

SUMMARY REPORT OF PANEL 1 CHAIR

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

1. Review of Panel membership

In accordance with ICCAT Circular #7729/20, Panel 1 welcomes the United Kingdom as a member of Panel 1. A full list of Panel 1 members is contained in document GEN-004A/20.

2. Review of Compliance Tables

The main issue of relevance for the drafting of the Compliance Tables is the determination of the initial quotas/catch limits for bigeye tuna for 2020. The tables indicate quotas, catch limits and catches up to 2019. Some questions were raised regarding the calculation of underages, namely whether this should be based on the initial quota or the adjusted quota. One CPC requested that the Secretariat seek legal advice on this issue, but it was noted that it is not within the Secretariat's mandate, and that the interpretation of the Recommendations is the Commission's responsibility.

On this issue, one CPC disagreed that "some CPCs exploit the lack of clarity of the measure." For this CPC, the mandate of the measure is absolutely clear in terms of its subject matter, timeframe and form.

The Chair of the Compliance Committee was requested to contribute to the discussion, and he noted that the past practice for all species was to calculate underages using the adjusted quotas.

Several CPCs expressed concern that the reference points were indicated as catch limits in the Compliance Tables, and therefore the catch limits of CPCs covered by paragraph 4(d) of the Rec. 19-02 have been deleted from the Compliance Tables to avoid any confusion.

The Chair of Panel 1 would like to clarify that the conclusion does not mention anywhere that document PA1-502B/20 has been adopted. It only states that it is a basis for discussions for the work of the intersessional meeting.

3. Measures for the conservation of stocks and implementation of the *ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities*

The Chair of the Panel presented for review the "Draft Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT to amend the Recommendation 19-02 by ICCAT to replace Recommendation 16-01 by ICCAT on a multi-annual conservation and management programme for tropical tunas". While this draft recommendation was supported by several CPCs, comments were received from other Parties. These Parties expressed their disagreement because they felt that their views were not taken into account and that the process was not transparent and inclusive.

These CPCs reiterated that paragraph 1 of the "Draft supplemental recommendation by ICCAT to amend the Recommendation 19-02 by ICCAT to replace Recommendation 16-01 of ICCAT on a multi-year conservation and management program for tropical tunas" should be rephrased as follows: "The provisions of the 2019 *Recommendation by ICCAT to replace Recommendation 16-01 on a multi-year conservation and management program for tropical tunas* (Rec. 19-02) applicable to the year 2020 are extended to 2021". Another CPC, supporting this new reformulation of paragraph 1, proposed the reformulation of paragraph 2 as follows: "An intersessional meeting of Panel 1 will be held in 2021 to review the existing measures and, in the event of new overages of yellowfin and/or bigeye TAC, to contemplate the adoption of a new multiannual plan for tropical tunas based on effort management".

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It is clear that at this stage of the discussions, no consensus has been reached on this draft recommendation.

As no consensus could be reached in Panel 1 regarding this measure, this threatened resource risks being left unmanaged in 2021, and the matter is submitted to the plenary for its resolution.

Regarding the roadmap proposed by the Chair of the Panel, some CPCs, while not opposing to it, would like the items for discussion not to be closed and that there be a possibility of developing the agenda items in due course.

4. Recommendations to the Commission based on the above findings

Panel 1 recommends that:

- The Commission thoroughly review the “Draft Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT to amend the Recommendation 19-02 by ICCAT to replace Recommendation 16-01 by ICCAT on a multi-annual conservation and management programme for tropical tunas” in the Plenary to reach consensus.
- The Commission adopt the work plan proposed by the Chair of Panel 1 for 2021 presented in document PA1_511A, and consider the list to be non-exhaustive, noting that the IMM Working Group will work on many Panel 1 related issues, and that the Panel will review the results of this Group.