

Original: French

## STATEMENT BY ALGERIA REGARDING A QUOTA INCREASE REQUEST

The Head Delegate of Algeria to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), has the honour to reiterate Algeria's request for an upward revision of Algeria's Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna fishing quota.

Chair, the practitioners and vessel owners involved in the bluefin tuna fishery have consistently called for an upward revision of Algeria's bluefin tuna fishing quota, which they consider to be below that of many countries, even all those countries with the same particularities as Algeria, in particular, configuration of the profession, fishing traditions and background, composition of fishing capacity, geography of the regions etc.

Chair, effectively, the Department of Fisheries, represented by the Ministry of Fisheries and Fisheries Products, considers that it is the case that while Algeria's bluefin tuna quota was revised downwards in 2011, due to the decrease in TAC, there has been a sharp and significant decrease only in the allocation key for Algeria, falling from 5.073% to 1.07%.

Chair, since Algeria acceded to ICCAT by way of Presidential Decree No. 2000-388 of 28 November 2000, it has made every effort to honour its commitments and comply with the provisions of the Convention, and the ICCAT Recommendations and Resolutions through:

- Implementation of the conservation and management measures into the national regulation,
- Regular participation in ICCAT intersessional meetings,
- Participation by Algerian scientists in the work of the scientific committee (SCRS),
- Notification, by the established deadlines, of all information required under ICCAT Recommendations,
- Correct conduct of the bluefin tuna fishing campaign.

It should be recalled that Algeria does not allow any bluefin tuna fishing outside of its national quota, even though the waters under national jurisdiction are considered an area of common passage and migration of this resource. Regarding the above, it is noted the efforts and understanding of all ICCAT parties, which have resulted in an increase in Algeria's quota since 2012, but its historical quota has never been reached.

On this basis, Algeria requests an upward revision of its quota, in particular, of the allocation key in relation to the TAC reserved for Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna.

Chair, we ask for your understanding in the careful review of this request.

While you are welcome to contact us for any additional information considered necessary, we will submit, without delay, the background to this request.