

Original: English

Capacity building missions in ICCAT developing countries
(ICCAT Secretariat)

The second phase of the project Sustainable Management of Tuna Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (Tuna-ABNJ2) funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) has approved the ICCAT requests for funding for several projects and the Letter of Agreement with the FAO has been signed.

In addition to Port Inspection Training, the Secretariat included a request to fund four Compliance Missions, over a period of five years in order to assist developing countries with the most difficulties in complying with the reporting requirements contained in ICCAT Conservation and Management measures.

In 2024, the Secretariat circulated a questionnaire to determine which CPCs would be interested in receiving such assistance through ICCAT Circular #7734/24, further to ICCAT Circular #2292/23.

To date, three requests have been received (Angola, Egypt and Trinidad and Tobago). One request has been updated (Senegal) at the request of the Secretariat, as the questionnaire was submitted last year and assistance has not yet been received. These requests are attached, and the Commission, as advised by the Compliance Committee, should determine the order of priority for these CPCs.

The Compliance Committee is therefore invited to review the requests and determine the most urgent case, in order to organize a compliance mission in 2025.

**Expression of interest in ICCAT compliance missions
and/or other assistance if available**

Contracting Party: Egypt

Contact person/email: gafrd_eg@gmail.com

1. Current fisheries (add rows as needed):

<i>Fishing area</i>	<i>Gear(s) used</i>	<i>Species caught</i>	<i>Target or bycatch</i>	<i>Approx No. of vessels involved</i>
Mediterranean	Purse seine Longline	BFT, ALB, SWO	BFT, ALB (target) SWO (bycatch)	Around 32 longline vessels, 2 purse seine vessels.

If your CP does not currently have any fisheries, please indicate whether you have plans to develop any in the next five years, and if so, indicate the species to be targeted and the gears you expect will be used:

2. Other fishery-related activities (add rows as needed)

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Currently ongoing</i>	<i>Planned for short term future</i>	<i>Planned for medium/long term future</i>
In-port Transshipment	No	No	No
At-sea Transshipment	No	No	No
Port Inspection	Done by national inspectors		
Import of ICCAT species			
Export of ICCAT species	BFT	SWO	
Access agreements with third parties	Prohibited	No	No
Joint fishing activities	Yes, for BFT	Yes	Yes

3. Areas in which assistance with ICCAT reporting requirements is required. Additional information can be added in an annex if needed

(See <https://www.iccat.int/en/SubmitCOMP.html> and <https://www.iccat.int/en/submitSTAT.html> for ICCAT reporting requirements)

	<i>ICCAT requirement</i>	<i>Difficulties encountered</i>	<i>Comments</i>
General MCS measures			
Species specific MCS measures	Applying Scientific Observer Program for BFT & SWO.	Lack of finance and well trained specialists to implement sampling of BFT & SWO.	Need for the technical and financial support of ICCAT.
Data collection and reporting	ST04 ST05 ST06-T2FM ST09	Lack of finance and well trained specialists to implement collect samples.	Need for the technical and financial support of ICCAT.
Other (stock assessment)	Discussion of the allocation key.	Lack of finance to assess the stocks.	Need for the technical and financial support of ICCAT.

**Expression of interest in ICCAT compliance missions
and/or other assistance if available**

Contracting Party: Trinidad and Tobago

Contact person/email: lmartin@gov.tt.

1. Current fisheries (add rows as needed):

<i>Fishing area</i>	<i>Gear(s) used</i>	<i>Species caught</i>	<i>Target or bycatch</i>	<i>Approx No. of vessels involved</i>
Western Tropical Atlantic Ocean	Longline	YFT, BET, ALB, SWO, BUM, WHM, SAI, SHK	Target: YFT, BET, SWO	25

If your CP does not currently have any fisheries, please indicate whether you have plans to develop any in the next five years, and if so, indicate the species to be targeted and the gears you expect will be used:

2. Other fishery-related activities (add rows as needed)

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Currently ongoing</i>	<i>Planned for short term future</i>	<i>Planned for medium/long term future</i>
In-port Transshipment			
At-sea Transshipment			
Port Inspection	Conducted on request from external entities.		X
Import of ICCAT species	X		
Export of ICCAT species	X		
Access agreements with third parties			
Other (specify)			

3. Areas in which assistance with ICCAT reporting requirements is required. Additional information can be added in an annex if needed

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	<i>ICCAT requirement</i>	<i>Difficulties encountered</i>	<i>Comments</i>
General MCS measures			
Species specific MCS measures			
Data collection and reporting	M:TRO06/M:SWO01 Data from ICCAT statistical document programs.	Responsible staff frequently complete reports incorrectly.	The Compliance Committee has written to Trinidad and Tobago on multiple occasions with regard to late reporting under this requirement. The responsible staff require clarity regarding the program and completion of form CP16-SDP_BiRp.
Other (specify)			