

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE
CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS



COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA
CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'ATLANTIQUE

COMISION INTERNACIONAL PARA LA
CONSERVACION DEL ATUN ATLANTICO

Madrid, 21 January 2022

The Hon. Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Beirut, Republic of Lebanon

SUBJECT: INVITATION TO CONSIDER BECOMING A MEMBER OF ICCAT – LEBANON

I have the honour to refer to the *Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 03-20 on criteria for attaining the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party, Entity or Fishing Entity in ICCAT* [Rec. 21-24] which requires me, as Executive Secretary of ICCAT to contact all non-Contracting Parties, Entities, or Fishing Entities known to be fishing in the Convention area for species under ICCAT competence to urge them to become a Contracting Party to ICCAT or to attain the status of a Cooperating non-Contracting Party, Entity or Fishing Entity.

It has come to my attention that there are indications that Lebanon has been catching species under the competence of ICCAT in recent years, and I should therefore like to take this opportunity to request that Lebanon consider becoming a Contracting Party to ICCAT. The International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas is an inter-governmental fishery organisation which was established by parties desiring to co-operate in maintaining the populations of these fishes at levels which will permit the maximum sustainable catch for food and other purposes. The ICCAT Convention is open to any State which is a Member of the United Nations or of any Specialized Agency of the United Nations.

In the event that Lebanon is not at this time in a position to become a Contracting Party, you may also wish to consider the possibility of becoming a Cooperating Party. The procedures and information required to achieve such status is contained in *Rec. 21-24*. Applications should reach the Secretariat, together with all required supporting information, by **16 August 2022**.

All Contracting Parties and non-Contracting Cooperating Parties are expected to abide by the conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission, which are available on our web site at <https://www.iccat.int/en/RecRes.asp>.

I look forward to working with Lebanon in the future towards sustainable fisheries of tuna and tuna-like species.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Executive Secretary

Camille Jean Pierre Manel

cc: The Hon. Minister of Agriculture
The Hon. Ambassador of the Republic of Lebanon in the Kingdom of Spain