

STATEMENT BY KOREA REGARDING RECOMMENDATION AMENDMENT*(Submitted by Republic of Korea)*

Korea would like to invite the Panel to consider on the amendment of Recommendation 19-02 (Rec. 21-01).

Paragraph 4 of Rec. 19-02 describes the method for setting catch limits for bigeye tuna. Korea would like to note that in this paragraph two criteria were used for the basis in setting catch limits: historical catch stipulated in paragraph 3 of Recommendation 16-01 and recent average catch as defined in the footnote.

Korea notes that in subpara. a) and b), catch limits in paragraph 3 of Recommendation 16-01 is the basis for setting catch limits for CPCs listed in paragraph 3 of Recommendation 16-01. However, in subpara. c) this reference of catch limit in paragraph 3 of Recommendation 16-01 is not mentioned.

Korea believes this was an oversight by the Panel during the last-minute difficult negotiations in 2019.

In this regard, Korea would like to suggest the following amendments to para. 4 of Recommendation 19-02 to be considered at the next intersessional meeting:

4. As an interim measure for 2022, the following provisions shall apply:
 - a) CPCs with catch limits greater than 10,000 t in para. 3 of Rec. 16-01, shall apply a 21% reduction to those catch limits.
 - b) CPCs that are not captured by (a) that have a recent average catch of greater than 3,500 t, shall apply a catch limit that is 17% less than their recent average catch or their catch limit in para. 3 of Rec. 16-01.
 - c) CPCs that have a recent average catch or a catch limit in para. 3 of Rec. 16-01 between 1,000 and 3,500 t shall apply a catch limit that is 10% less than their recent average catch or catch limit in para. 3 of Rec. 16-01.
 - d) Those CPCs with recent average catch of less than 1,000 t are encouraged to maintain catch and effort at recent levels.

In 2020, through a circular, a CPC reminded the Commission that CPCs conducting transfers should have a hard catch limit set.

As Korea was explicitly authorized by the Commission to conduct a transfer of its fishing possibilities of bigeye tuna in paragraph 8 of Recommendation 19-02 and 21-01, Korea would like to have a hard catch limit set applying the method used for setting catch limits in subpara. a) and b).

Korea seeks the understanding of the Panel that this editing of paragraph 4 subpara. c) of Rec 21-01 is not a substantial change in the Rec. or affects any CPCs, but in our view, is a fair and appropriate application of the method agreed in 2019 to set catch limits and is making the measure complete to enable implementation of other measures of the Rec.