

Mediterranean swordfish fishing plans submitted in 2022
Rec. 16-05

Paragraph 10 of the *Recommendation by ICCAT replacing the Recommendation [13-04] and Establishing a Multi-annual Recovery Plan for Mediterranean Swordfish* [Rec. 16-05] states that: “Starting in 2018, CPCs shall submit their fishing plan to ICCAT by 15 March each year. Such plan shall include detailed information regarding the quota allocated by gear type, including to sport and recreational fisheries (if applicable) and by-catches”.

Fishing plans were received within the deadline from Algeria, European Union, Morocco, Tunisia and Türkiye.

ALGERIA**Year of Fishing Plan: 2022****1. Introduction**

Algeria's fishing plan for 2022 is based on the provisions of Recommendation 16-05 which remains in force. These provisions have been implemented into national legislation, and it is consistent with them, in particular, Article 10 and the national regulation.

Algeria implements its fishing plan for 2022 to catch its quota which is around 472,30 t, i.e., a 3% reduction compared to the 2021 quota.

The national longline fleet which comprises 500 artisanal vessels with a length between 4 m and 14.44 m, uses surface longliners to target swordfish, in accordance with the relevant requirements of Recommendation 16-05 and the national legislation regulating this activity.

The fishing plan is implemented to catch 472.30 t which are distributed among all the swordfish vessels. A quota of 1%, i.e. 4.7 t has been deducted from the overall quota of 472.30 t, and set aside for by-catch and incidental catches.

2. Details of fishing plan

The 2022 Mediterranean swordfish fishing plan has been designed to ensure compliance with Algeria's quota limit and the provisions contained in legislation and the national regulations, based on ICCAT Recommendation 16-05.

Like every year, individual quotas for each of the vessels authorised to participate in the swordfish fishery will be established, based on an equitable method of distribution of individual quotas, according to the length and engine power of each fishing vessel.

Algeria has an artisanal swordfish fishery made up of 500 vessels. It operates with small vessels with a length between 4 m and 14.44 m. These vessels target swordfish using small-scale surface longlines. In accordance with the current Algerian regulations, an annual fishing authorisation is issued for each vessel by the fisheries administration to actively fish for swordfish in 2022, observing a fishery closure during the regulatory closure period from 1 January to 31 March.

As regards bycatch taken by vessels not actively targeting swordfish (trawlers and sardine fishing vessels), catches will be landed, reported and deducted from up to 1% of the Algerian overall quota i.e. 4.7 t or from the Algerian quota if the bycatch quota is exceeded.

In relation to control, a system is in place to ensure that the amounts of swordfish landed at the designated ports comply with the individual quota allocated to each vessel and the minimum trade size, which is 120 cm.

	<i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 16-05)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note:</i>
1	Fleet development plan (para 9)	The swordfish fishery in Algeria is a purely artisanal fishery for subsistence purposes, carried out by vessels mostly with a length less than 12 m and with low engine power. For the purposes of better monitoring and organization of this type of fishery, Algeria is developing a text to regulate, in general, this artisanal activity for subsistence purposes.	Article 7 of Law No. 15-08 of 2 April 2015 which amends and supplements Law No. 01-11 of 3 July 2001 relating to the fisheries and aquaculture.	
2	Choice of fishery closure periods (para 11-13)	In accordance with paragraphs 11-13, the closure period is established from 1 January to 31 March.	Decree of 25 February 2018 establishing the closure period of the swordfish fishery in waters under national jurisdiction.	
3	Recreational and sports fisheries (para 21-26)	There are no recreational and sport fisheries targeting swordfish in Algeria.		
4	Allocation of by-catch and detail of the limits by vessel/operation (para 30)	Bycatch will be deducted from the balance of the 4.7 t allocated to bycatch or from the Algerian quota if the amount set aside for bycatch is exceeded.		
5	Recording and communication of catches (para 35-37)	Catches (in number and size/weight) are recorded in a logbook as well as in information collection sheets on fishing operations, nonetheless given that it is an artisanal fishery, the longline fleet targeting swordfish comprises vessels with a length less 15 m, and the exact coordinates of fishing operations are not reported. In accordance with paragraph 37, of ICCAT Rec. 16-05, Algeria reports the volume of Mediterranean swordfish caught by the vessels flying its national flag within 30 days of the end of the period during which the catches were made.	Order of 16-04-2006 establishing the logbook.	

6	Measures taken to control landings (para 34)	As regards control, regular and random controls are carried out by coast guards at sea and on each entry and at port access points to ensure compliance with the regulations in force, in particular, observance of the fishery closure period as well as minimum trade sizes. As regards recording of landings and quota compliance, these tasks are carried out by fishing inspectors deployed in 39 designated landing ports that have been communicated to ICCAT.		
7	CPC Scientific Observer (para 44)	This requirement to embark scientific observers on board is difficult to implement as fishing vessels are narrow and do not have decks to enable scientist to board. However, Algeria uses an alternative approach.	No device on board.	Alternative measures are used through control on landing of catches and biological samples by fishing inspectors, who are mostly trained biologists, and also by scientific staff members of the CNRDPA, who are deployed at regional stations.
8	Other requirements (please specify)			

3. Inspection Plan

a) CPC inspection and control (para 13)

Algeria has introduced a single closure period for the swordfish fishery, from 1 January to 31 March each year. The control and inspection system is summarised as follows:

Control and inspection of fishing activity at port access points is carried out by the National Coast Guard Service, as the authority in charge of the maritime police, and it ensures compliance with fishing regulations. In addition to these controls, this body carries out at-sea controls.

In parallel, the fishing inspectors of the Fisheries Provincial Directorate (wilayas) carry out other controls, while monitoring the landings of fishing products, and in particular, monitoring the closure period of the swordfish fishery to avoid any infringement of the national legislation.

This monitoring and control performed by the inspectors of our ministerial department, is reflected in weekly reports, which are transmitted by the Fisheries Directorates of the provinces (wilayas) to the main office at the seafront.

b) Joint international inspection (para 39-41; Annex 1)

Algeria has an artisanal fleet which operates in waters under national jurisdiction. Therefore, Algeria will not deploy in 2022 a vessel of international joint inspection in international waters.

4. Capacity management plan (paras 6-10)

Algeria's fishing capacity is represented by a fleet of 500 longline vessels, that must comply with the quota allocated to Algeria, i.e., 472.30 t. The registered list of recorded vessels targeting swordfish with individual quotas was transmitted to ICCAT on 15 January 2022.

MED SWO Vessel Fleet	Choose one		Total fleet (vessels)						
	Type	Number of vessels in reference period (average 2013-2016)	Number of vessels in reference period (Year 2016)	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Longliner over 40m	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longliner between 24 and 40m	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longliner less than 24m	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Handline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harpoon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sport/Recreational (Rod & reel)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trap	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total number of vessels < 7 m	0	0	144	134	146	215	209	177	
Total number of vessels > 7 m	0	0	297	301	305	285	291*	323*	
Total fleet	0	0	441	435	451	500	500	500	
Quota	0	0	550	533.5	517.5	501.97	486.91	472.30	
Adjusted quota (if applicable)	0	0	0	522.83**	512.33**	496.95**	482.04**	467.6**	

* Including a vessel 7 m in length.

** 1% of the Algerian quota, i.e., 4.7 t has been set aside for incidental catches for 2022.

EUROPEAN UNION (EU)**Fishing Plan Year: 2022****1. Introduction**

The European Union hereby provides its Fishing plan in the context of the Multi-annual Recovery Plan for Mediterranean swordfish (MED-SWO), ICCAT Recommendation [16-05].

The seven EU Member States actively fishing Mediterranean swordfish are Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta and Spain. These EU Member States fish with a range of fishing gears, with a majority of the quotas being attributed to the longline sector. However, catches are also made by more artisanal sectors such as long liners < 12 m, handline and harpoons. The seven EU Member States also cooperate to implement a Joint Deployment Plan of inspections means, in coordination with the European Commission and the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA).

The Recovery plan for Mediterranean swordfish, ICCAT Recommendation [16-05], has been transposed into European Union (EU) law by way of Regulation (EU) 2019/1154¹.

Council Regulation (EU) 2022/109² of 27 January 2022 indicates in Annex ID that the EU quota may only be fished from 1 April to 31 December.

Concerning the implementation of a minimum fish size, Article 5a of the Commission Delegated Regulation 2018/191 published on 9 February 2018 clearly defines the minimum size for Mediterranean swordfish in line with Recommendation [16-05].

2. Details of fishing plan

The European Union adopted Council Regulation (EU) No. 2022/109 of 27 January 2022 fixing the fishing opportunities for Mediterranean swordfish for 2022 and defining the closure period for vessels targeting Mediterranean swordfish, as well as the closure period applicable for vessels targeting Mediterranean albacore.

In accordance with the current Total Allowable Catch (TAC), the quota for the EU in 2022 is fixed in Council Regulation (EU) No. 2022/109 at 6.363,64 t. In 2022, the TAC for Mediterranean swordfish was decreased by 3% in line with the ICCAT Recommendation [16-05].

The EU will continue to submit the lists of authorised vessels that will participate in the fishery in 2022 in accordance with the reporting deadlines laid down under paragraph 27 of Recommendation [16-05].

The EU hereby submits a complementary Inspection plan covering all Mediterranean fisheries, including highly migratory species fisheries, and capable of addressing effectively the control requirements of those fisheries.

The EU undertakes a real-time monitoring of the Mediterranean swordfish fishery and is committed to take the necessary measures to ensure full compliance with ICCAT Recommendation [16-05].

In accordance with ICCAT Recommendation [16-05] the EU has allocated its quota to the following sectors:

¹Regulation (EU) 2019/1154 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on a multiannual recovery plan for Mediterranean swordfish.

² Council Regulation (EU) 2022/109 of 27 January 2022 fixing for 2022 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in Union waters and for Union fishing vessels in certain non-Union waters.

<i>MEDITERRANEAN VESSEL FLEET</i>	<i>2022</i>
Type	<i>Fleet (No. vessels)</i>
Longliner over 40m	0
Longliner between 24 and 40m	16
Longliner less than 24m	1606
Total longliners	1622
Handline	62
Baitboat	0
Harpoon	14
Sport/Recreational (Rod & reel)	5023
Trap	0
Other (polyvalent)	282
Total number of vessels < 7 m	3482
Total number of vessels > 7 m	3521
Total fleet/fishing capacity	7003
Quota (t)	6363, 64

	<i>ICCAT Requirement (per 16-05)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note</i>
1	Fleet development plan (para. 9)			Not applicable
2	Choice of closed Fishing Seasons (paras. 11-13)	Period from 1 January to 31 March.	The closure period is inserted in Annex ID of Regulation (EU) N° 2022/109 of 27 January 2022 and in Art. 10(1) of Regulation (EU) 2019/1154.	Within the EU Specific Control and Inspection Programme, inspection missions focus on the verification of compliance with the fishing seasons.
3	Recreational and sports fisheries (paras. 21-26)	Only rod and line is authorised for recreational fishing. All catches are counted against the EU quota. The marketing of Mediterranean swordfish fish caught during sport and recreational fishing is prohibited.	Articles 29 and 30 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1154 establish management and control measures for recreational and sport fisheries. Management of recreational fisheries is under the responsibility of EU Member States. However, the European Commission is informed, upon its request, of measures taken by Member States.	The way these provisions are implemented varies amongst EU Member States, including in some cases total prohibition of sport and recreational fishing activities by certain EU Member States. The limit of one fish per vessel per day shall apply for all recreational vessels.
4	Allocation for by-catch and detail of limit per vessel/operation (para. 30)	The maximum by-catch limit allowed for EU vessels is fixed at 5% per fishing trip and per day or one fish per vessel and per day depending of the EU Member State. By-catches and discards are counted against the EU quota.		Trawlers and purse-seiners targeting small pelagic species and tuna traps are allowed to catch one specimen of swordfish by trip per day.
5	Catch recording and reporting (paras. 35-37)	EU vessels fully implement the obligation to daily record all catches in the logbook (paper or electronic). All catches of Mediterranean swordfish, including discards (if any) are counted against the EU quota. Cumulative	Art. 33 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 ³ establishing a Union control system and Art. 21 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1154.	

³ Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy.

		catches are later on reported quarterly to ICCAT, until quota reaches 80% when catches are communicated more frequently.		
6	Measures taken to control landings (para 34)	Compulsory pre notification before entering into a port.	Art. 17 of Regulation (EC) 1224/2009, and Article 24 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1154 established the obligation of sending a prior notification to the competent authority of the Member State or CPC whose ports or landing facility they intend to use. Based on annual risk assessment, the EU inspections services will include in their national control plans as well in the Specific Control and inspection program, benchmarks for inspections at sea, ashore and the commercial chain for MED SWO fisheries.	Those inspection benchmarks are fixed by Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/1986 ⁴ .
7	CPC Scientific Observer (para. 44)	Part of the scientific tasks under the data collection regulation ⁵ .	Art. 20 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1154 establishes National scientific observer programmes for pelagic longline vessels fishing for Mediterranean swordfish. National data collection plans include Mediterranean swordfish as one of their priorities for the Mediterranean.	
8	Other requirements (specify) Closure of albacore fishery (par. 12)	The closure period from 1 October to 30 November applies to longline vessels targeting Mediterranean	The closure period is inserted into Annex ID of Regulation (EU) N° 2022/109 of 27 January 2022 and in Art. 10(1) of	

⁴ Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1986 of 13 December 2018 establishing specific control and inspection programmes for certain fisheries.

⁵ Regulation (EU) 2017/1004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on the establishment of a Union framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the common fisheries policy

		albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>). A list of vessels has been communicated to the ICCAT Secretariat, under ICCAT Recommendation [21-06]	Regulation (EU) 2019/1154.	
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3. Inspection Plan

a) CPC's inspection and control (para 13)

Under the EU Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), the primary responsibility for control and enforcement lays with the Member State Authorities.

The European Commission and the EFCA coordinate with the Member States to ensure that the provisions laid down by ICCAT are reflected in the EU and Member States law and fully enforced. The tools in place are explained under point b) below. In addition, the following verification activities are carried out by the European Commission:

a) European Commission inspections

Whilst different in its powers and mandate, the European Commission also has its dedicated unit whose main role is to monitor and evaluate Member States fulfilment of their duties and obligations, including those under the recovery plan of Mediterranean swordfish. The main tools used by the Commission for that are verifications, autonomous inspections and audits.

Although the inspection plan is still subject to change in response to the specificities of the 2022 fishing season, European Commission inspectors will once again be active in 2022.

b) Vessel monitoring system and Operations team

The team responsible within the European Commission for catch reporting and satellite Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) will monitor in real time the VMS submissions and undertake extensive cross-checks to avoid any potential quota overshoot.

All vessels will be continually monitored by VMS and any interruption in the transmission of VMS data will be immediately followed up with the Member State concerned.

b) Joint international inspection (paras 39-41; Annex 1)

The ICCAT Scheme of joint international inspection as laid down by paras 39-41 and Annex 1 of Rec. [16-05] will be fully implemented by the EU and coordinated by EFCA. EFCA will also coordinate any agreed voluntary exchange of inspection personnel with other CPCs in accordance with the provisions of Resolution [19-17].

i. Specific Control and Inspection Programme

Working under the framework of the ICCAT Scheme of Joint International Inspection and building on experiences from recent years, the EU has currently in place a Specific Control and Inspection Programme (SCIP)⁴ to monitor and enforce the implementation of the bluefin tuna management and swordfish recovery plans. This programme is a joint initiative bringing together the resources of the European Commission, EFCA and the Member States involved in the fishery.

ii. Joint Deployment Plan (JDP) for the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean

In cooperation with the European Commission and Member States, EFCA adopts annually a Joint Deployment Plan (JDP), which includes Bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean, Mediterranean Swordfish from 2017 and Mediterranean Albacore from 2018. This Joint Deployment plan (JDP) brings the Specific Control and Inspection Programme into effect and covers all stages of the market chain as well as controls at sea and on land. Under the JDP, EFCA will coordinate in 2022 joint inspections and control activities in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean involving a number of fishery patrol vessels and aircrafts. EFCA also has its own chartered offshore fisheries patrol vessel and aerial surveillance capacity. Whilst the operational strategies and precise areas of operation remain confidential, the general areas covered by the 2022 JDP will be the Eastern Atlantic (ICES Areas VII, VIII, IX, X and COPACE 34.1.1, 34.1.2 and 34.2.0) and the Mediterranean (Western, Central and Eastern). The control operations will particularly focus on, but are not restricted to, purse seiners, towing vessels, longliners, farming activities for Bluefin tuna and longline fisheries and landings for the Mediterranean stock of swordfish. In 2022, the EU will conduct a minimum of 299 days of control and inspection activities at sea and around 57 days of air surveillance, which reflects the number of days committed for specific campaigns under the JDP.

A JDP Steering Group, composed by representatives of EFCA, the European Commission and the EU Member States, guides the overall strategy of inspection activities and supervises the JDP implementation. The strategy and control priorities are based on an annual risk assessment carried out by the EU Member States under the coordination of EFCA.

All cases of potential non-compliance will be forwarded to the flag state of the vessel/operator concerned and to the ICCAT Secretariat, where required, in accordance with the procedures laid down in the respective dedicated ICCAT recommendations.

The EFCA is also cooperating with EMSA (European Maritime Safety Agency) and FRONTEX (European Border and Coast Guard Agency), each within its mandate, to support the national authorities carrying coast guard functions, by providing services, information, equipment and training as well as by coordinating multipurpose operations. Among the tools used to support these multipurpose operations is the IMS (Integrated Maritime System) service, an application that provides an integrated maritime picture based on the real-time fusion of VMS, Automatic Identification System (AIS) and other maritime related data.

iii. Member States annual Inspection plans

Following Article 26 of Regulation (EU) N° 2019/1154 and in line with paragraph 6 of Rec. [16-05], each EU Member State concerned has developed and submitted a 2022 ICCAT Inspection plan as part of its National Control programme for Mediterranean swordfish. These are extensive programmes containing a description of the resources and inspection strategies that Member States commit to implement within their jurisdiction.

These programmes, as required under the Specific Control and Inspection Programme (see above) include a series of inspection 'benchmarks' consistent with:

- (a) the monitoring of inspections at sea in the EU and international waters on the basis of a minimum percentage of sea inspections on vessels depending on the risk identified for the sector;
- (b) the monitoring of the technical measures and, in particular of the closure periods (for Mediterranean swordfish and Mediterranean albacore); and
- (c) the monitoring of inspections ashore, including inspections at landing and at first sale.

These National Programmes are in full accordance with the conservation and management measures adopted in Recommendation [16-05].

4. Capacity Management Plan (paras 6-10)

The EU capacity plan is included below.

MED SWO Vessel Fleet			New < 7 m vessels in 2017 (para 7)	Total Fleet (vessels)					
	Type	Number of vessels in reference period (average 2013-2016)		Number of vessels in reference period (Year 2016)	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Longliner over 40m	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longliner between 24 and 40m	121	18	0	17	16	16	16	16	16
Longliner less than 24m	5559	1836	0	1705	1680	1652	1625	1618	1606
Total longliners	5683	1854	0	1722	1696	1668	1641	1634	1622
Handline	50	58	5	52	52	51	51	52	62
Baitboat	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harpoon	86	13	0	13	13	13	14	14	14
Sport/Recreational (Rod & reel)	5822	5463	0	5464	5464	5464	5464	5464	5023
Trap	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)	1875	1566	0	299	311	269	279	262	282
Total number of vessels < 7 m	6574	4557	5	3872	3860	3847	3834	3819	3482
Total number of vessels > 7 m	6945	4401	0	3678	3676	3618	3615	3606	3521
Total fleet	13518	8958	5	7550	7536	7465	7449	7426	7003
Quota				7410,48	7188,17	6972,52	6763,35	6560,44	6363,64

KINGDOM OF MOROCCO**Year of Fishing Plan: 2022****1. Introduction**

In accordance with the provisions of Recommendation 16-05, Morocco presents its 2022 Mediterranean fishing plan.

In accordance with the fishing allocations adopted by ICCAT during the intersessional Panel 4 meeting held in Madrid, in February 2017, the 2022 national quota in the Mediterranean area amounts to 896.474 t, i.e. 3% reduction compared to 2021 (924.2 t). This quota will be distributed among the different operational sectors targeting swordfish: the artisanal and coastal segment.

In Morocco, Mediterranean swordfish fishing activity is regulated by the provisions of Recommendation 16-05 establishing a multi-annual recovery plan for Mediterranean swordfish and Decree No. 1176-13 of 8 April 2013 on the implementation of a fishing management plan for Mediterranean and Atlantic swordfish as amended and supplemented in 2017 (N°3315-17 dated 18 December 2017) and in 2019 (Ministerial Decree N° 4154-19 dated 31 December 2019).

2. Details of fishing plan

In accordance with the provisions of the national fishing capacity management plan, established in Articles 6 to 10 of ICCAT Recommendation 16-05, the maximum fishing capacity authorized to fish Mediterranean swordfish is distributed as follows:

The catches of artisanal fishing boats and coastal fishing vessels are authorised by the Moroccan administration to fish Mediterranean swordfish and are accounted within the quota limit allocated to Morocco by ICCAT.

Artisanal boats fishing swordfish amount to 2,977 boats with no more than 3 GRT and an average engine power of 30 CV. The coastal fleet fishing swordfish amounts to around 213 longliners. These vessels generally measure around 19 m and have an average engine power of 210 CV with less than 150 TJB.

Coastal boats and vessels authorized to actively fish swordfish use handline and surface longline in accordance with the requirements of Rec. 16-05.

In the 2022 fishing season, the Mediterranean swordfish fishing quota is an olympic quota. Fishing vessels catch swordfish until the depletion of the quota allocated to Morocco by ICCAT.

The Kingdom of Morocco undertakes to comply with all the provisions of Recommendation 16-05 during the 2022 fishing campaign.

	<i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 16-05)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note:</i>
1	Fleet development plan (para 9)	The list of coastal vessels and artisanal boats catching Mediterranean swordfish are registered in the ICCAT SWO-MED Record.	These vessels are recorded in the national registry of the fleet and hold a fishing license in accordance with the Decree No. 02-92-1026 of 29 December 1992, amended and supplemented and establishing the terms and conditions of issuance and renewal of fishing licenses in the EEZ.	
2	Choice of fishery closure periods (para 11-13)	The closure of the fishing season applies to the period from 1 October to 30 November and during the additional period of one month from 15 February to 15 March.	Ministerial Decree No. 4154-19 of 31 December 2019 amending and Decree No. 1176-13 of 8 April 2013 regulating swordfish fishing.	
3	Recreational and sport fisheries (para. 21-26)	Currently, Morocco does not account for any recreational and sport fisheries but they could be developed in the coming years.	Dahir No. 1-14-95 of 12 May 2014 enacting Law No. 15-12 to prevent and combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and amending and supplementing Dahir No. 1-73-255 of 23 November 1973 on the maritime fishing regulation.	
4	Allocation of by-catch and detail of the limits by vessel/operation (para 30)	Mediterranean swordfish by-catch taken by other vessels which are not authorised to actively fish Mediterranean swordfish amounts to 0.3% of the quota allocated to Morocco. This catch shall be accounted and deducted from the quota allocated to Morocco by ICCAT for the 2022 fishing season.		
5	Recording and communication of catches (para 35-37)	Transmission to the ICCAT Secretariat of quarterly swordfish catches. Communication to the ICCAT Secretariat of the swordfish fishery closure dates (if the quota is reached).		
6	Measures taken to control landings (para 34)	Control at landing ports, fishing sites and fish markets with the obligation of effective weighing of landings of the artisanal and coastal fishing fleet prior to the first sale. Mandatory system of reporting of catches at landing and monitoring of trade flow through a catch certification scheme.		

		Use of the ICCAT swordfish statistical document programme.		
7	CPC Scientific Observer (para 44)	Vessels over 15 m do not actively fish Mediterranean swordfish. Therefore, national observers will not be deployed.		
8	Other requirements: Minimum size (para. 14-17)	<p>Catching, retaining, transshipping, transferring, landing, storage, selling, displaying or offering to sell Mediterranean swordfish weighing less than 12.6 kg or measuring less than 100 cm Lower Jaw Fork Length (LJFL) is prohibited.</p> <p>Authorised bycatch of maximum 5% in number of Mediterranean swordfish caught below the minimum size.</p> <p>All swordfish less than the minimum size would be recorded and deducted from Morocco's allocated quota.</p>	Decree of the Ministry of Fisheries and Merchant Marine No. 1154-88 of 20 safar 1409 (3 October 1988) establishing a minimum trade size for species caught in Moroccan sea waters as amended and supplemented by Ministerial Decree No. 3935-21 of 24 December 2021.	
9	Other requirements: Recording and communication of catches (para 35-37)	<p>Transmission to the ICCAT Secretariat of quarterly swordfish catches.</p> <p>Communication to the ICCAT Secretariat of the swordfish fishery closure dates (if the quota is reached).</p>		

3. Inspection Plan

a) CPC inspection and control (para 13)

Fishery monitoring, control and surveillance practices will be implemented in accordance with national regulation and the provisions of ICCAT recommendations on control and inspection, in particular those stated in Recommendation 16-05. These practices fall under the framework of the national control plan of maritime fishery activities and will focus on measures concerning the following actions:

- Monitoring and control of landings of coastal and artisanal fleets with the obligation of effective weighing before the first sale and compliance with the catch documentation system implemented at national level. This national documentation system allows the control by direct systematic cross-checks between catch reporting at landing and the data of the first sale and allows a supplementary cross-checking tool for the validation of ICCAT statistical documents.
- VMS monitoring of fishing vessels is conducted by the FMC of the Fisheries Department with an online availability of real time position data for the Regional Administration of Maritime fisheries (Maritime Fishery Delegations).
- Implementation of a procedure for communication and recording of fishery information, in particular, through the implementation of an ICCAT statistical document programme.
- Compliance with the provisions regarding port inspection measures of foreign vessels and, compliance with the international commitments of the Kingdom of Morocco with respect to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT).

Sea surveillance is also ensured by other authorities empowered within the framework of assignments conferred by national regulations.

b) Joint international inspection (para 39-41; Annex 1)

The Kingdom of Morocco does not account for catching vessels that participate in fishing activities directed at Mediterranean swordfish outside the EEZ (international waters).

Therefore, the Kingdom of Morocco will not deploy an inspection vessel.

MED-SWO Vessel Fleet	Choose one		Total fleet (vessels)					
Type	Number of vessels in reference period (average 2013-2016)	Number of vessels in reference period (year 2016)	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Longliner over 40 m		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longliner between 24 and 40 m		30	30	0	0	0	1	1
Longliner less than 24 m		389	389	245	279	279	212	212
Handline		2936	2936	3110	3244	2838	3016	2977
Harpoon		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sport/recreational (rod and reel)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trap		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total number of vessels < 7 m		2912	2912	3086	3220	2814	2882	2905
Total number of vessels > 7 m		443	443	269	303	303	347	285
Total fleet		3355	3355	3355	3523	3117	3229	3190
Quota			1045	1013.61	982.26	952.79	924.2	896.47
Adjusted quota (if applicable)			1045	1013.61	933.15	930.79	912.9	894.00*

* 0.3% of the quota, i.e., 2.47 t, deducted from the national quota, is set aside for potential quota overruns and potential dead discards of swordfish.

TUNISIA**Year of Fishing Plan: 2022****1. Introduction**

The 2022 swordfish fishing plan is hereby presented in accordance with the Rec. 16-05 establishing a multiannual recovery programme for swordfish in the Mediterranean.

Tunisia has an artisanal swordfish fishery which operates with coastal vessels that measure between 3.7 and 19 m, only 9% measuring over 15m. The total number of these vessels is set at 713 vessels.

In Tunisia, swordfish fishing is regulated by:

- The provisions of the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and in particular Rec. 16-05, establishing a multi-annual recovery programme for swordfish in the Mediterranean.
- Law No. 94-13 of 31 January 1994 on fishing activities.
- Decision of the Minister of Agriculture of 28 September 1995 regarding the organization of fishing activities.
- Decision of the Minister of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries of 22 April 2019 regarding the organization of the swordfish fishery.

The right to access this resource is subject to a coastal fishing authorisation which is issued by the competent authority. This authorisation is not specific to swordfish since this segment of the fleet targets several species stocks using different types of selective gear, including longline.

However, fishermen abide by fishery closure periods and do not target swordfish during these closure periods. The majority of the swordfish caught is destined to the local market.

From now on, fishing for swordfish is prohibited during three consecutive months from 1 January to 31 March each year, the regulatory size is established at 100 cm calculated from the end of the lower jaw to the posterior tip of the smallest caudal ray, the minimum size of authorised hooks is 7 cm and the number of hooks per fishing vessel is limited to 2500 units (Decision of the Minister of Agriculture of 22 April 2019 regarding organisation of the swordfish fishery).

In 2022, the swordfish fishing quota allocated to Tunisia is 865.37 t.

2. Details of fishing plan

Fishing for swordfish is conducted by pelagic longline and management of the fishing activity will be regulated in accordance with the provisions of ICCAT Rec. 16-05 and the domestic legislation in force.

Tunisia's quota, which is established at 865.37 t, will not be distributed by vessel, rather it will apply to the coastal fishing fleet registered on the ICCAT vessel record.

The fishing season will be closed when the national quota is exhausted and a circular on this matter will be distributed to all the competent services, prohibiting fishing, landing, transporting and processing of swordfish.

	ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 16-05)	Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement	Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)	Note:
1	Fleet development plan (para 9)	<p>The swordfish fishing plan is implemented so as to ensure compliance with Tunisia's quota limit, the relevant provisions contained in legislation and the national regulation and the provisions of the ICCAT recommendations, in particular Recommendation 16-05.</p> <p>Since implementation of this programme, Tunisia has undertaken efforts through the regional services to update the list of fishing vessels that can target swordfish. The number of this potential fleet has been revised from 403 to 872.</p> <p>In addition, the number of these vessels has been updated to 713 in 2022.</p>	<p>Law No. 94-13 of 31 January 1994 on fishing activities.</p> <p>Decree No. 99-2130 of 27 September 1999 establishing the composition and functioning modalities of the advisory board for the organization of fishing activity, as amended by Law No. 2004-2138.</p> <p>Decree No. 99-2129 of 27 September 1999 establishing the composition and functioning modalities of the advisory board issuing authorisations for construction and import of fishing vessels.</p>	
2	Choice of fishery closure periods (para 11-13)	<p>Fishing for swordfish is prohibited from 1 January to 31 March each year.</p>	<p>Law No. 94-13 of 31 January 1994 regarding fishing activities.</p> <p>Decision of the Minister of Agriculture of 22 April 2019 regarding the organization of the swordfish fishery.</p>	
3	Recreational and sports fisheries (para 21-26)	<p>No sport or recreational fisheries will be permitted.</p>	<p>Law No. 94-13 of 31 January 1994 regarding fishing activities.</p>	
4	Allocation of by-catch and detail of the limits by vessel/operation (para 30)	<p>Tunisia has an artisanal swordfish fishery which operates with coastal vessels using different gear types, including longline.</p> <p>The right to access this resource is subject to a coastal fishing authorisation which is issued by the competent authority.</p>	<p>Law No. 94-13 of 31 January 1994 regarding fishing activities.</p>	

		This authorisation is not specific to swordfish since this segment of the fleet targets several species stocks using different types of selective gear, including longline, and no individual quotas are distributed. However, the fishers abide by the fishery closure periods, reglementary size and number of hooks per fishing vessel.		
5	Recording and communication of catches (para 35-37)	Number of days at sea of the vessels (small boats) actively fishing swordfish does not exceed one week. The master of the fishing vessel records the information on fishing operations in the logbook. A copy of this logbook is transmitted to the competent authority on landing.	Law No. 94-13 of 31 January 1994 regarding fishing activities.	
6	Measures taken to control landings (para 34)	In-port inspections are carried out by the fishery services that are responsible for controlling swordfish landings, fishing gear and onboard documents.	Law No. 94-13 of 31 January 1994 regarding fishing activities.	
7	CPC Scientific Observer (para 44)	Swordfish fishing vessels over 15 m, like all the other coastal fishing vessels, do not only target swordfish. As such, deployment of a scientific observer onboard these vessels is not envisaged.		A scientific monitoring programme of the swordfish fishery has been launched. It relate to collection of scientific data on landing in the main production ports of production.

3. Inspection Plan

a) CPC's inspection and control (para. 13)

During the swordfish fishery closure period, at-sea inspections will be conducted by certified national officers, i.e. fisheries officers, agents of the national maritime guards, officers of the national navy and customs officials.

Control operations will be strengthened through control campaigns through the fisheries services in conjunction with other bodies (national maritime guard, national navy and customs). Control missions will be conducted during the closure period at fishing ports and markets to ensure compliance with the provisions taken in this regard.

b) Joint international inspection (paras. 39-41; Annex 1)

Catching vessels do not carry out swordfish directed fishing activities but are multi-species activities. In fact, Tunisia does not envisage deployment of an inspection vessel exclusively dedicated to this fishery in the Convention area.

c) Capacity management plan (paras 6-10)

Table attached.

Vessels fleet MED-SWO	Choose one		Total fleet (vessels)					
Type	Number of vessels in reference period (average 2013-2016)	Number of vessels in reference period (Year 2016)	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Longliner over 40 m	0		0	0	0	0	0	
Longliner between 24 and 40 m	0		0	0	0	0	0	
Longliner less than 24 m	0		0	0	0	0	0	
Handline	0		0	0	0	0	0	
Harpoon	0		0	0	0	0	0	
Sport/recreational (rod and reel)	0		0	0	0	0	0	
Trap	0		0	0	0	0	0	
Other (please specify)	402		872	810	801	859	818	713
Total number of vessels < 7 m	4		28	28	28	28	21	21
Total number of vessels > 7 m	398		844	782	773	831	797	692
Total fleet	402		872	810	801	859	818	713
Quota			1007.694	977.463	948.14	914.71	892.13	865.37
Adjusted quota (if applicable)								

TÜRKIYE

Fishing Plan Year: 2022

1. Introduction

Mediterranean swordfish quota of 378, 69 t pertinent to Türkiye will be assigned for utilization by 51 Med-SWO fishing vessels with special fishing permits for the year 2022. A % 10 of the quota will be assigned for coastal artisanal fisheries. There will be no activities envisaged for sports and recreational fisheries targeting Med-SWO. Distribution of the authorized number of fishing vessels by gear type in 2022 is provided below:

Mediterranean swordfish fishery will be regulated through the updated Ministerial Notification Regulating Commercial Fisheries.

2. Details of fishing plan

Details of all fishing gear groups that catch Mediterranean swordfish, including the total number of vessels in each group, is given in the attachment.

The individual quotas shall be allocated in accordance with criteria developed domestically in consideration of past performances of fishing vessels as well as regional and socio-economic aspects of coastal artisanal fisheries in Türkiye.

A reporting system that would require fishermen to record and report to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MoAF) following each landing within 48 hours will be mandatory. The reporting system shall involve regular landing controls and checks will be implemented to monitor and control catches and to ensure vessel and gear group quotas are respected.

	<i>ICCAT Requirement (per 16-05)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note</i>
1.	Fleet development plan (para 9)	N/A	N/A	
2.	Choice of closed Fishing Seasons (paras 11-13)	Closed Season: 15 Feb – 15 March 1 October – 30 November	Ministerial Notification Regulating Commercial Fisheries	
3.	Recreational and sports fisheries (paras 21-26)	No specific quota is assigned for recreational and sports fisheries	N/A	
4.	Allocation for by-catch and detail of limit per vessel/operation (para 30)	Maximum by-catch limit per vessel and per fishing operation shall not be more than 5 individuals. The by-catch in question shall be deducted from Türkiye's TAC.	Ministerial Notification Regulating Commercial Fisheries	
5.	Catch recording and reporting (paras 35-37)	Authorized Med-SWO catching vessels above 15 m LoA shall record, report and communicate to the Ministry (either by electronic or bound logbooks or in other means) weekly catch	Ministerial Notification Regulating Commercial Fisheries	

		<p>reports on relevant details of Med-SWO catches (spatial, temporal and biological details) following any given fishing operation without delay.</p> <p>Ministry shall submit a compilation of weekly catch reports to the ICCAT Secretariat on a quarterly basis in line with the required format.</p>		
6.	Measures taken to control landings (para 34)	<p>Ministerial inspectors shall perform regular inspections and checks at landing spots to ensure the validity of catches and level of compliance to individual quotas, by-catch limitations and other rules.</p>	Ministerial Notice and Circulars	
7.	CPC Scientific Observer (para 44)	<p>Scientific observers shall be deployed on at least 5% pelagic longliners over 15 meters LoA.</p> <p>Additionally, Ministerial inspectors accompanied by scientific observers shall perform regular checks at the most busy and operational landing spots to account for a 10 % of the total landings points, in a way to improve data collection and sampling.</p>	Ministerial Notification, Notice and Circulars	
8.	Other requirements (specify)	<p>Technical Regulations</p> <p>-The catch of swordfish smaller than 125 cm is prohibited.</p> <p>-It is mandatory for the fishing vessels to catch swordfish obtain "Fishing Permit" from the provincial directorate issuing vessel's license. Applications by the fishermen to acquire a special fishing permit for swordfish is subject to some technical criteria. When an application made is approved by the Ministry, the special</p>	Ministerial Notification, Notice and Circulars	

		<p>permit information is simultaneously recorded in the Fisheries Information System (FIS) operated by the Ministry.</p> <p>-When longlining for tuna and swordfish only hooks no. 1 and no. 2 with a gape width smaller than 2.8 cm is permitted.</p> <p>During the closed season, Med-SWO fishermen engaged in other types of coastal fisheries, trawling, tourism and/or aquaculture activities.</p> <p>In accordance with Para 12 of Rec. 16-05 Türkiye will implement the closure periods for the longline vessels targeting Mediterranean Albacore as from 1 October to 30 November and from 15 February to 15 March.</p>		
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3. Inspection Plan

a) CPC's inspection and control (para 13)

Inspection and controls have been the major components of the activities of MoAF for ensuring the efficiency of the closed season and size regulations set for the Mediterranean Swordfish. The inspection activities, which are still ongoing, have been concentrated at most potential fishing grounds, landing points, retail and wholesale markets. Ministerial inspectors shall perform regular inspections and checks at landing spots to ensure the validity of catches and level of compliance to individual quotas, by-catch limitations and other rules. Each CPC will provide information on its plan for inspection and control of closed season.

In this context, 214 Kgs of Med-SWO have been seized in 2021 in consequence of the inspections conducted by MoAF inspectors at several coastal provinces. A total of 54 Kgs. of Med-SWO were seized by Ministerial inspectors previously in 2020.

In accordance with the relevant provisions of ICCAT Rec. 16-05; a list of designated landing points for Med-SWO has been made available and reported to ICCAT on 3 March 2022.

In 2002 and 2003, EU and ICCAT enforced a recommendation prohibiting the usage of drift-nets in the Mediterranean. Afterwards, drift-netting in Türkiye was also banned in 2006. Subsequently, Türkiye announced its position for elimination of modified driftnet usage with the ICCAT Circular # 3225/2010. Accordingly, usage of all modified drift-nets has been prohibited as from 1 July 2011. Accordingly, all fishing vessels with the modified drift-nets have gone under obligation to shift their fishing gears in accordance with provisions of Revised Notification No. 2/1 Regulating Commercial Fishing. MoAF continued its efforts to promote the usage of more selective fishing methods and fishing gear by the majority of Turkish swordfish fishermen, with several regional training activities.

b) Joint international inspection (paras 39-41; Annex 1)

Inspectors from Turkish Coast Guard have been trained to actively participate to inspections for Med-SWO in the context of ICCAT Joint Scheme of International Inspection.

Türkiye plans to participate to the ICCAT Joint Scheme of International Inspection in 2022 with 77 Turkish Coast Guard Command (TCGC) Inspection Boats, 17 air control assets (planes/helicopters) and 534 inspectors. Additionally, Turkish Naval Forces Command intends to join the inspection scheme of 2022 through assigning 54 inspection vessels during the 2022 E-BFT fishing campaign. Due to logistical reasons, envisaged numbers of inspection boats and inspector staff may be subject to some changes subsequently.

Furthermore, an additional inspection vessel - namely AKDENİZ ARAŞTIRMA 1- that has been assigned by MoAF will also contribute to the activities under ICCAT Scheme of Joint International Inspections in the region.

Based on a risk analysis approach, the locations where the fishing vessels were mostly concentrated during previous seasons are planned to be focused on for 2022.

The means of at-sea inspections shall be deployed Med-SWO fishing grounds which are determined based on 2021's risk assessment data.

c) Capacity Management Plan (paras 6-10)

Med-SWO Vessel Fleet Capacity Management Plan is attached below.

MED SWO Vessel Fleet	Choose one		Total Fleet (vessels)					
Type	Number of vessels in reference period (average 2013-2016)	Number of vessels in reference period (year 2016)	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Longliner over 40m	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longliner between 24 and 40m	9	8	3	5	0	0	0	0
Longliner less than 24m	235	230	244	230	217	204	204	51
Handline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harpoon	30	26	24	22	20	18	15	15
Sport/Recreational (Rod & reel)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trap	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (Polyvalent vessels smaller than 7m)	7,015	6,704	6,674	6,372	6,252	6,133	6,063	6,063
Total number of vessels < 7m	7,015	6,704	6,674	6,372	6,252	6,133	6,063	6,063
Total number of vessels > 7m	277	267	271	257	237	222	219	219
Total fleet	7,292	6,971	6,945	6,629	6,489	6,355	6,282	6,129
Quota			441	428	415	402	390,4	378,69
Adjusted quota (if applicable)								