

**SECRETARIAT'S REPORT TO THE  
ICCAT CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**

**NOTE:** This report is based on information received by the Secretariat by **7 October 2022**, unless otherwise stated. Any information received after that date will be brought to the attention of the Compliance Committee (COC) Chair. Such additional information will not be translated.

This report contains only those measures for which review by the Compliance Committee is warranted. In some cases, measures may have expired, but were in force for the review period under consideration (2021).

**TRO – TROPICAL - BET - BIGEYE TUNA (*Thunnus obesus*); YFT – YELLOWFIN (*Thunnus albacares*);  
SKJ - SKIPJACK (*Katsuwonus pelamis*)**

*Recommendation by ICCAT to replace Recommendation 16-01 by ICCAT on a multi-annual conservation and management programme for tropical tunas [Rec. 19-02] and;*

*Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT to amend the Recommendation 19-02 by ICCAT to replace Recommendation 16-01 by ICCAT on a Multi-annual Conservation and Management Programme for Tropical Tunas [Rec. 20-01] (Replaced by Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 19-02 replacing Recommendation 16-01 on a multi-annual conservation and management programme for tropical tunas [Rec. 21-01])*

**Tropical Tuna Fishing Management Plans and FAD Management Plans:** Please see document PA1-501/2022 for details of the plans sent. No plan has been received from three CPCs with average catches over 1,000 t; Cabo Verde, Guinea Republic and the Philippines. The latter has indicated no ICCAT fisheries since 2014.

**Quarterly/Monthly catches of tropical tuna:** Table 1 shows the catches of tropical tuna in 2021 reported quarterly and monthly. The requirements are somewhat conflicting, with some CPCs obliged to make both quarterly and monthly, and in some cases, weekly reports. It is very difficult to collect and extract data in any meaningful way, due to the duplications involved. Paragraph 13 requires reporting of tropical tuna species, while paragraph 14 requires monthly reporting for purse seiners or longliners, increasing to weekly “when 80% of their catch limits have been caught”, although catch limits only apply to bigeye tuna and not to all tropical tuna species.

Paragraph 13 stipulates that *CPCs shall report quarterly to the Secretariat the amount of tropical tunas (by species) caught by vessels flying their flag, within 30 days of the end of the period during which the catches were made.* The Secretariat understands that this refers to all CPCs catching tropical tuna species.

Task 1 data for 2021 indicates that the following CPCs fished for tropical tunas, but no corresponding quarterly (or monthly) catch reports were received from the following CPCs:

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Total tropical catches (t)</i>
Cabo Verde	3,495
Costa Rica	156
Côte d'Ivoire	3,487
Guinée Rep.	1,210
Guyana	165
Liberia	527
Russia	4
S. Tomé e Príncipe	125
Senegal	38,621
St Vincent & Grenadines	139
Venezuela	2,796

**Catch limits:** For compliance with quotas/catch limits, please see the Compliance Annex (document COC-304/2022).

**List of authorised Tropical vessels:** Please see [www.iccat.int/en/vesselsrecord.asp](http://www.iccat.int/en/vesselsrecord.asp). Annex 5 contains the list of vessels having fished the previous year.

At the time of writing, the ICCAT Record of Vessels contained 1,213 vessels (an increase from 1,107 in 2021) in its Tropical Vessel Registry List, with vessels from 25 CPCs. It should be noted that the ICCAT Record is a dynamic list and may vary daily.

**Capacity management:** Capacity management plans and declarations on expansion of capacity are included in the fishing plans (see below).

**FAD management plans and steps undertaken to use non-entangling FAD:** FAD management plans received in 2022 are available on the intersessional meeting document site.

	<i>FAD Management plan (2022) sent</i>	<i>ST-08 - FAD data (2021) sent</i>
Belize	✓	✓
Cabo Verde	No	✓
Curaçao	✓	✓
EU	✓	✓
El Salvador	✓	✓
Ghana	✓	✓
Guatemala	✓	✓
Guinea Republic	No	✓
Morocco	✓	✓
Nicaragua	✓	n/a no FADs in 2021
Panama	✓	✓
Senegal	✓	✓

See PLE-105/2022, Appendix 2 and document PA1-504/2022 for more details on FAD data received.

**Data and information collected from sampling programme:** Information from Port sampling as required by paragraph 61 of Rec. 19-02 has been submitted by Canada, El Salvador, EU-France, Guatemala, Mexico and Morocco.

**Observer Programme:** No difficulties in embarking observers in accordance with the Recommendation were reported to the Secretariat.

### **SWO - SWORDFISH (*Xiphias gladius*)**

*Recommendation by ICCAT relating to Mediterranean swordfish* [Rec. 03-04]

No specific reporting to the Secretariat is required other than through section 4 of Annual Reports. The Secretariat has nothing to report.

*Recommendation by ICCAT replacing the Recommendation [13-04] and Establishing a Multi-annual Recovery Plan for Mediterranean Swordfish* [Rec. 16-05]

**Compliance with quotas/catch limits:** Please see document COC-304/2022.

**ICCAT Record of Mediterranean Swordfish vessels:** Authorised lists, received from five CPCs, have been published on the ICCAT website <https://www.iccat.int/en/VesselsRecord.asp>. The list of vessels fishing in 2021 is contained in Annex 5.

**List of authorised vessels for Mediterranean Albacore:** At the time of writing, four CPCs (Egypt, European Union, Morocco and Türkiye) had submitted lists of authorised vessels in accordance with this Recommendation. This list is published on <https://www.iccat.int/en/VesselsRecord.asp>.

[Note: in 2023, this requirement will be reported under Rec. 21-06, which entered into force in June 2022]

**ICCAT Record of Authorised Ports:** A total of 872 ports, from a total of six CPCs are published on <https://www.iccat.int/en/Ports.asp>. Algeria, European Union, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia and Türkiye.

**Inspection agencies, inspectors and ships:** Information has been received from EU, Tunisia and Türkiye. Lists of agencies, means and inspectors are reported in **Annex 4**. A list of inspection vessels has been published on the ICCAT website. A summary of the inspection reports received has been included in **Table 2**. A summary of reports with infringements, as well as their responses where available, are contained in **Appendix 4** and copies of reports with infringements are included in **Annex 3**.

**SWO-MED fishing plans:** Plans were received in 2022 from the following CPCs: Algeria, European Union, Morocco, Tunisia and Türkiye. These plans were circulated to CPCs and have been made available as PA4-802/22.

**Closures:** Reports on the implementation of closure periods have been received from Algeria, European Union, Morocco, Tunisia and Türkiye and are contained in **Appendix 1** of this report.

**Quarterly reports:** The quarterly reports received from CPCs for 2021 are shown below, together with the totals from Task 1 and Compliance Tables. In most cases, totals are the same or differences are very minor, except in the case of the European Union, where totals differ slightly more substantially.

CPC	2021 quota (t)	Catches in 1st quarter	Catches in 2nd quarter	Catches in 3rd quarter	Catches in 4th quarter	<b>Total 2021</b>	Task 1 2021	Compliance Tables
Algeria	486,94	0,75	137,58	201,67	106,50	<b>446,50</b>	446,50	451,48
European Union	6560,44	0,00	1319,12	2362,91	699,83	<b>4381,85</b>	4829,54	4571,46
Morocco	942,20	134,00	763,00	2,80	24,40	<b>924,20</b>	924,20	924,20
Tunisie	892,10	0,00	151,66	535	204,00	<b>890,66</b>	890,66	890,66
Türkiye	390,42	35,67	162,40	145,72	46,20	<b>389,99</b>	390,40	389,99
<b>Other CPCs</b>								
Egypt							12,00	12,00
<b>Total</b>	<b>9272,10</b>	<b>170,42</b>	<b>2533,76</b>	<b>3248,10</b>	<b>1080,93</b>	<b>7033,20</b>	<b>7493,30</b>	<b>7239,79</b>

Recommendation by ICCAT Amending the Recommendation for the Conservation of North Atlantic Swordfish, Rec. 16-03 [Rec. 17-02] and;

Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 17-02 by ICCAT for the Conservation of North Atlantic Swordfish [Rec. 19-03]

**Compliance with quotas/catch limits:** Please see document COC-304/2022.

In accordance with paragraph 14 of Rec. 17-02, the following CPCs have included information in their Annual Reports on the maximum on board by-catch limit of N-SWO:

<b>CPC</b>	<b>Response</b>
Belize	Belize has established an onboard bycatch limit across the board for all species inclusive of Northern Swordfish. The bycatch limit established for vessels not authorized to fish this species exclusively is 10 m/t. This quantity is accounted for in the overall quota allocation for Belize. However, we have no vessel that has reported any northern swordfish taken as bycatch.
China PR.	China does not have vessels targeting N-SWO and S-SWO, all the SWO are caught as bycatch and every tropical longliner can by-catch SWO. In 2021, China has 102.4 t quotas of N-SWO and 375.6 t of S-SWO. We set catch limit for N-SWO and S-SWO for each longliner based on the TAC allocated to China according to Recommendations of N-SWO and S-SWO. Each vessel must strictly comply with the catch limit set for it.
Chinese Taipei	Since the domestic regulations restricts each vessel's fishing area and prohibits any vessel from operating beyond its authorized fishing area, no fishing vessel is allowed to fish N.SWO in the north Atlantic Ocean without such an authorization.
Curaçao	Not applicable, Curaçao does not have authorized vessels fishing swordfish. But Curaçao has a limit for by-catch on swordfish. Complied with Rec 16-04. - Circular.
European Union	In accordance with paragraphs 13 and 14 of ICCAT Recommendation 16-03, France has adopted a maximum by-catch limit for vessels not authorized to fish for North Atlantic swordfish.
France (St-Pierre et Miquelon)	The catching and landing of North Atlantic swordfish with a live weight of less than 25 kg or a lower jaw length of less than 125 cm is prohibited, except for bycatches, which must not exceed 15% of the number of swordfish landed daily and by vessels.
Senegal	5%

Note, the above shows only those who indicated that a limit had been set. In many cases, no limit is set because all relevant vessels have licences and/or bycatch is not permitted. Many of the responses to the maximum bycatch limits are incoherent, with CPCs not having read or understood the requirement. In several instances, species are mixed-up (and include even Mediterranean) or totally irrelevant answers are given e.g., there is no targeted fishery for this species; there are no xx-flagged vessels fishing for this species.

**N-SWO fishery management/development plans:** Updated versions received are contained in PA4-801/2022. Re-submission is no longer required if there have been no changes to previous plans.

**Specific authorisation for N. SWO vessels:** The authorised vessels of 20m or greater with specific authorisations for northern swordfish can be found in the ICCAT Record of Vessels (<https://www.iccat.int/en/VesselsRecord.asp>).

Four CPCs with quota currently have no vessels (of 20m or over) on the ICCAT Record of Vessels authorised to catch N. SWO: Barbados, France (SPM), Mexico, UK.

**Compliance with quotas/catch limits:** Please see document COC-304/2022.

*Recommendation by ICCAT Amending the Recommendation for the Conservation of South Atlantic Swordfish, Rec. 16-04 [Rec. 17-03]*

**Specific authorisation for S. SWO vessels:** The authorised vessels of 20m or greater with specific authorisations for southern swordfish can be found in the ICCAT Record of Vessels (<https://www.iccat.int/en/VesselsRecord.asp>).

Six CPCs with quota currently have no vessels (of 20m or over) on the ICCAT Record of Vessels authorised to catch S. SWO: Angola, Ghana, São Tomé and Príncipe, UK, Uruguay and USA.

In accordance with Rec. 17-03, paragraph 9, the following CPCs have included information in their Annual Reports as follows:

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Response</i>
Belize	Belize has established an onboard bycatch limit across the board for all species inclusive of Northern Swordfish. The bycatch limit established for vessels not authorized to fish this species exclusively is 10 m/t. This quantity is accounted for in the overall quota allocation for Belize. However, we have no vessel that has reported any south swordfish taken as bycatch.
China PR.	China does not have vessels targeting N-SWO and S-SWO, all the SWO are caught as by-catch and every tropical long liner can by-catch SWO. In 2021, China has 102.4 t quotas of N-SWO and 375.6 t of S-SWO. We set catch limit for N-SWO and S-SWO for each longliner based on the TAC allocated to China according to Recommendations of N-SWO and S-SWO. Each vessel must strictly comply with the catch limit set for it.
Curaçao	Curaçao came to an agreement with the vessels on 10 tons maximum of bycatch.
European Union	See <b>Appendix 2</b> for more details on EU Member States.
Senegal	5%
St Vincent & Grenadines	There are 4 vessels. The total allowable bycatch for each vessel is 4 t.

Note, the above shows only those who indicated that a limit had been set. In many cases, no limit is set because all relevant vessels have licences and/or by-catch is not permitted. Many of the responses to the maximum by-catch limits are incoherent, with CPCs not having read or understood the requirement. In several instances, species are mixed-up (and include even Mediterranean) or totally irrelevant answers are given e.g., there is no targeted fishery for this species; there are no xx-flagged vessels fishing for this species

**Compliance with quotas/catch limits:** Please see document COC-304/2022.

#### **ALB - ALBACORE (*Thunnus alalunga*)**

*Recommendation by ICCAT on a Multi-annual Conservation and Management Program for North Atlantic Albacore* [Rec. 16-06] (as amended by Rec. 20-04)

No specific reporting to the Secretariat is required other than through section 4 of Annual Reports.

In accordance with Rec. 16-06, the authorised vessels of 20m or greater with specific authorisations for N. ALB can be found in the ICCAT Record of Vessels (<https://www.iccat.int/en/VesselsRecord.asp>).

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Response</i>
Belize	Belize has established an onboard bycatch limit across the board for all species inclusive of northern albacore. The bycatch limit established for vessels not authorized to fish this specie exclusively is 10 m/t. This quantity is accounted for in the overall allocation for Belize. However, we have no vessels that has reported any northern albacore taken as bycatch.
China	China does not have vessels targeting NALB and SALB, all the ALB are caught as bycatch and every tropical longliner can by-catch ALB. In 2020, China has 265 t of NALB and 250 t of SALB. We set catch limit for NALB and SALB for each longliner based on the TAC allocated to China according to NALB and SALB Recommendations. Each vessel must strictly comply with the catch limit set for it.
Curaçao	Res. 16-06 limit bycatch on NALB we agree with the vessels on 50 t.
EU	Depending on the EU-Member State, bycatch limits may differ. Additional details are included in the Annual Report.

France (SPM)	Regarding the application of paragraph 14 of Rec. 16-03, paragraph 11 of Rec. 17-02: the vessel Atlantic Odyssey does not catch swordfish and North Atlantic albacore as bycatch but as target species.
Senegal	None
SVG	St. Vincent and the Grenadines vessels are authorised to catch NALB.
UK (OTs)	The bycatch limit for NALB in Bermuda is 71.6 t. The total NALB caught in 2020 was within the 215 t quota for UK (OTs).
USA	The United States does not authorize vessels to fish for or retain NALB without a permit.
Venezuela	Venezuela does not account for a fishery that targets albacore ( <i>T. alalunga</i> ). However, as shown in Task 1 (nominal catches) Venezuela has applied discard measures for this species since 2014. Catches shall be discarded, and the information recorded in logbooks to show its compliance with international provisions regarding management and conservation of resources.
Chinese Taipei	Since the domestic legal framework restricts each vessel's fishing area and prohibits any vessel from operating beyond its authorized area, no fishing vessel is allowed to fish NALB in the North Atlantic Ocean without such an authorization.

Note, the above shows only those CPCs who indicated that a limit had been set. In many cases, no limit is set because all relevant vessels have licences and/or by-catch is not permitted. Many of the responses to the maximum by-catch limits are incoherent, with CPCs not having read or understood the requirement. In several instances, species are mixed-up (and include even Mediterranean) or totally irrelevant answers are given e.g., there is no targeted fishery for this species; there are no xx-flagged vessels fishing for this species

*Recommendation by ICCAT on the Southern Albacore Catch Limits for the Period 2017 to 2020 [Rec. 16-07] (as amended by Rec. 20-05)*

**List of authorised vessels:** The authorised vessels of 20m or greater with specific authorisations for S. ALB can be found in the ICCAT Record of Vessels (<https://www.iccat.int/en/VesselsRecord.asp>).

In accordance with paragraph 11 of Rec. 16-07, the following CPCs have included information in their Annual Reports on maximum on board bycatch limit of SALB:

<b>CPC</b>	<b>Response</b>
Belize	Belize has established an onboard bycatch limit across the board for all species inclusive of northern Albacore. The bycatch limit established for vessels not authorized to fish this species exclusively is 10 m/t. This quantity is accounted for in the overall quota allocation for Belize. However, we have no vessel that has reported any South albacore taken as bycatch.
China PR.	China does not have vessels targeting N-ALB and S-ALB, all the ALB are caught as by-catch and every tropical longliner can by-catch ALB. In 2021, China has 295.75 t of N-ALB and 250 t of S-ALB. We set catch limit for N-ALB and S-ALB for each longliner based on the TAC allocated to China according to Recommendations of N-ALB and S-ALB. Each vessel must strictly comply with the catch limit set for it.
Curaçao	Res. 16-07 limit by-catch on South albacore, Curaçao agreed with the vessels on 50 t limit.
European Union	Spain's surface longline can catch albacore as bycatch South of parallel 5°N. The maximum catch limit is 5% of the total of catches. In practice, the bycatch of this fleet is very low, less than 1% of the total catch.

Note, the above shows only those who indicated that a limit had been set. In many cases, no limit is set because all relevant vessels have licences and/or by-catch is not permitted. Many of the responses to the maximum by-catch limits are incoherent, with CPCs not having read or understood the requirement. In several instances, species are mixed-up (and include even Mediterranean) or totally irrelevant answers are given e.g., there is no targeted fishery for this species; there are no xx-flagged vessels fishing for this species.

*Recommendation by ICCAT Establishing Management Measures for the Stock of Mediterranean Albacore* [Rec. 17-05], replaced by 21-05

No specific reporting requirements; as Rec. 21-05 entered into force in June 2022, compliance with the requirements of this measure will be considered in 2023.

#### **BFT - BLUEFIN TUNA (*Thunnus thynnus*)**

*Recommendation by ICCAT on Bluefin Tuna Farming* [Rec. 06-07], replaced by the *Recommendation by ICCAT amending the recommendation 19-04 amending recommendation 18-02 establishing a multi-annual management plan for Bluefin Tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean* [Rec. 21-08].

**ICCAT Record of FFBS:** The ICCAT Record of farms, currently containing 69 farms, is published on the ICCAT website: <https://www.iccat.int/en/Ffb.asp> Annual lists/authorisations are not required. Many of the farms listed as authorised to operate on the ICCAT website do not participate in the ICCAT Regional Observer Programme (ROP-BFT).

*Guidelines for preparing the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Bluefin Tuna Fishing, Inspection and Capacity Management Plans* [Ref. 16-24]

Fishing, Inspection and Capacity Management Plans were received within the deadline and following the adopted Guidelines, from all CPCs with a quota for E-BFT. All plans were endorsed and can be found attached to the *Report of the intersessional meeting of Panel 2* in PA2-603/2022.

*Recommendation by ICCAT for an interim conservation and management plan for Western Atlantic bluefin tuna* [Rec. 17-06] (amended by Rec. 20-06 and Rec. 21-07)

**Monthly catch reports:** Please see **Table 7** for a summary of reports received during the year. The reported amounts continue to be published on the password protected area of the ICCAT website.

**Compliance with quotas/catch limits:** Please see document COC-304/2022.

*Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 18-02 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean and the Recommendation by ICCAT amending Recommendation 19-04 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic* [Rec. 21-08]

**Compliance with quotas/catch limits:** Please see document COC-304/2022.

**Fishing Plans:** Plans were received within the deadline and, following requests for clarification, were all endorsed by Panel 2 (see Ref. 16-24 above).

**Joint fishing operations:** 29 Joint fishing operations (JFO) were reported for 2022. The Secretariat received the necessary information five days before the JFOs except in one case, where one JFO comprising 3 Libyan vessels was reported late. The information has been posted on the ICCAT webpage: <https://www.iccat.int/en/JFO.asp> The short deadline continues to make it difficult to get full information entered into the database and synchronised with eBCD and to get it to the ROP observers in time for their embarkation. In addition, the current system does not allow for any JFOs to be entered without information on farming destinations, and some difficulties were encountered when changes were required, as once eBCDs are associated with a JFO the information it cannot be updated unless all eBCDs are reissued.

**VMS:** This year, up to 14 October 2022, a total of 2,187,690 VMS messages have been received (in calculating this total, the messages that the system identifies as port positions have not been taken into account). In comparison with the same period last year, 175,019 more messages have been received or approximately an increase of 8.7%. Over the same period this year, 1,031 vessels have been active (as in the criterion for messages, active vessels are considered to be those that have transmitted at least one message with an out of port position), which is 48 vessels more than last year, i.e., an increase of approximately 4.9%.

This year, an insignificant number of VMS messages (>10) have been received from unknown vessels, i.e., not registered on the ICCAT List of Vessels.

For more details regarding VMS messages transmitted, please see **Tables 4, 5 and 6**.

**Bi-Weekly catch reports:** Please see **Table 8**.

**Farming reports/caging declarations/carry over of caged fish:** According to the declarations received at the Secretariat, no caging took place after 22 August 2022. Carry-over of caged fish was reported by EU and Türkiye, as shown in **Table 9**. Tunisia, Morocco and Albania reported that no fish were carried over from 2021 to 2022.

**ICCAT Record of BFT Catching / BFT Other vessels:** Authorised lists were published on the ICCAT website <https://www.iccat.int/en/VesselsRecord.asp>. There was a retroactive registry of two Albanian EBFT Other vessels (see COC-305/2022 for more details), and two Chinese EBFT catching vessels (COC-308A/2022).

Information on the list of vessels fishing in 2021 is contained in **Annex 5**.

**Authorised Port lists:** There are currently 721 ports (50 more than in 2021) on the ICCAT Record authorised for landing and/or transshipment for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna, published on <https://www.iccat.int/en/Ports.asp>

**Trap lists:** There are currently 32 traps on the ICCAT Record authorised to catch eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna: <https://www.iccat.int/en/Traps.asp>

**Fishery closure:** in accordance with paragraph 75 (Rec. 19-04)/ 87 (Rec. 21-08), CPCs have informed of their date of quota utilisation as follows:

<b>CPC</b>	<b>Date on which entire quota of EBFT has been utilized at 7 October 2022</b>
Albania	17/06/2022
Algeria	22/06/2022
China	19/11/2021 (2022 quota not fully utilised at time of reporting)
Egypt	10/06/2022
European Union	Quota not fully utilized at time of reporting- PS closures reported as below
EU-Croatia	15/07/2022
EU-Cyprus	14/06/2022
EU-France	08/06/2022
EU-Italy	05/07/2022
EU-Spain	08/06/2020
Iceland	Not applicable; quota not fully utilized at time of reporting
Japan	03/12/2021 (for 2022, 31/12/2022 is the expected date)
Korea	Not applicable; quota not fully utilized at time of reporting
Libya	26/06/2022
Morocco	Not applicable; quota not fully utilized at time of reporting
Norway	Not applicable; quota not fully utilized at time of reporting
Syria	09/06/2022
Tunisia	14/06/2022
Türkiye	15/06/2022
Chinese Taipei	Not applicable; no BFT fishery



**Inspection reports under Joint Inspection Scheme and list of agencies and inspectors' names:** Please refer to **Table 2** for the list of BFT inspection reports submitted by EU, Tunisia and Türkiye. Copies of reports submitted with infringements are available as **Annex 3** and **4** contains the list of agencies, means and the inspectors' names received from EU, Tunisia and Türkiye. A list of inspection vessels has been published on the ICCAT website. A summary of reports with infringements, as well as their responses where available, are contained in **Appendix 4**.

**Implementation Reports:** As the Recommendation did not enter into force until June 2021, no request for information was made in 2022. As the report is required biennially, the Secretariat will request information in 2023.

**Observer Programmes:** As the requirements and procedures for the submission of information was not developed by the Commission by 2009, as required by Recommendations, information from national observer programmes is included in regular scientific submissions. Some CPCs also submit national observer reports, but these may contain confidential information and are not distributed. For information on the Regional Observer Programme for Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna, please see documents PA2-601/2022 (ROP implementation) and COC-305/2022 (PNCs).

**Intra-farm transfers and random controls:** In accordance with paragraph 214 of Rec. 21-08, seven Farm Flags of four CPCs communicated to the ICCAT Secretariat the results of the random controls carried in their bluefin farm facilities. As summarized in **Table 11**, there is a total of 24 reports submitted during the period from 1 April to 20 May 2022.

**BIL - BILLFISHES: Blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*), White marlin (*Tetrapturus albidus*), Sailfish (*Istiophorus albicans*), Spearfish (*Tetrapturus pfluegeri* and *T. belone*)**

*Recommendation by ICCAT to establish rebuilding programs for blue marlin and white marlin/roundscale spearfish [Rec. 19-05]*

For compliance with quotas/catch limits, please see document COC-304/2022. For other information, please refer to Rec. 18-05 below.

*Recommendation by ICCAT on Management Measures for the Conservation of Atlantic Sailfish [Rec. 16-11]*

If the total catch of either stock of Atlantic sailfish exceeds in any year the level corresponding to 67% of the average estimate of their Maximum Sustainable Yield (i.e., 1,271 t for the eastern stock and 1,030 t for the western stock), the Commission shall review the implementation and effectiveness of this Recommendation. The total catches, are shown below from which it can be seen that the MSY for the eastern stock has been exceeded in 2021:

Task 1 data (including SCRS estimates):

<b>Sailfish</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
ATE	1648	935	2015	1182	1523
ATW	1245	1519	1361	1152	821

Task 1 data (reported data only):

<b>Sailfish</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
ATE	1648	933	2015	830	1521
ATW	1245	1517	1361	870	698

Task 1 reporting obligations are reviewed under Rec. 11-15. The Recommendation requires CPCs beginning in 2017, to describe their data collection programmes and steps taken to implement this Recommendation in their Annual Reports. These reports are included in the Billfish Check Sheet (see Rec. 18-05 below).

*Recommendation by ICCAT on Improvement of Compliance Review of Conservation and Management Measures regarding Billfish Caught in the ICCAT Convention Area [Rec. 18-05]*

Updated or new Billfish Check Sheets were received this year from 32 CPCs with 17 CPCs having no changes for the previous year. The following CPCs have never provided Billfish Check Sheets: Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Grenada, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Republic, Mauritania and Venezuela.

The Check Sheets are contained in COC-315/2022.

### **BYC - BYCATCH SPECIES**

*Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by ICCAT [Rec. 04-10]*

For information reported, please see Rec. 18-06 below.

*Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT concerning sharks [Rec. 07-06]*

For information reported, please see Rec. 18-06 below.

*Recommendation by ICCAT on reducing incidental bycatch of seabirds in longline fisheries [Rec. 07-07]*

Please see Rec. 11-09 below. The Secretariat reiterates its suggestion that these two Recommendations be combined.

*Recommendation by ICCAT on the conservation of thresher sharks caught in association with fisheries in the ICCAT Convention area [Rec. 09-07]*

For information reported, please see Rec. 18-06 below.

*Recommendation by ICCAT on Atlantic shortfin mako sharks caught in association with ICCAT fisheries [Rec. 10-06]*

For information reported, please see Rec. 18-06 below.

*Recommendation by ICCAT on the conservation of oceanic whitetip sharks caught in association with fisheries in the ICCAT Convention area [Rec. 10-07]*

For information reported, please see Rec. 16-13 / 18-06 below.

*Recommendation by ICCAT on Hammerhead Sharks (family Sphyrnidae) caught in Association with Fisheries Managed by ICCAT [Rec. 10-08]*

For information reported, please see Rec. 16-13 / 18-06 below.

*Recommendation by ICCAT on the Bycatch of Sea Turtles in ICCAT Fisheries [Rec. 10-09]*

In 2021, the Secretariat recommended that CPCs cite their legislation in their Annual Reports given that noted that the applicability of the requirements relating to the maximisation of survival of sea-turtles is not dependent on the extent of interactions; i.e. this should be implemented by all those with purse seine and/or longline fishery. Some, but not all, CPCs have followed this Recommendation. The full extract of responses entered into the IOMS system for M: BYC01 has been made available as **Annex 9**.

*Recommendation by ICCAT on the conservation of silky sharks caught in association with ICCAT fisheries [Rec. 11-08]*

For information reported, please see Rec. 18-06 below.

*Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT on reducing incidental by-catch of seabirds in ICCAT longline fisheries [Rec. 11-09]*

Seabird incidental by-catch is included in PLE-105/2022. Mitigation measures and other actions reported by CPCs through form CP46 in 2022 are shown below:

<b>CPC</b>	<b><i>Night setting with minimum deck lighting</i></b>	<b><i>Bird-scaring lines (tori lines)</i></b>	<b><i>Line weighting</i></b>	<b><i>Status of NPOA on seabirds</i></b>	<b><i>Comments</i></b>
Belize	Yes	Yes	Yes	NPOA Seabirds was adopted in 2016	Legally binding Circular was issued in accordance with this requirement. Vessels required to utilize one or more of these three measures on board their vessels. These requirements are also captured in our NPOA for Seabirds
Chinese Taipei	Yes	Yes	Yes	In 2006, we adopted the first edition of NPOA-Seabirds, within which the three mitigation measures (night setting, tori lines and line weighting) required by ICCAT were included.  In 2014, we further revised the NPOA-Seabirds to fulfill the objective of reducing incidental catch of seabirds in longline fisheries.	As stipulated in domestic regulations
EU-Malta	Night setting is generally not applied for most surface longline and bottom longline operations.	Not applied	Line weighting utilised in bottom longlines but generally not in surface longlining	No national plan of action is currently into place	Seabird by-catch by surface and bottom longlining is extremely low.
Japan	Yes	Yes	Yes	In place – update provided	Required by Ministerial order
South Africa	Yes	Yes	Yes	Published in 2008 and is currently under review	Part of Permit Conditions (section 21.2)
Türkiye	Partly Implemented	No legal obligation exists, implemented on voluntary basis	No legal obligation exists, implemented on voluntary basis	- There are project initiatives undertaken by various bodies aiming to create the basis for an inventory	

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Night setting with minimum deck lighting</i>	<i>Bird-scaring lines (tori lines)</i>	<i>Line weighting</i>	<i>Status of NPOA on seabirds</i>	<i>Comments</i>
				<p>of Marine Important Bird Areas (IBAs) and to train staff and volunteers on seabird research and conservation methods.</p> <p>- Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (General Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture) has initiated a far-reaching programme aiming to take out the outspread “ghost nets” and ghost fishing at the principal coastal water sites of Türkiye.</p> <p>- During the implementation phase of the Project of “Cleansing of Seas from Abandoned Fishing Nets”, 96.000.000 m<sup>2</sup> inland water and marine areas have been dredged and a total of 545.000 m<sup>2</sup> fishnets and 24.000 pieces of pots and similar fishing gears have been extracted from inland water and marine areas within the period 2014-2022.</p> <p>In the scope the project sensitive species bycatch data collection and bycatch mitigations methods test studies are done. In addition, good practice guide for the handling of seabirds and identification guide of vulnerable species caught incidentally in</p>	

<b>CPC</b>	<b>Night setting with minimum deck lighting</b>	<b>Bird-scaring lines (tori lines)</b>	<b>Line weighting</b>	<b>Status of NPOA on seabirds</b>	<b>Comments</b>
				<p>Mediterranean have been prepared for the fisherman and inspection officers.</p> <p>“Effects of PAL Pingers to Reduce Bycatch of Marine Mammals (Cetaceans) in Turbot Gill Nets in the Black Sea” was completed in June 2022. It was observed the PAL devices reduced the amount of catching of the Black-throated loon (<i>Gavia arctica</i>) by 89.2% compared to the control group.</p>	

*Recommendation by ICCAT on information collection and harmonization of data on by-catch and discards in ICCAT fisheries [Rec. 11-10]*

Please see Rec. 16-14 and PLE-105/2022 for information relating to this Recommendation.

*Recommendation by ICCAT amending Recommendation 10-09 on the by-catch of sea turtles in ICCAT fisheries [Rec. 13-11]*

See Rec. 10-09 above. To avoid possible redundancies, the Secretariat suggest the Commission consider combining these two measures into one.

*Recommendation by ICCAT on shortfin mako caught in association with ICCAT fisheries [Rec. 14-06]*

For information reported, please see Rec. 16-13 below.

*Recommendation by ICCAT on porbeagle caught in association with ICCAT fisheries [Rec. 15-06]*

For information reported, please see Rec. 16-13 below. Catches have not exceeded 2004 levels in any year.

*Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 16-12 on management measures for the conservation of the North Atlantic blue shark caught in association with ICCAT fisheries [Rec. 19-07], replaced by the Recommendation by ICCAT amending Recommendation 19-07 amending the Recommendation 16-12 on management measures for the conservation of the North Atlantic blue shark caught in association with ICCAT fisheries [Rec. 21-10]*

Please see the Shark Check Sheets submitted in accordance with Rec. 18-06 (COC-314/2022) for implementation of these measures.

*Recommendation by ICCAT on management measures for the conservation of South Atlantic blue shark caught in association with ICCAT fisheries [Rec. 19-08]*

Please see Shark Check Sheets (COC-314/2022) for implementation of this measure.

*Recommendation by ICCAT on the conservation of North Atlantic stock of shortfin mako caught in association with ICCAT fisheries [Rec. 17-08] and;*

*Recommendation by ICCAT on the conservation of North Atlantic stock of shortfin mako caught in association with ICCAT fisheries [Rec. 19-06]*

Please see Shark Check Sheets (COC-314/22) for implementation of this measure.

*Recommendation by ICCAT to Replace Recommendation 16-13 on Improvement of Compliance Review of Conservation and Management Measures Regarding Sharks Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries [Rec. 18-06]*

Forty-eight CPCs submitted updates to the Shark Check Sheets in 2022 to include the implementation of new measures. These are contained in document COC-314/2022.

No sheets have been received from the following CPCs: Angola, Cote d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Grenada, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Republic, Mauritania, Namibia (sent in 2021 but no update received 2022) and Bolivia (sent in 2021 but no update received 2022).

## **MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE:**

### **GEN - GENERAL ISSUES**

*Recommendation by ICCAT regarding compliance in the bluefin tuna and North Atlantic swordfish fisheries [Rec. 96-14]*

Information on compliance with minimum size regulations is reported through COC-304/2022.

*Resolution by ICCAT on large-scale pelagic driftnets [Res. 96-15]*

Please see Rec. 08-09 for more information.

*Recommendation by ICCAT to improve compliance with minimum size regulations [Rec. 97-01]*

Information on compliance with minimum size regulations is reported through COC-304/2022.

*Recommendation by ICCAT regarding compliance in the South Atlantic swordfish fishery [Rec. 97-08]*

The Secretariat has nothing to report at this time.

*Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the ban on landings and transshipments of vessels from non-Contracting Parties identified as having committed a serious infringement [Rec. 98-11]*

The Secretariat has nothing to report at this time.

*Recommendation by ICCAT regarding compliance with management measures which define quotas and/or catch limits [Rec. 00-14]*

CPCs have implemented Rec. 00-14, and through the form CP13 have reported their underages/overages for the species under quota/catch limit management. These are presented in document COC-304/2022.

*Recommendation by ICCAT regarding the temporary adjustment of quotas [Rec. 01-12]*

Authorised adjustments are contained in various Recommendations and reflected in document COC-304/2022.

*Resolution by ICCAT further defining the scope of IUU fishing [Res. 01-18]*

See PWG-405/2022.

*Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the duties of Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities in relation to their vessels in the ICCAT Convention area [Rec. 03-12]*

The Secretariat has nothing to report at this time.

*Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the recording of catch by fishing vessels in the ICCAT Convention area [Rec. 03-13]*

The Secretariat has nothing to report at this time.

*Recommendation by ICCAT to adopt additional measures against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing [Rec. 03-16]*

The Secretariat has nothing to report at this time.

*Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Trade Measures [Rec. 06-13]*

Completed forms containing information on imports and landings were submitted in accordance with this measure within the deadline by China, El Salvador, Japan, Korea, Trinidad & Tobago, Tunisia and Türkiye. The information submitted by CPCs is contained in **Annex 1**.

*Recommendation by ICCAT to Promote Compliance by Nationals of Contracting Parties, Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities with ICCAT Conservation and Management Measures [Rec. 06-14]*

The Secretariat has nothing to report at this time.

*Recommendation by ICCAT concerning data exchange format and protocol in relation to the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) for the bluefin tuna fishery in the ICCAT Convention area [Rec. 07-08]*

The Secretariat has nothing to report at this time.

*Recommendation by ICCAT to establish a process for the review and reporting of compliance information [Rec. 08-09]*

The information submitted by NGOs, together with the responses to date, is available in COC-312/2022.

*Recommendation by ICCAT to Clarify the Application of Compliance Recommendations and for Developing the Compliance Annex [Rec. 11-11]*

Compliance Tables are contained in COC-304/2022.

*Recommendation by ICCAT on Penalties Applicable in Case of non-Fulfilment of Reporting Obligations [Rec. 11-15]*

Following the 2021 Commission meeting, prohibition was imposed on Angola, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, the Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Equatorial and Sierra Leone. The Secretariat is pleased to report that the prohibition has since been lifted from Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon and Guinea Equatorial, as they have submitted the missing data during 2022.

No Task 1 statistics for 2021 were received during 2022 from, Angola, Gambia, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, or Libya (at 7 October 2022), as shown in **Appendix 3**. It should be noted that of these, Angola currently has 2 vessels of 20m or greater on the ICCAT Record, although these do not have any species-specific authorisations and hence target species is unknown. In addition, some data or confirmation of zero catches (white cells in **Appendix 3**) are missing from Guinea Equatorial, Morocco, Namibia, Senegal, United Kingdom and Venezuela.

A history of prohibitions applied is contained in **Annex 8**.

*Recommendation by ICCAT on establishing a list of vessels presumed to have carried out Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing activities* [Rec. 18-08]

The information gathered by the Secretariat since the 2021 Commission meeting is presented in document PWG-405/2022. It should be noted that the current system of cross listing poses some serious challenges to ensure accuracy of information, as there is no standard presentation for the information from the RFMOs involved.

*Recommendation by ICCAT for an ICCAT Scheme for Minimum Standards for Inspection in Port* [Rec. 12-07] (replaced by *Recommendation by ICCAT On Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing* [Rec. 18-09])

Information on contact points for AREP and receipt of reports is published on the password protected area of the ICCAT website under <https://www.iccat.int/en/portinspection.html>, as well as any infringements reported, and the actions taken. In some cases, it is not clear from the reports if infringements have taken place, and if/when these infringements relate to ICCAT requirements.

*Request from the Secretariat:* In order to ensure correct implementation of the requirement for CPCs to submit inspection reports which contain ICCAT infringements for inclusion on the ICCAT website, it would be helpful if the CPCs submit a summary of the relevant information for publication, as well as the date on which they sent the report to the Flag State.

Rec. 18-09 provides that the submission of inspection reports in which no infraction has been found is voluntary. A summary of reports received is contained **Table 3**. In many cases, reports are received late, and the Secretariat has noted that copies of the reports have not been made available to the flag States in all cases.

*Reporting of designated ports under Rec. 18-09*

The ICCAT Record of Ports into which foreign vessels may enter is published on the ICCAT website at <https://www.iccat.int/en/Ports.asp>.

*Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the Establishment of an ICCAT Record of Vessels 20 meters in Length Overall or Greater Authorized to Operate in the Convention area* [Rec. 13-13]

See also Rec. 14-10 below for issues of retroactive reporting. At the time of writing, no IMO numbers were missing from any vessels of 20m or greater (unless exempt, e.g., wooden or non-commercial vessels).

Updates to internal action reports (presented in the form CP10) were received from Belize, Curaçao and Ghana. These are contained in **Annex 2**.

*Recommendation by ICCAT on vessel chartering* [Rec. 13-14]

The chartering summary reports are contained in **Appendix 2** and the table summarizing the chartering arrangements reported in **Table 10**. Although the CP53 form introduced in 2021 has been correctly integrated by the parties involved in the chartering agreements improving the coordination and the processing of data, some difficulties remain in terms of deadlines to receive the information in a timely manner. Six of the vessels involved in Chartering arrangements are flagged to a non-Contracting Party (Vanuatu).

*Recommendation by ICCAT on access agreements* [Rec. 14-07]

Updates relating to ongoing Access Agreements were received from the European Union, Gabon, Liberia, Morocco and Suriname since the last Commission meeting. Some of the agreements reported in previous years were multi-annual and are still ongoing. Liberia has included in its Annual Report information on catches taken by foreign flagged vessels in their waters under such ongoing agreements. The full list of Access Agreements is contained in **Annex 6**.



In order to avoid any confusion with Task 1 reporting, the Secretariat published a revised reporting form for submitting information on Access Agreements; both for the Agreement itself and for the catches made under such agreement (see CP39) in 2020, but this section on catch reporting is not currently being used by CPCs. EU reported catches through an Appendix to its Annual Report as follows:

Responses from other CPCs in Annual Reports is:

**Summary of activities carried out pursuant to access agreements in 2021 from European Union**

<i>Country</i>	<i>Gear</i>	<i>Number of vessels</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Senegal	Purse seiners	28	
"	Pole-and-liners	8	
Côte d'Ivoire	Longlines	8	
"	Purse seiners	28	
Equatorial Guinea	-	-	Dormant since June 2001
Gabon	Purse seiners	27	New protocol renegotiated in 2021
"	Pole-and-liners	6	
"	Support vessels	Shall comply with ICCAT provisions	
Gambia	Purse seiners	28	
"	Pole-and-liners	10	
Guinea Bissau	Purse seiners & longlines	28	
"	Pole-and-liners	13	
Liberia	-	-	Dormant since December 2020 when last protocol expired
"	-	-	"
Mauritania	Pole-and-line & longlines	15	New protocol and Agreement renegotiated in July 2021
"	Purse seiners	29	"
Morocco	Pole-and-liners	27	
Cape Verde	Purse seiners	28	
	Pole-and-liners	14	
	longliners	27	
Sao Tome and Principe	Purse seiners	16	
"	Longlines	5	

Extracts from other CPC Annual Reports in relation to Access Agreements are shown below.

<b>CPC</b>	<b>Response</b>
Cabo Verde	In accordance with the fishing access agreement between Cabo Verde and third countries, the following are authorized to operate in Cabo Verde's EEZ: a) European Union: 8 pole and line, 21 purse seine vessels and 16 longline vessels; b) Senegal: 2 pole and line vessels; c) Japan
El Salvador	The fishing licences obtained by El Salvador vessels are provided between CPCs and the owner of the vessel. 4 purse seine vessels of El Salvador had fishing licences from several African countries. El Salvador receives information from the shipowner regarding the existence and validity of those licences to fish in the EEZ of other States for monitoring and control.
Ghana	Foreign flagged vessels land YFT, BET, SKJ occasionally. Catches are reported.
Liberia	Species annual prod (kg) Yellowfin tuna 2,065,000.00 Bigeye tuna 470,000.00 Skipjack tuna 7,544,000.00 Frigate tuna 19,000.00 Marlin - Other Species 192,100.00 ALB - LTA - Total: 10,290,100.00

*Recommendation by ICCAT amending Recommendation 03-14 concerning minimum standards for the establishment of a vessel fishing monitoring system in the ICCAT Convention area [Rec. 14-09] (replaced by Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Minimum Standards for Vessel Monitoring Systems in the ICCAT Convention Area [Rec. 18-10])*

The current Recommendation does not contain any direct reporting requirements. For compliance issues with the implementation of VMS, please refer to Rec. 19-04.

*Recommendation by ICCAT to Harmonize and Guide the Implementation of ICCAT Vessel Listing Requirements [Rec. 14-10]*

Retroactive submissions were noted above in the tropical tuna vessel list (Belize); EBFT- other vessel list (Albania) and the EBFT Catching List (China).

*Resolution by ICCAT Establishing Guidelines for the Implementation of the Recommendation 11-15 by ICCAT on Penalties Applicable in the Case of Non-Fulfilment of Reporting Obligations [Res. 15-09]*

Please see Rec. 11-15 above.

*Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish Minimum Standards for Fishing Vessel Scientific Observer Program [Rec. 16-14]*

Several CPCs have indicated difficulties in implementing scientific observer programmes. A summary of CPC's observer programmes can be found in PLE-105/2022 and COC-317/2022.

*Recommendation by ICCAT on Transshipment [Rec. 16-15]*

Carrier vessels and associated LPLVs are published on the ICCAT website in the ICCAT Record of Vessels at <https://www.iccat.int/en/VesselsRecord.asp>.

PWG-402/2022 contains more information. PNCs reported by observers and responses from CPCs are contained in COC-305/2022. The reports of the observers have been published on the ICCAT website (<https://www.iccat.int/en/ROP.html>) as required by the Recommendation.

*Resolution by ICCAT Establishing a Pilot Program for the Voluntary Exchange of Inspection Personnel in Fisheries Managed by ICCAT [Res. 18-11]*

Contact points have been published on the ICCAT website at:

[https://www.iccat.int/Documents/Comply/Res\\_18-11\\_InspectionPersonnelPilotProgram.xlsx](https://www.iccat.int/Documents/Comply/Res_18-11_InspectionPersonnelPilotProgram.xlsx)

*Recommendation by ICCAT vessel sightings [Rec. 19-09]*

Please see information contained in COC-312/2022 and PWG-405/2022 (Draft IUU list).

*Recommendation by ICCAT on protecting the health and safety of observers in ICCAT's regional observer programs [Rec. 19-10]*

To date, fifteen Emergency Action Plans have been received; these are published on <https://www.iccat.int/en/EAP.html>

*Recommendation by ICCAT on abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear [Rec. 19-11]*

No information has been submitted to date.

## **SANC - SANCTIONS, TRADE - RELATED MEASURES**

[No measures currently active]

## **SDP - STATISTICAL DOCUMENT PROGRAMS**

*Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document Program [Rec. 01-21]*

Information can be found in documents PWG-401/2022 and PLE-105/2022.

*Recommendation by ICCAT establishing a Swordfish Statistical Document Program [Rec. 01-22]*

Imports and Re-exports of both bigeye and swordfish from unknown flag and/or unknown area continue to be reported by some CPCs.

More information can be found in documents PWG-401/2022 and PLE-105/2022.

*Recommendation by ICCAT Replacing Recommendation 11-20 on an ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation Program [Rec. 18-13]*

Please see document PWG-401/2022 for information on the implementation of Rec. 18-13 under the eBCD system. Refer also to Rec. 20-08 below.

*Recommendation by ICCAT to amend Rec. 18-12 on the Application of the eBCD System [Rec. 20-08]*

In accordance with Annex 3 of Rec. 20-08, outside the Secretariat's office hours and the technical assistance' hours contracted with the Consortium, any CPC can self-register an incident on the ICCAT web page <https://www.iccat.int/en/eBCDprog.asp> to inform all CPCs of its temporary use of the paper BCD. China reported difficulties in issuing eBCDs from 2020, but details of the difficulty were not provided. Sixty-two paper BCDs were issued and have not yet been converted due to incorrect numbering which the system does not allow. China is currently working with the Secretariat to resolve this problem.

More information on the eBCD systems can be found in documents PWG-401/2022 and PWG-403/2022.

The report on the derogation allowed under paragraph 5b) is available as PWG-407/2022.

**TOR - TERMS OF REFERENCE**

*Recommendation by ICCAT for the Development of an Online Reporting System [Rec. 16-19]*

Information on progress to date can be found in document COC-302/2022, and Ref. 12-13 below.

**MISC - MISCELLANEOUS**

*Resolution by ICCAT on improving recreational fishery statistics [Res. 99-07]*

Information is included in Annual Reports (COC-301/2022) and in Task 1 statistics. Given that the wording of the Resolution is vague (*"each CPC provide specific data to SCRS to allow the Commission to determine separately the magnitude of recreational fisheries of each species of Atlantic tuna and tuna-like fish"*), the Commission may wish to better define the information required.

*Recommendation by ICCAT on criteria for attaining the status of Cooperating non-Contracting Party, Entity or Fishing Entity in ICCAT [Rec. 03-20]*

Bolivia, Chinese Taipei, and Costa Rica, Guyana, and Suriname currently enjoy Cooperating status. Review of compliance by Cooperating parties, Entities and Fishing Entities is included in document COC-308/2022. No new requests for Cooperating status were received in 2022.

*Recommendation by ICCAT on compliance with statistical reporting obligations [Rec. 05-09]*

Please see PLE-105/2022 for more details on statistical reporting, as well as Rec. 11-15 above. No data was provided by non-Contracting Parties this year.

*Resolution by ICCAT on pelagic Sargassum [Res. 05-11]*

The Secretariat has nothing to report at this time. Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago have included some information in their Annual Reports.

*Revised guidelines for the preparation of the Annual Reports [Ref. 12-13]*

Document COC-311/2022, contains a summary of Section 5 of Part II of the Annual Reports (*"Difficulties encountered in implementation of and compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures"*) presenting the main difficulties of some CPCs and raising the possible need for technical assistance.

As this was the second year the Annual Report module was available, there was greater response than in 2022. However, some confusion still remains, with some CPCs continuing to submit outdated Word tables, while others have completed the IOMS sections but did not submit any text to complement their report.

In IOMS, as in the previous Word versions of Annual Reports, it is clear that many CPCs do not read adequately the question/requirement, and do not revert back to the original Recommendations. Note that on the ICCAT website <https://www.iccat.int/en/SubmitCOMP.html>, the Recommendation numbers and paragraph numbers can be found as well as an indication as to who is expected to respond.

Below is just one example (there are many) of the types of "incorrect" answers received:

Example: Maximum onboard by-catch limit of S. SWO (Rec. 17-03, para 9)

Some responses to this requirement (which relates to southern swordfish):

XX does not fish for northern swordfish

XXX does not fish for Mediterranean swordfish

XXX does not have any vessels targeting North swordfish

**Secretariat Request:** In addition to paying attention to the questions/requirements, CPCs are requested to refrain from responding, in the IOMS, answers such as:

- See above
- See Annual Report
- Same as last year No change

The system is designed to extract all the responses to a particular requirement, in order to be able to report easily on that requirement to the Compliance Committee. Therefore, a full answer to each question is required to extract coherent information.

In some cases, the Secretariat entered, as best it could, the responses from the outdated Word files into the system and requested clarification from CPCs. In some cases, CPCs responded promptly and worked with the Secretariat to complete the report.

It is noted that of the 51 reports entered into the system, only 21 used standard responses, and in many of these cases standard responses are used in only one or two cases. At the next meeting of the IOMS, those participating may wish to suggest improvements to the standard responses to make them more widely applicable if those currently offered do not cover adequately the needs of CPCs.

In addition, there seems to be some confusion regarding the "Not applicable". If the requirement is not applicable to your CPC, this should be marked YES (yes, it is not applicable). In many cases, CPCs have indicated NO, but then in the text clarified that this is not applicable.

### List of Tables

- Table 1.** Quarterly and monthly catches of tropical tuna 2021.
- Table 2.** Summary of JIS inspection reports received.
- Table 3.** Summary of Port inspections reported to the Secretariat.
- Table 4.** VMS messages received by CPC and number of vessels.
- Table 5.** Vessels that during May-July 2021 have been registered in the ICCAT Record of Vessels and that during some of the weeks of this period have not issued any VMS messages.
- Table 6.** Vessels that during May-July 2021 have not been registered in the ICCAT Record of Vessels or whose authorization has expired yet have issued VMS messages during some of the weeks of this period.
- Table 7.** Monthly catch reports (BFT-W).
- Table 8.** Weekly catch reports (BFT-E).
- Table 9.** Summary of E-BFT caging reports.
- Table 10.** Summary of reported chartering arrangements.
- Table 11.** Results of the random controls communicated to the ICCAT Secretariat in accordance with paragraph 214 of Rec. 21-08.