

Original: English

**SUMMARY REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES
COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (COC)**

(All documents mentioned in this report are available
[on the 2020 Commission meeting webpage](#))

1. Review of CPC implementation of and compliance with ICCAT requirements, focusing on priority issues and/or cases

CPCs reviewed and commented on, through a multi-stage process, compliance-related information contained, *inter alia*, in the Annual Reports, Compliance Summary Tables (COC_308), and the Compliance Tables (COC-304). All late reports, check sheets etc. were published as addenda to the existing documents in order to inform the COCs' deliberations and recommendations. Questions posed by CPCs and answers received are attached in Appendix XX [COC-320A].

A revised version of the summary tables with all available information was published as COC_308D, which makes some minor updates to the document previously labelled as final (COC_308C).

The most recent version of the Compliance Tables are found in Document COC_304E. This table revises 304D to address an error in incorporating one CPC's request to remove numbers in COC_304C for CPCs without a hard catch limit in the adjusted catch limit column on the right hand side. In 304D, the numbers for such CPCs were removed not only from the adjusted catch limit column, but also from the left hand column of the previous version (COC_304C). Therefore the numbers for such CPCs have been reinserted in the left hand column, in order to have greater transparency as to the applicable thresholds. Since this element of the table was not reflected in the version presented for final approval (304C), this element of the BET table should be considered a recommendation of the COC Chair for approval by the Commission. In the case of all other elements of the Compliance Tables in COC_308E, which remain unchanged from the version presented for final approval (308D) and to which there were no objections by COC members, in accordance with the procedures for the correspondence process adopted by the Commission, these tables are deemed approved and are presented to the Commission for its endorsement.

Statements were received from the following CPCs and are appended to the meeting report as follows: Senegal (COC 316 and COC 323), the United States (COC 318), Guatemala (COC 326), and El Salvador (COC 327).

2. Review of information relating to Non-CPCs

Having received no objections to the COC Chair's recommended actions in the case of Non-CPCs, as reflected in [Appendix 2 of COC 308D](#), these recommendations are deemed endorsed by the COC and are presented to the Commission for its approval.

3. Determination of recommended actions to address CPC compliance issues

Having received no objections to the COC Chair's recommended actions in the case of CPCs, as reflected in [Appendix 2 of COC 308D](#), these recommendations are deemed endorsed by the COC and are presented to the Commission for its approval. Additionally, one CPC, in its comments on these recommended actions, noted that COC_308 documents did not note, in the case of some CPCs, non-submission of updated shark or billfish checksheets. The Chair recommends that such deficiency is raised through letters to relevant CPCs. Additionally, the Chair recommends that comments submitted by CPCs with respect to these recommended actions are appended to the compliance letters to provide such CPCs with additional context on matters raised and a further opportunity to respond intersessionally. The United States submitted a statement that it requested be included in the meeting report, attached as Appendix XX (and COC-328).

With respect to “no data, no fish” provisions of Recommendation 11-15, the Secretariat will issue letters of prohibition on retention of ICCAT species to those CPCs which did not submit Task 1 or confirm zero catches for such species before 1 December 2020. Letters of prohibition will therefore be issued to Costa Rica, The Gambia, Grenada and Guinea Bissau.

4. Review and decisions on Cooperating status renewals and requests

One Contracting Party objected to the renewal of cooperating non-member status for Colombia, as reflected in [COC 324](#). Colombia’s response has been posted as [COC 329](#). Additional correspondence concerning this matter can be found in [COC-319](#) and [COC-322](#). As no additional comments were received on Colombia’s status, in accordance with Rec. 03-20 the COC is recommending that cooperating status not be renewed for Colombia. There was no objection to renewal for the others currently holding such status, but in the case of certain CPCs such renewal would be with the understanding that this may be revoked in 2021 for those with serious reporting deficiencies, unless such deficiencies are remedied, as reflected in [Appendix 2 to COC 308D](#).

5. Review of progress made by the Online Reporting Technology Working Group and next steps

No comments have been received on the interim report of this group [[COC 306](#)], reflecting support for this group continuing its work as outlined in the document, including through a virtual meeting of the group is scheduled for February 2021.

6. Other matters

The *Resolution by ICCAT to Facilitate an Effective and Efficient Compliance Process* (Res. 16-22), para 6, provides “[O]nce every two years, the COC will hold a special session just prior to the ICCAT Annual Meeting for a CPC by CPC review.” This was intended to enable the COC to go into greater depth than is normally possible when the COC is limited to the standard four sessions during the Annual Meeting. The last such session was in 2018, and the special session scheduled for 2020 was not held due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In furtherance of para 6 of 16-22, the COC Chair recommends that the Commission schedule a session of the COC just prior to the Annual Meeting in 2021.

As has been noted by participants in past meetings of the COC, the COC has not addressed non-fulfilment of FAD data requirements, and in a submission to the COC in the 2020 correspondence process, it has been noted that information has not been available for the COC to support implementation of para 31 of the *Recommendation by ICCAT to replace Recommendation 16-01 by ICCAT on a multi-annual conservation and management programme for tropical tunas* (Rec. 19-02), which provides “CPCs with purse seine vessels shall urgently undertake to report to the SCRS by 31 July 2020 the required historical FAD set data. CPCs that do not report these data in accordance with this paragraph shall be prohibited from setting on FADs until such data have been received by the SCRS.” The COC Chair recommends that the Secretariat work in coordination with the COC Chair to ensure that the appropriate information is available to the Commission for the full implementation of this provision in the future.

Regarding review of requests for, and renewal of, Cooperating Non-Member status, one CPC highlighted the existence of significant deficiencies regarding fulfilment of ICCAT requirements in the case of a number of current Cooperating Non-Members seeking renewal of such status. The COC Chair has raised similar concerns in the past, and compliance letters to a number of cooperating non-members in recent years have warned that cooperating status may not be renewed if the deficiencies continue. The COC Chair recommends that the Compliance Committee devote time at the 2021 meeting to discuss how to further address this matter in a coherent and a consistent manner going forward.

An observer organization submitted an informational paper entitled “A Comparative Analysis of AIS Data with the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas Reported Transshipment Activity” [[COC_317](#)]. Given the nature of the COC correspondence process in lieu of an in-person meeting, and the date of availability of this information, it was difficult for the COC to consider and discuss this information.

The Chair recommends the COC further consider and discuss, as appropriate, compliance-related aspects of this information in its current or updated form at the 2021 Annual Meeting.

7. Recommendations to the Commission based on findings of above

- Adopt the list of recommended actions in Appendix 2 to COC_308D;
- Include in letters to relevant CPCs information on non-submission of updated shark and billfish checksheets;
- Adopt the Compliance Tables (compliance annex) in COC_304E;
- Renew cooperating status for Bolivia, Chinese Taipei, Costa Rica, Guyana and Suriname, noting that further renewal will be dependent on compliance performance, but not renew such status for Colombia;
- Support the continued work of the Online Reporting Technology Working Group, including through its virtual meeting in February 2021; and
- A special two day session of the COC should be scheduled to take place in conjunction with the annual meeting in 2021.