



No. 0505.3/ 9339

Department of Fisheries
Kaset Klang, Chatuchak,
Bangkok 10900, Thailand

7

November B.E. 2565 (2022)

Dear Mr. Camille Jean Pierre Manel,

**Subject: The Rejection Information on Albacore Tuna that Declared to be Caught
in ICCAT Competent Area in 2019**

The Department of Fisheries, Thailand would like to inform the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) that we rejected the albacore tuna that was declared to be caught by the 3 Senegalese - flagged fishing vessels, namely, DIAMALAYE 1909 (IMO: 8017762), MARIO 7 (IMO: 8529521), and MARIO 11 (IMO: 8529533) in ICCAT competent area. These tunas were requested to import in 10 shipping containers to Thailand in 2019.

Subsequently, Thailand conducted an inspection and verification with ICCAT and Senegal authority, which ICCAT confirmed that the above - mentioned fishing vessels were not authorized to fish in ICCAT competent area. Thailand, therefore, rejected these containers. We attach herewith copies of documents regarding these cases including the communication between Thailand, ICCAT, and Senegal authority. We also attached related documents of these shipments for your consideration.

Most importantly, Thailand always stands for strengthening the cooperation on information sharing with ICCAT to combatting IUU fishing for the sustainability of marine resources

Yours sincerely,

(Mr. Taworn Thunjai)
Deputy Director-General
For Director-General

Enclosure: As stated

Mr. Camille Jean Pierre Manel,
Head of Compliance Department
ICCAT Secretariat

Fish Quarantine and Fishing Vessel Inspection Division,

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Summary of confidential information provided by Thailand

Following a request for information from the Secretariat, the Thai authorities have provided a response and a series of confidential documents which cannot be made public. However, from the confidential information provided shows the following:

The vessels were flagged to Senegal

The point of first landing was Trinidad and Tobago

The fish was transported to Thailand via Marshall Islands, where dolphin safe certificates and a US Department of Commerce Fisheries Certificate of Origin were issued.

In total, four import licences were requested for a total of approximately 243,210 kgs of north Atlantic albacore: A request was made to enter Choburi Fisheries Inspection Office with 8 containers with a total of 212,800 kg and a request to enter Songkhla Fisheries Inspection Office with 2 containers with a total of 30,410 kgs. These shipments were rejected by the Thai port authorities given that the vessels in question did not have authorization to fish for northern albacore according to the ICCAT Record of Vessels and confirmed by the Secretariat.

Following initial rejection from Choburi Fisheries Inspection Office, a request was made to import the eight containers to Ladkrabang Fisheries Inspection Office (the fish from one container being changed) These eight containers contained the same quantities of tuna which were just moved from Choburi port to Ladkrabang port, and were likewise rejected.

The Thai authorities have no information regarding these containers after they were rejected in accordance with their Customs Department's regulation.

Thailand had requested the VMS tracking of two vessels Diamalaye 1909 and Mario 7. This was provided and indicated that the vessels were operating in the Atlantic Ocean.

[Sec. note: For the dates in question, the vessels were on the ICCAT Record of Vessels and were authorized to catch tropical tuna species but did not have specific authorization to catch northern albacore]