

Original: Spanish

## MEETING PARTICIPATION FUND<sup>1</sup>

In 2014 the Commission adopted the *Recommendation by ICCAT Amending the Recommendation 11-26 on the Establishment of a Meeting Participation Fund for Developing ICCAT Contracting Parties* [Rec. 14-14] which substitutes and repeals Rec. 11-26 in its entirety.

Recommendation 14-14 establishes a Meeting Participation Fund (MPF) to support representatives of those ICCAT Contracting Parties which are developing States for the purpose of attending and/or contributing to the work of the Commission and other subsidiary bodies. This fund was initially provisioned with €60,000.00 from the Working Capital Fund.

The new recommendation differs from the previous one in that participation of two members per delegation (a manager and a scientist) will be financed for SWGSM meetings only, for the remainder of meetings one member per delegation will be financed.

This fund was financed in 2015 with an allocation of €74,000.00 charged to the Working Capital Fund, as approved by the Commission in 2014. In addition, the Secretariat received a voluntary contribution from Morocco in the amount of €1,000.00 and another from the European Union, through the European Union Fund for Capacity Building (€39,900.00).

To these funds, the carryover of financial year 2014 must be added, which amounted to €25,679.40. Therefore, the available amount in 2015 has been €240,579.40.

Implementation of this fund has significantly driven participation by representatives of developing Contracting Parties, so much so that participation has doubled in the last year. Specifically, 80 trips have been organised and 25 CPCs have benefited. Insofar as this does not present a risk for Commission finances, this initiative should be consolidated. However, the fact should be taken into account that the Working Capital Fund is also called on to finance other activities such as Commission and intersessional meetings, as well as activities related to databases, such as the eBCD. Therefore, a solution would be to include a budgetary item for its annual financing.

Taking into account that in 2015 the number of requests for participation in meetings has doubled, and therefore, the expense incurred charged to this fund, it is considered appropriate to increase to €250,000.00 the allocation for 2016, based on the amount forecast to be spent in 2015.

Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities are requested to inform STACFAD and the Executive Secretary of the amounts which they could commit to the MPF through voluntary contributions for 2016.

Finally, it is recalled that access to the funds for participation in meetings is governed by a protocol published on the web site and sent to the delegations for each meeting. The requests received are submitted for approval to the ICCAT Chairman and the STACFAD Chair.

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<sup>1</sup> Information at 10 November 2015.

<b>Special Meeting Participation Fund (MPF)</b>	
<b>Opening balance for financial year 2015</b>	<b>€125,679.40</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>€114,900.00</b>
Financed by the Working Capital Fund	€74,000.00
Voluntary contribution from Morocco	€1,000.00
Voluntary contribution from the European Union through the European Union Fund for Capacity Building	€39,900.00
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>€236,459.22</b>
Scientific meetings	€88,543.34
<i>Bluefin Tuna Data Preparatory Meeting (Madrid, Spain, from 2 to 6 March 2015)</i>	€1,662.26
<i>Blue Shark Data Preparatory Meeting (Tenerife, Spain, from 23 to 27 March 2015)</i>	€3,338.82
<i>Bigeye Tuna Data Preparatory Meeting (Madrid, Spain, from 4 to 8 May 2015)</i>	€2,691.86
<i>Intersessional Meeting of the Sub-Committee on Ecosystems (Madrid, Spain, from 8 to 12 June 2015)</i>	€2,134.59
<i>Small Tunas Species Group Intersessional Meeting (Madrid, Spain, from 10 to 13 June 2015)</i>	€9,674.52
<i>Bigeye Tuna Stock Assessment Session (Madrid, Spain, from 13 to 17 July 2015)</i>	€7,848.75
<i>Blue Shark Stock Assessment Session (Lisbon, Portugal, from 27 to 31 July 2015)</i>	€9,258.61
<i>SCRS Species Groups Meeting (Madrid, Spain, from 21 to 25 September 2015)</i>	€2,414.43
<i>Meeting of the SCRS Species Groups and of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (Madrid, Spain, from 21 September to 2 October 2015)</i>	€49,519.50
<i>Intersessional Meeting of Panel 2 / 10th Meeting of the Working Group on IMM (Madrid, Spain, from 23 to 27 February 2015)</i>	€15,107.96
<i>1st Meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on FADs (Madrid, Spain, from 11 to 12 May 2015)</i>	€3,854.09
<i>Meeting of the Working Group on Convention Amendment (Miami, United States, from 18 to 22 May 2015)</i>	€2,917.78
<i>Standing Working Group to Enhance Dialogue between Fisheries Scientists and Managers (SWGSM) / Working Group of Fisheries Managers and Scientists in Support of the Western Bluefin Tuna Stock Assessment (WBFTWG) (Bilbao, Spain, from 22 to 26 June 2015)</i>	€30,942.74
<i>24th Regular Meeting of the Commission (Malta, from 10 to 17 November 2015)</i>	€65,093.31
<b>Balance at 10 November 2015</b>	<b>€4,120.18</b>

Summary of expenses

CPC	Scientific meetings and 1st Meeting of the <i>Ad Hoc</i> Working Group on FADs	Intersessional Meeting of Panel 2 / 10th Meeting of the Working Group on IMM	Meeting of the Working Group on Convention Amendment	Standing Working Group to Enhance Dialogue between Fisheries Scientists and Managers (SWGSM) / Working Group of Fisheries Managers and Scientists in Support of the Western Bluefin Tuna Stock Assessment (WBFTWG)	24th Regular Meeting of the Commission				
Albania			X	€3,123.78	X	€2,636.39			
Algeria	a) €1,662.26 e) €1,430.59 i) €3,219.20	X	€1,663.81	X	€3,342.83	X	€2,830.99		
Belize						X	€4,383.89		
Brazil			X	€2,670.49		X	€3,740.97		
Cape Verde	i) €3,970.24					X	€4,019.48		
Côte d'Ivoire	f) €2,366.99 g) €2,636.12 i) €4,057.26	X	€1,742.05		X	€2,070.83 X	€2,075.83	X	€3,901.46
Egypt		X	€1,460.50	X	€3,001.06				
El Salvador				X	€2,560.53				
Gabon	h) €2,414.43 j) €2,060.29			X	€4,214.34		X	€4,002.59	
Ghana	f) €2,366.94 i) €3,966.62					X	€3,055.09 X	€3,090.40	
Guatemala, Rep. of							X	€4,038.72	
Equatorial Guinea		X	€1,789.26				X	€3,862.05	
Guinea, Rep. of	i) €4,574.45						X	€4,219.70	
Liberia		X	€2,445.22	X	€3,610.75		X	€4,686.16	
Morocco	e) €1,365.30								
Mauritania	i) €4,539.73								

	j)	€1,643.80								
Mexico	e)	€3,150.84					X	€3,187.93	X	€3,838.77
	i)	€4,293.55								
Nigeria	j) C	€150.00	X	€2,113.80	C	€244.85	X	€2,153.33		
Panama									X	€4,321.09
Sao Tomé and Príncipe	g)	€3,276.97			X	€3,768.23			X	€4,345.06
	i)	€4,295.11								
Senegal	e)	€1,593.19	X	€2,103.35	X	€3,046.04	X	€1,580.03	X	€3,557.49
	i)	€3,300.48					X	€1,838.41	X	
Tunisia	i)	€3,022.68	X	€1,789.97	X	€3,334.88	X C	€1,256.34 €27.84	X	€2,735.38
Uruguay	b)	€3,338.82								
	c)	€2,691.86								
	d)	€2,134.59								
	e)	€2,134.60					X	€2,438.77	X	€3,973.12
	f)	€3,114.82					X	€2,439.77		
	g)	€3,345.52								
	i)	€5,008.79								
Vanuatu							X	€3,228.17		
Venezuela	i)	€5,271.39								
<b>Total</b>		<b>€2,397.43</b>		<b>€15,107.96</b>		<b>€32,917.78</b>		<b>€30,942.74</b>		<b>€65,093.31</b>

a) Bluefin Tuna Data Preparatory Meeting / b) Blue Shark Data Preparatory Meeting / c) Bigeye Tuna Data Preparatory Meeting / d) Intersessional Meeting of the Sub-Committee on Ecosystems / e) Small Tunas Species Group Intersessional Meeting / f) Bigeye Tuna Stock Assessment Session / g) Blue Shark Stock Assessment Session / h) Species Groups Meeting / i) Meeting of the Species Groups and SCRS / j) 1st Meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on FADs

C: Trip cancelled