



**The Pew Charitable Trusts’
 Opening Statement to the Compliance Committee
 November 2022**

The Pew Charitable Trusts appreciates the ongoing efforts of the Secretariat and Compliance Committee (COC) to improve ICCAT’s compliance review processes. To build on this progress, we encourage the COC to prioritize the below items to ensure CPCs continue to improve the likelihood that their fleets are complying with ICCAT’s conservation and management measures:

Read and consider the new RFMO compliance recommendations in document [COC 313, Annex 1](#) – scheduled for presentation at this meeting, these recommendations were developed by recognized experts working directly in this area. They were drawn from the outcomes of three expert workshops and two webinars, held over 2020 – 2021. Convened by Pew and ISSF, these workshops closely examined the major challenges experienced within RFMO compliance review mechanisms and their potential solutions. The recommendations provide a rich menu of options to help guide the work needed to improve ICCAT’s compliance review procedures and includes a toolkit to help review the current status of an RFMO’s compliance review mechanism. We encourage ICCAT to make such an assessment, as its results, in tandem with the menu of recommendations in [COC_313](#), would greatly assist in setting priority areas for discussion at the 2023 special 2-day meeting of the COC.

- **Continue to develop the severity table as embodied in last year’s Chairs paper [COC 307/2021](#) with the aim to adopt it at this meeting or in 2023** – a tool that ranks the severity of non-compliance in the context of existing ICCAT measures would be an important step towards delineating minor versus significant infractions and would assist the Commission in allocating its limited resources to address the most serious cases of non-compliance.

In addition to the above items, and recalling the rationale outlined in Annex 1 of ICCAT [Recommendation 16-19](#), Pew supports the case as set out in document [COC-319](#) for the development of an Integrated Online Management System. This has the potential to bring to the compliance review process exactly the efficiencies for both CPCs and the Secretariat that form an important component of the afore-mentioned recommendations from the expert group.

Taking these steps would ultimately progress ICCAT’s mandate to ensure the sustainability of tuna and tuna-like species in the Atlantic Ocean, and we look forward to offering our support toward any such endeavours.