

Original: English/French/Spanish

**Implementation of Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish
Minimum Standards for Fishing Vessel Scientific Observer Programs [Rec. 16-14]:
Scientific Observer Programmes**

(ICCAT Secretariat)

The Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish Minimum Standards for Fishing Vessel Scientific Observer Programs [Rec. 16-14], paragraph 10 d) stipulates that each CPC: *provide in its Annual Report for use by the Commission and the SCRS, specific information on the implementation of this Recommendation, which shall include: details on the structure and design of their scientific observer programs, including, inter alia: - the target level of observer coverage by fishery and gear type as well as how measured; - data required to be collected; - data collection and handling protocols in place; - information on how vessels are selected for coverage to achieve the CPC's target level of observer coverage; - observer training requirements; and - observer qualification requirements.*

Annex 1 shows the responses to requirement S:GEN11. A summary of the responses about structure/design of their Scientific Observer Program (now referred to as the Domestic Observer Program), gathered from historical ST11 submissions is summarized in PLE-105/22 Appendix 3 summarizing the Domestic Observer Program information. This table is updated annually when CPCs provide information that differs from previous years. There are 33 Flag CPCs that have provided information about Domestic Observer Program design and implementation.

PLE-105/2022 Appendix 4 shows that the Secretariat was successfully able to process forms from 32 CPCs (see under the heading Sum of Processed, in the year 2021) with some CPC revising data from 2019 and 2020.

The SCRS reviewed alternative scientific monitoring approaches to scientific observer programmes provided by Morocco for data from small scale/artisanal fisheries of bluefin tuna, small tuna, and swordfish. The Committee acknowledged the potential of the approach proposed by Morocco to fill this challenging data gap and encouraged them to continue to develop the methodology, given its application to multiple species harvested in artisanal fisheries where observer coverage is not possible. However, while the Committee acknowledges the effort to monitor small scale/artisanal fleets by Morocco, it requested that further information be provided for the Committee to properly evaluate the proposed methodology. CPCs wishing to seek such endorsement should submit an SCRS document describing the approach so that SCRS can review it.

Annex 1

Responses to S:GEN11 (Information on implementation of Rec. 16-14) from Annual Report

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>	<i>Response/Reason for Not Applicable</i>
ALBANIA	No	Albania has Observer program data on discards, by-catch or incidental catch of vulnerable species in the Albanian fleet of trawlers and small pelagic purse seiners in the Adriatic Sea
ALGERIA	Yes	Aucun changement n'opéré depuis la dernière transmission
BARBADOS	Yes	Barbados has not implemented an observer program. Provision 16-14 4b applies in the case of Barbados vessels. In this context, Barbados is examining options to comply with Rec. 16-14. Note that the Draft 2021 Fisheries Management Regulations (see section 4) mandate participation in approved observer programmes including electronic monitoring systems.
BELIZE	Yes	Belize does not carry out alternative scientific monitoring as we have no small-scale vessels in our fleet unable to carry observers.
BOLIVIA	Yes	No aplicable Bolivia no dispuso de un programa de observadores nacionales en funcionamiento, como tampoco utilizó un enfoque alternativo toda vez que no contó con buques pesqueros autorizados para operar en la zona del Convenio durante el período del presente informe
BRAZIL	No	
CANADA	No	All catch, discards and, observer data provided as an aggregate consistent with domestic confidentiality requirements in Task I and II data.
CABO VERDE	No	Todavía Cabo Verde no cuenta con un programa de observadores. Es un proceso en estudio para crear las bases a e condiciones operativas para una implementación futura
CHINA PR.	Yes	Not applicable. China has no small-scale vessels.
CHINESE TAIPEI	No	2022-04-27, 2022-07-27, 2022-07-29
COSTA RICA	Yes	Costa Rica no realiza capturas sobre el pez espada del Atlántico sur
CURAÇAO	No	Implementation of Rec 16-14 was sent on 2022-9-15
EGYPT	Yes	Not Applicable - Lakes and Fish Resources Protection and Development Agency (LFRPDA) in collaboration with the National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries will implement within few months the scientific program for specialists to carry out the tasks of the scientific observer.
EL SALVADOR	No	Enviada oportunamente el 25 de julio de 2022 (Ref. Oficio CENDEPESCA 0396) Los buques salvadoreños tienen una cobertura del 100% con observadores durante los viajes de pesca. Todos los observadores pertenecen al programa Sea Eye, estos son asignados por Sea Eye y han sido formados por AZTI.
EUROPEAN UNION	No	
FRANCE (ST-PIERRE ET MIQUELON)	Yes	Non applicable- FR SPM n'a pas eu de campagne d'observation ICCAT à bord de ses navires en 2021

Organization	Not Applicable	Response/Reason for Not Applicable
GABON	Yes	Pas d'informations
GHANA	No	Annual Report
GUINEA ECUATORIAL	Yes	No aplicable. Guinea Ecuatorial no tiene observadores cualificados. Se necesita formación
GUINÉE REP.	No	Formulaire incompris.
GUYANA	Yes	Observer program preparations halted. No active fishing conducted for tuna.
HONDURAS	Yes	No aplica, en virtud que actualmente Honduras no cuenta con buques pesqueros autorizados sobre especies en la ICCAT.
ICELAND	Yes	No such fisheries
JAPAN	Yes	No Japanese small-scale vessel operates in the ICCAT Convention area.
KOREA REP	No	There was no observer dispatched due to COVID-19 pandemic.
LIBERIA	No	
LIBYA	Yes	BFT caught live and transported to other farming CPCs
MAROC	No	
MAURITANIA	Yes	La Mauritanie n'avait pas des unités ciblant les thons en 2021
MEXICO	No	
NAMIBIA	No	Namibia does not catch Pelagic Sargassum.
NICARAGUA	Yes	No operamos flota pesquera en la zona del Convenio.
NORWAY	Yes	Due to Covid-19 restrictions, Norway did not allow observers on board Norwegian vessels in 2021.
PANAMA	No	2022/08/04
PHILIPPINES	Yes	Not applicable. This CPC has no active fleet in the ICCAT Area of Convention from 2014 to present-
RUSSIA	No	Observers covered 15% fishing days of trawl fisheries (2022-07-14)
SENEGAL	No	
SIERRA LEONE	Yes	Sierra Leone does not have Observers on board tuna vessels licensed to fish tuna and tuna-like species in Sierra Leone.
SOUTH AFRICA	No	2022-07-28
St VINCENT & GRENADINES	Yes	Due to Covid-19 restrictions no observer was deployed in 2021.
SURINAME	Yes	Suriname is not involved in any scientific observer program. Suriname had no vessels catching tuna and tuna like species in 2021.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	No	Domestic observer program not yet implemented in Trinidad and Tobago
TUNISIE	No	
TÜRKIYE	No	Submitted in the report named "Report_on_GEN11_SHK01_BYC04_BYC05_TUR-2021". Sent to ICCAT on 2022/07/31.
UNITED KINGDOM	No	
UNITED STATES	No	This information is provided in Part II, Section 4 of the U.S. Annual Report.
URUGUAY	Yes	Sin actividad de la flota en 2021.
VENEZUELA	Yes	El programa de observadores a bordo de Venezuela no funcionó en 2021.