

**TO THE CHAIRMAN OF PANEL 1  
STATEMENT BY MOROCCO REGARDING THE DRAFT RECOMMENDATION ON TROPICAL TUNAS  
PA1-503**

In 2019, considerable efforts were made by ICCAT CPCs, in particular developing CPCs, for adoption of Rec. 19-02 on sustainable management of tropical tunas.

Morocco is one of the ICCAT CPCs that aim to develop the tropical tunas fishery in 2020, but unfortunately the health crisis, which started at the beginning of the year, has slowed down achievement of these ambitions, and this must be taken into account during future discussions on the tropical tunas recommendation.

However, Morocco supports the proposal of the Panel 1 Chairman to extend ICCAT Recommendation 19-02 to 2021 and postpone all the discussions on tropical tunas until the intersessional meetings scheduled for 2021, on account of the considerations raised in document PA1-503.