

Original: English/Spanish

Correspondence with non-CPCs following 2021 COC meeting

This document contains responses received by **15 October 2022** from those non-Contracting Parties who do not have Cooperating status. **Annex 1** contains the letters sent by the COC Chair and/or the Executive Secretary. Replies received after 15 October 2022 will be presented as **Addendum** to **COC-310**.

<i>NCP</i>	<i>Letter content</i>	<i>Reply received 2021</i>	<i>Observations</i>	<i>2022 Action</i>	<i>Reply received 2022</i>
Colombia	Letter on reporting deficiencies while still a Cooperating party	6 October 2021		No letter from COC, but issues raised under 08-09 by European Union. Please see COC-312/22 for details.	
Dominica	Concern over continued over-harvest of blue marlin	11 October 2021	Letter was accompanied by statistical data	2022 letter inviting them to become a coop/contracting party sent 21 January 2022	
Gibraltar	Request data and information concerning autonomous EBFT quota	19 May 2021	Statistical data sent indicating catches of BFT (sport/recreational fisheries; destination of fish unknown)	Letter requesting additional information and continued data sent 26 July 2022	
St. Kitts & Nevis	Request data and information on fisheries management	No response in 2021		2022 letter inviting them to become a coop/contracting party sent 21 January 2022. Receipt of letter acknowledged.	Receipt of letter acknowledged.
St. Lucia	Request continued collaboration and statistical data submission	N/A	No response required; Task 1 data was again submitted.	2022 letter inviting them to become a coop/contracting party sent 21 January 2022.	Replied indicating that they are not in a position to become CP, but will continue to provide statistics (response attached)

Letters inviting Dominican Republic; Jamaica; Israel; Lebanon and Montenegro to become cooperating / Contracting parties were also sent.

The response from Jamaica is attached.

JAMAICA

NATIONAL FISHERIES AUTHORITY

15 August 2022

Mr. Camille Jean Pierre Manel
Executive Secretary
International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
C/ Corazón de María, 8
28002 Madrid, Spain

Dear Mr. Pierre Manel,

Re: Invitation to Consider Becoming a Member of ICCAT

We wish to express our gratitude for the consideration and invitation by the ICCAT Secretariat for Jamaica to join the ICCAT.

We also confirm Jamaica's commitment to continue to respect the Commission's conservation and management measures as well as our willingness to inform ICCAT of any measures taken or to be taken to ensure compliance by our vessels with ICCAT conservation and management measures.

It is to be noted that at this time Jamaica is currently not engaged in any commercial fishing of Atlantic Tuna and Tuna-like species, given that our existing fishery is one based on subsistence catch or small-scale artisanal fishing activity. As a policy however, we do intend to develop the local fishery to a small scale commercial one.

As such, Jamaica does have an interest in becoming a member of ICCAT and have begun to take measures to receive the necessary approvals from our policy and foreign affairs institutions. We anticipate having the necessary instruments and supporting information submitted in the near future.

Yours respectfully,

[signed]

Chief Executive Officer
Gavin Bellamy, Dr.

Copy: Mr. Dermon Spence - Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

ST. LUCIA

21 January 2022

Mr. Camille Jean Pierre Manel
Executive Secretary
International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
Corazon De Maria 8
28002 Madrid, Spain

Dear Mr. Manel,

Subject: Invitation to Consider becoming a member of ICCAT - Saint Lucia

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Rural Development is in receipt of your correspondence dated January 21, 2022.

The Ministry advises that at this time, Saint Lucia is unable to be a contracting or cooperating party to ICCAT; nonetheless, reassures its commitment to the submission of fisheries statistics.

The Ministry acknowledges the work of ICCAT in maintaining populations of tuna and tuna-like fish in the Atlantic Ocean at levels permitting the maximum sustainable catch for food and other purposes since its entry into force in 1966. It is noted; however, that the Intergovernmental Convention on the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas entered into force thirteen (13) years prior to Saint Lucia becoming a sovereign coastal State. Consequently, it would be important to also equally ensure that the objectives and mandate of ICCAT are focused on the priorities and needs of the vast majority of the members of ICCAT not the priorities of a few dominant members. Additionally, there should be provisions that takes into consideration the special circumstances of vulnerable Small Island Developing States.

The Ministry will continue provide data on species of interest to ICCAT and to further refine and update management plans taking in consideration recommendations from ICCAT, where applicable, based on the scientific findings on the status of the stock as well as the socio-economic importance of the fishery and its contribution to food security.

We wish your organisation continued success.

Please accept the assurance of my highest regard.

(signed)

Hon. Alfred Prospere
Minister of Agriculture