall review the relevant conservation and management measures in place.

**PART III  
CAPACITY MANAGEMENT MEASURES**

**Capacity limitation for bigeye tuna**

11. A capacity limitation shall be applied for the duration of the Multi-annual Program, in accordance with the following provisions:
- a) The capacity limitation shall apply to vessels 20 meters length overall (LOA) or greater fishing bigeye tuna in the Convention area.
  - b) CPCs which have been allocated a catch limit in accordance with paragraph 3 shall each year:
    - i) Adjust their fishing effort so as to be commensurate with their available fishing possibilities;
    - ii) Be restricted to the number of their vessels notified to ICCAT in 2005 as fishing for bigeye tuna. However, the maximum number of longline and purse seine vessels shall each year be subject to the following limits:

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Longliners</i>	<i>Purse seiners</i>
China	<u>65</u>	-
EU	269	34
Ghana	-	<u>17</u>
Japan	<u>231</u>	-
Panama	-	3
Philippines	<u>5</u>	-
Korea	14	-
Chinese Taipei	75	-

- c) Ghana shall be allowed to change the number of its vessels by gear type within its capacity limits communicated to ICCAT in 2005, on the basis of two baitboats for one purse seine vessel. Such change must be approved by the Commission. To that end, Ghana shall notify a comprehensive and detailed capacity management plan to the Commission at least 90 days before the Annual meeting. The approval is notably subject to the assessment by the SCRS of the potential impact of such a plan on the level of catches.
- d) The capacity limitation shall not apply to CPCs whose annual catch of bigeye tuna in the Convention area in 1999, as provided to the SCRS in 2000, is less than 2,100 t.
- e) Curaçao shall be allowed to have up to 5 purse seiners.

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**PART IV  
MANAGEMENT OF FADs**

*Area/Time closure in relation with the protection of juveniles*

[...]

12. Fishing for, or supported activities to fish for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tunas in association with objects that could affect fish aggregation, including FADs, shall be prohibited during the period 1 January to 28 February in the following area:
  - Southern limit: parallel 4 / South latitude
  - Northern limit: parallel 5 / North latitude
  - Western limit: meridian 20 / West longitude
  - Eastern limit: the African coast
13. The prohibition referred to in paragraph 12 includes:
  - launching any floating objects, with or without buoys;
  - fishing around, under, or in association with artificial objects, including vessels;
  - fishing around, under, or in association with natural objects;
  - towing floating objects from inside to outside the area.
14. As soon as possible and at the latest by 2018 the SCRS shall evaluate the efficacy of the area/time closure referred to in paragraph 12 for the reduction of catches of juvenile bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tunas. In addition the SCRS shall advise the Commission on a possible time-closure of fishing activities on FADs to reduce the catch of small bigeye tuna by 5 to 25%, in light of the historical records on bigeye tuna catches.

*Limitation of FADs*

15. CPCs shall ensure that for purse seiners flying their flag and fishing for bigeye, yellowfin or skipjack tunas on FADs the following provisional limits are not exceeded:
    - No more than 500 instrumental buoys are active at any one time in relation to each of its vessels through such measures as for example the verification of telecommunication bills.
- [...]
16. The Commission shall review the provisional limits laid down in point 15 at its 2016 Annual Meeting following the advice of SCRS and the conclusions of the FAD Working Group.

*FAD Management Plans*

17. CPCs with purse seine and baitboat vessels fishing for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tunas in association with objects that could affect fish aggregation, including FADs, shall submit to the Executive Secretary Management Plans for the use of such aggregating devices by vessels flying their flag at least one week in advance to the 2016 meeting of the FADs Working Group and subsequently by 31 January each year.
18. The objective of the FAD Management Plans shall be to:
  - i. improve the knowledge about FADs characteristics, FADs fishing, including fishing effort, and related impacts on targeted and non-targeted species;
  - ii. effectively manage the deployment and recovery of FADs and beacons and their potential loss;
  - iii. reduce and limit the impacts of FADs and FAD fishing on the ecosystem, including where appropriate by acting on the different components of the fishing mortality (e.g. number of deployed FADs, including number of FAD's set by purse seiners, fishing capacity, number of support vessels).

19. The Plans shall be drawn up by following the Guidelines for Preparation for FAD Management Plans as provided in **Annex 5**.

*FAD logbook and list of deployed FADs*

20. CPCs shall ensure that all purse seine and baitboat fishing vessels and all support vessels (including supply vessels) flying their flag, and/or authorized by CPCs to fish in areas under their jurisdiction, when fishing in association with fish aggregating devices (FADs), including objects that could affect fish aggregation, shall collect and report, for each deployment of a FAD, each visit on a FAD, whether followed or not by a set, or each loss of a FAD, the following information and data:

a) Deployment of any FAD

- i. Position
- ii. Date
- iii. FAD type (anchored FAD, drifting artificial FAD)
- iv. FAD identifier (i.e., FAD Marking or beacon ID, type of buoy – e.g. simple buoy or associated with echosounder)
- v. FAD design characteristics (dimension and material of the floating part and of the underwater hanging structure and the entangling or non-entangling feature of the underwater hanging structure)

b) Visit on any FAD

- i. Type of the visit (hauling, retrieving, intervention on electronic equipment)
- ii. Position
- iii. Date
- iv. FAD type (anchored FAD, drifting natural FAD, drifting artificial FAD)
- v. FAD identifier (i.e., FAD Marking or beacon ID or any information allowing to identify the owner)
- vi. If the visit is followed by a set, the results of the set in terms of catch and by-catch, whether retained or discarded dead or alive. If the visit is not followed by a set, note the reason (e.g. not enough fish, fish too small, etc.)

c) Loss of any FAD

- i. Last registered position
- ii. Date of the last registered position
- iii. FAD identifier (i.e., FAD Marking or beacon ID)

For the purpose of the collection and the report of the information referred to above and where paper or electronic logbooks already in place do not allow it, CPCs shall either update their reporting system or establish FAD-logbooks. In establishing FAD logbooks, CPCs should consider using the template laid down in **Annex 2** as reporting format. When using paper logbooks, CPCs may seek, with the support of the Executive Secretary, for harmonized formats.

21. CPCs shall also ensure that all vessels referred to in paragraph 24 keep updated on a quarterly basis a list of deployed FADs, containing at least the information as laid down in **Annex 3**.

*Reporting obligations on FADs and on support vessels*

22. CPCs shall ensure that the following information is submitted every year to the Executive Secretary, to be made available to the SCRS and to the ad-hoc working group on FADs:
- i. the number of FADs actually deployed on a quarterly basis, by FAD type, indicating the presence or absence of a beacon/buoy or of an echo-sounder associated to the FAD;
  - ii. the number and type of beacons/buoys (e.g. radio, with echo-sounder) actually deployed on a quarterly basis;
  - iii. the average numbers of active beacons/buoys on a quarterly basis that have been followed by each vessel;

- iv. average numbers of active lost FADs on a quarterly basis;
- v. for each support vessel, the number of days spent at sea, per 1° grid area, month and flag State.

***Non-entangling and biodegradable FADs***

23. In order to minimize the ecological impact of FADs, in particular the entanglement of sharks, turtles and other non-targeted species, and the release of synthetic persistent marine debris, CPCs shall:
- i. replace by 2016 existing FADs with non-entangling FADs in line with the guidelines under **Annex 6** of this Recommendation.
  - ii. undertake research to gradually replace existing FADs with fully biodegradable and non-entangling FADs, with a view to phase out non-biodegradable FADs by 2018 if possible.

CPCs shall report on an annual basis on the steps undertaken to comply with these provisions in their FADs Management Plans.

**PART V  
CONTROL MEASURES**

***Specific authorization to fish for tropical tunas***

24. CPCs shall issue specific authorizations to vessels 20 meters LOA or greater flying their flag allowed to fish bigeye and/or yellowfin and/or skipjack tunas in the Convention area, and to vessels flying their flag used for any kind of support to this fishing activity (hereafter referred to as "authorized vessels").

***ICCAT Record of authorized tropical tuna vessels***

25. The Commission shall establish and maintain an ICCAT record of authorized tropical tuna vessels. Fishing vessels 20 meters LOA or greater not entered into this record are deemed not to be authorized to fish, retain on board, tranship, transport, transfer, process or land bigeye and/or yellowfin and/or skipjack tunas from the Convention area.
26. CPCs shall notify the list of authorized vessels to the Executive Secretary in an electronic form and in accordance with the format set in the Guidelines for Submitting Data and Information Required by ICCAT.
27. CPCs shall without delay notify the Executive Secretary of any addition to, deletion from and/or modifications of the initial list. Periods of authorization for modifications or additions to the list shall not include dates more than 45 days prior to the date of submission of the changes to the Secretariat. The Secretariat shall remove from the ICCAT Record of Vessels any vessel for which the periods of authorization have expired.
28. The Executive Secretary shall without delay post the record of authorized vessels on the ICCAT website, including any additions, deletions and/or modifications so notified by CPCs.
29. Conditions and procedures referred to in the *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Establishment of an ICCAT Record of Vessels 20 meters in Length Overall or Greater Authorized to Operate in the Convention Area* [Rec. 13-13] shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the ICCAT record of authorized tropical vessels.

***Vessels actively fishing tropical tunas in a given year***

30. Each CPC shall by 31 July each year notify to the Executive Secretary the list of authorized vessels flying their flag which have fished bigeye and/or yellowfin and/or skipjack tunas in the Convention area in the previous calendar year.

The Executive Secretary shall report each year these lists of vessels to the Compliance Committee.

31. The provisions of paragraphs 24 to 30 do not apply to recreational vessels.

*Recording of catch and fishing activities*

32. Each CPC shall ensure that its vessels 20 meters LOA or greater fishing bigeye and/or yellowfin and/or skipjack tunas in the Convention area record their catch in accordance with the requirements set out in **Annex 1** and in the *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Recording of Catch by Fishing Vessels in the ICCAT Convention Area* [Rec. 03-13].

*Identification IUU activity*

33. The Executive Secretary shall “without delay” verify that any vessel identified or reported in the context of this Multi-annual Program is on the ICCAT record of authorized vessels and not out of compliance with the provisions of paragraph 12. If a possible violation is detected, the Executive Secretary shall, without delay, notify the flag CPC. The flag CPC shall immediately investigate the situation and, if the vessel is fishing in relation with objects that could affect fish aggregation, including FADs, request the vessel to stop fishing and, if necessary, leave the area without delay. The flag CPC shall without delay report to the Executive Secretary the results of its investigation and the corresponding measures taken.
34. The Executive Secretary shall report to the Compliance Committee at each annual meeting of the Commission on any issue related to identification of unauthorized vessels, the implementation of the VMS, the observer provisions and the results of the relevant investigation made by the flag CPCs concerned.
35. The Executive Secretary shall propose to include any vessels identified in accordance with paragraph 34, or vessels for which the flag CPC has not carried out the required investigation in accordance with paragraph 33, on the provisional IUU list.

*Observers and compliance with area/time closure*

36. CPC shall:
- a) Take appropriate action to ensure that all vessels flying its flag, including supply vessels, when engaged in fishing activities during the area/time closure referred to in paragraph 12, have an observer on board in accordance with **Annex 4**. The information collected by the observers shall be reported each year by 31 July to the ICCAT Secretariat and to SCRS;
  - b) Take appropriate action against vessels flying their flag that do not comply with the area/time closure referred to in paragraph 12;
  - c) Submit an annual report on their implementation of the area/time closure to the Executive Secretary, who shall report to the Compliance Committee at each Annual meeting.

*Scientific Observers*

37. For scientific observers on board of vessels targeting bigeye, yellowfin and/or skipjack tunas in the area east of meridian 20/West longitude the following shall apply:
- a) Scientific observers shall automatically be recognized by all CPCs. Such recognition shall allow the scientific observer to continue the collection of data throughout the EEZ visited by the vessel observed.
  - b) CPCs that do not accept that their national scientific observer may collect data in the EEZ of another CPC, or that do not recognize as valid the data collected in their EEZ by a scientific observer of another CPC, must inform the Executive Secretary, for immediate transmission to the SCRS and the Compliance Committee, of their refusal within three months after the entry into force of this Recommendation or their accession to ICCAT. By such refusal, the CPC concerned shall refrain to require the deployment of its national scientific observer on vessels of another CPC.

[...]

38. For purse seine and longline vessels flying their flag 20 meters length overall (LOA) or greater targeting bigeye, yellowfin and/or skipjack in the Convention area, CPCs are encouraged to increase the observer coverage stipulated in Recommendation 10-10.

39. In 2016 the Commission shall revise the appropriate coverage level of scientific observers, in light of the SCRS advice pursuant to Recommendation 10-10.

*Transshipment at sea*

40. In 2016 PWG/IMM shall meet in advance of the annual meeting to evaluate the effectiveness of the ICCAT Regional Observer Programme for Transshipment at sea and make recommendations as necessary and appropriate to the Commission as regards the future of this Programme.

*Port Sampling Program*

41. The port sampling program developed by the SCRS in 2012 aimed at collecting fishery data for bigeye, yellowfin, and skipjack tunas that are caught in the geographical area of the area/time closure referred to in paragraph 12 for surface fishery shall be continued for landing or transshipment ports. Data and information collected from this sampling program shall be reported to ICCAT each year, describing, at a minimum, the following by country of landing and quarter: species composition, landings by species, length composition, and weights. Biological samples suitable for determining life history should be collected as practicable.

**PART VI  
FINAL PROVISIONS**

*Availability of data to SCRS and to national scientists*

42. CPCs shall ensure that:
- a) Both paper and electronic fishing logbooks referred to in paragraph 32 and the FAD-logbooks referred to in paragraph 20, where applicable, are promptly collected and made available to national scientists;
  - b) The Task II data include the information collected from the fishing or FAD logbooks, where applicable, and is submitted every year to the ICCAT Executive Secretariat, to be made available to the SCRS.
43. With the objective of providing information useful to estimate the fishing effort related to FAD-fishing each CPC should provide full access to VMS data of their fishing and support vessels and trajectories of FADs to its national scientists.
44. CPCs shall undertake historical data mining on the use and number of deployed FADs with a view to possibly submit the relevant information by 31 January 2017 to the ICCAT Executive Secretary, who shall make them available to the FAD working group and to the SCRS.

*Stock assessment*

45. The SCRS shall conduct the next stock assessment of bigeye in 2018.

*Confidentiality*

46. All data shall be treated in a confidential manner.

*Repeals and review*

47. This Recommendation replaces [Rec. 93-04], [Rec. 98-03], [Rec. 04-01], [Res. 05-03], [Rec. 08-01], [Rec. 09-01] [Rec. 10-01] Rec. [11-01], Rec [13-01] and Rec [14-01] and shall be revised in 2016.

### Requirements for Catch Recording

#### Minimum specification for paper or electronic logbooks:

1. The logbook must be numbered by sheets
2. The logbook must be filled in every day (midnight) or before port arrival
3. One copy of the sheets must remain attached to the logbook
4. Logbooks must be kept on board to cover a period of one-trip operation

#### Minimum standard information for logbooks:

1. Master name and address
2. Dates and ports of departure, Dates and ports of arrival
3. Vessel name, registry number, ICCAT number and IMO number (if available)
4. Fishing gear:
  - a) Type FAO code
  - b) Dimension (length, mesh size, number of hooks...)
5. Operations at sea with one line (minimum) per day of trip, providing:
  - a) Activity (fishing, steaming...)
  - b) Position: Exact daily positions (in degree and minutes), recorded for each fishing operation or at noon when no fishing has been conducted during this day
  - c) Record of catches
6. Species identification:
  - a) By FAO code
  - b) Round (RWT) weight in t per set
  - c) Fishing mode (FAD, free school, etc.)
7. Master signature
8. Observer signature, if applicable
9. Means of weight measure: estimation, weighing on board and counting
10. The logbook is kept in equivalent live weight of fish and mentions the conversion factors used in the evaluation

#### Minimum information in case of landing, transhipments:

1. Dates and port of landing /transhipments
2. Products: number of fish and quantity in kg
3. Signature of the Master or Vessel Agent

FAD logbook

<i>FAD marking</i>	<i>Beacon ID</i>	<i>FAD type</i>	<i>Type of visit</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Position</i>		<i>Estimated catches</i>			<i>By-catch</i>			<i>Observations</i>	
						<i>Latitude</i>	<i>Longitude</i>	<i>SKJ</i>	<i>YFT</i>	<i>BET</i>	<i>Taxonomic group</i>	<i>Estimated catches</i>	<i>Unit</i>		<i>Specimen released alive</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(7)	(8)	(8)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

- (1, 2) If FAD marking and associated beacon ID are absent or unreadable, report it in this section.
- (3) Anchored FAD, drifting natural FAD or drifting artificial FAD.
- (4) I.e., deployment, hauling, retrieving, changing the beacon, loss and mention if the visit has been followed by a set.
- (5) dd/mm/yy.
- (6) hh:mm.
- (7) N/S/mm/dd or °E/W/mm/dd.
- (8) Estimated catches expressed in metric tons.
- (9) Use a line per taxonomic group.
- (10) Estimated catches expressed in weight or in number.
- (11) Unit used.
- (12) Expressed as number of specimen.
- (13) If no FAD marking neither associated beacon ID is available, report in this section all available information which may help to describe the FAD and to identify the owner of the FAD.

**List of deployed FADs on a quarterly basis**

<i>FAD Identifier</i>		<i>FAD &amp; electronic equipment types</i>		<i>FAD Design characteristics</i>				<i>Observation</i>
<i>FAD Marking</i>	<i>Associated beacon ID</i>	<i>FAD Type</i>	<i>Type of the associated beacon and /or electronic devices</i>	<i>FAD floating part</i>		<i>FAD underwater hanging structure</i>		
				<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Materials</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Materials</i>	
(1)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(4)	(6)	(7)
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

- (1) If FAD marking and associated beacon ID are absent or unreadable, mention it and provide all available information which may help to identify the owner of the FAD.
- (2) Anchored FAD, drifting natural FAD or drifting artificial FAD.
- (3) E.g. GPS, sounder, etc. If no electronic device is associated to the FAD, note this absence of equipment.
- (4) E.g. width, length, high, depth, mesh sizes, etc.
- (5) Mention the material of the structure and of the cover and if biodegradable.
- (6) E.g. nets, ropes, palms, etc... and mention the entangling and/or biodegradable features of the material.
- (7) Lighting specifications, radar reflectors and visible distances shall be reported in this section.

**Observer Program**

1. The observers referred to in paragraph 36 of this Recommendation shall have the following qualifications to accomplish their tasks:
  - Sufficient experience to identify species and fishing gear;
  - Satisfactory knowledge of the ICCAT conservation and management measures assessed by a certificate provided by the CPCs and based on ICCAT training guidelines;
  - The ability to observe and record accurately;
  - The ability to collect biological samples;
  - A satisfactory knowledge of the language of the flag of the vessel observed.
2. The observers shall not be a crew member of the fishing vessel being observer and shall:
  - a) Be nationals of one of the CPCs;
  - b) Be capable of performing the duties set forth in point 3 below;
  - c) Not have current financial or beneficial interests in the tropical tuna fisheries.

[...]

3. The observer tasks shall be in particular:
  - a) To monitor the fishing vessels' compliance with the relevant conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission.

In particular the observers shall:

- i) Record and report upon the fishing activities carried out;
  - ii) Observe and estimate catches and verify entries made in the logbook;
  - iii) Sight and record vessels which may be fishing in contravention to ICCAT conservation and management measures;
  - iv) Verify the position of the vessel when engaged in catching activity;
  - v) Carry out scientific work such as collecting task II data when required by the Commission, based on the directives from the SCRS.
- b) Report without delay, with due regard to the safety of the observer, any fishing activity associated with FADs made by the vessel in the period referred to in paragraph 12 of this Recommendation.
  - c) Establish general reports compiling the information collected in accordance with this paragraph and provide the master the opportunity to include therein any relevant information.

[...]

**Obligations of the observer**

4. Observers shall treat as confidential all information with respect to the fishing and transshipment operations of the fishing vessels and accept this requirement in writing as a condition of appointment as an observer.
5. Observers shall comply with requirements established in the laws and regulations of the flag State which exercises jurisdiction over the vessel to which the observer is assigned.
6. Observers shall respect the hierarchy and general rules of behaviour which apply to all vessel personnel, provided such rules do not interfere with the duties of the observer under this program, and with the obligations of vessel personnel set forth in paragraph 7.

**Obligations of the flag States of fishing vessels**

7. The responsibilities regarding observers of the flag States of the fishing vessels and their masters shall include the following, notably:
  - a) Observers shall be allowed to access to the vessel personnel and to the gear and equipment;
  - b) Upon request, observers shall also be allowed access to the following equipment, if present on the vessels to which they are assigned, in order to facilitate the carrying out of their duties set forth in paragraph 3:
    - i) satellite navigation equipment;
    - ii) radar display viewing screens when in use;
    - iii) electronic means of communication.
  - c) Observers shall be provided accommodations, including lodging, food and adequate sanitary facilities, equal to those of officers;
  - d) Observers shall be provided with adequate space on the bridge or pilot house for clerical work, as well as space on deck adequate for carrying out observer duties; and
  - e) The flag States shall ensure that masters, crew and vessel owners do not obstruct, intimidate, interfere with, influence, bribe or attempt to bribe an observer in the performance of his/her duties.

### Guidelines for Preparation of FAD Management Plans

The FAD Management Plan for a CPC purse seine and bait boat fleets must include the following:

1. Description
  - a) FAD types: AFAD = anchored; DFAD = drifting
  - b) Type of beacon/buoy
  - c) Maximum number of FAD to be deployed per purse seine and per FAD type
  - d) Minimum distance between AFADs
  - e) Incidental by-catch reduction and utilization policy
  - f) Consideration of interaction with other gear types
  - g) Statement or policy on “FAD ownership”
3. Institutional arrangements
  - a) Institutional responsibilities for the FAD Management plan
  - b) Application processes for FAD deployment approval
  - c) Obligations of vessel owners and masters in respect of FAD deployment and use
  - d) FAD replacement policy
  - e) Additional reporting obligations beyond this Recommendation
  - f) Conflict resolution policy in respect of FADs
  - g) Details of any closed areas or periods e.g. territorial waters, shipping lanes, proximity to artisanal fisheries, etc.
4. FAD construction specifications and requirements
  - a) FAD design characteristics (a description)
  - b) Lighting requirements
  - c) Radar reflectors
  - d) Visible distance
  - e) FAD markings and identifier
  - f) Radio buoys markings and identifier (requirement for serial numbers)
  - g) Echo-sounder buoys markings and identifier (requirement for serial numbers)
  - h) Satellite transceivers
  - i) Research undertaken on biodegradable FADs
  - j) Prevention of loss or abandonment of FADs.
5. Applicable period for the FAD Management Plan
6. Means for monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the FAD Management Plan

**Guidelines for reducing the ecological impact of FADs in ICCAT fisheries**

- 1) The surface structure of the FAD should not be covered or only covered with material implying minimum risk of entangling by-catch species.
- 2) The sub-surface components should be exclusively composed of non-entangling material (e.g. ropes or canvas).
- 3) When designing FADs the use of biodegradable materials should be prioritised.