

**Draft Recommendation by ICCAT on the application of the
Integrated Online Management System (IOMS)**

(Proposal submitted by the WG-ORT Chair, in consultation with the ICCAT Secretariat)

RECALLING the Recommendation by ICCAT for the Development of an Online Reporting System (Rec. 16-19) adopted by the Commission in 2016, and all of the benefits of developing an integrated online reporting system noted therein;

FURTHER RECALLING the Recommendation by ICCAT to Continue the Development of an Integrated Online Reporting System (Rec. 21-20) adopted by the Commission in 2021;

CONSIDERING the progress made to date by the Online Reporting Technology Working Group (WG-ORT) and the Secretariat to develop the Integrated Online Management System (IOMS) and the utility of the system to enhance compliance with ICCAT reporting requirements;

NOTING that ICCAT's Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) acknowledged in its 2022 report the importance of the IOMS project on the future of ICCAT and recommended that the Commission continue to support its development;

DESIRING to continue to find ways to enhance the effective functioning of the Commission, including by reducing the burden associated with ICCAT reporting requirements for both the Secretariat and the CPCs and increasing access to valuable information;

MINDFUL that IOMS was released into production in August 2021, and that CPCs were encouraged to submit various sections of their 2021 and 2022 Annual Reports using IOMS;

HIGHLIGHTING that the Secretariat has offered multiple trainings and additional assistance to facilitate the use of IOMS;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. All CPCs shall, as soon as possible, submit to the Secretariat the information necessary to ensure the registration of the users with Administrator rights (CPC Administrator role) for IOMS. Access to and use of IOMS cannot occur for those CPCs who fail to register at least one Administrator.
2. Beginning in 2023, CPCs shall submit the relevant portions of their Annual Report (Section 3, Part 1 and Part 2) directly into IOMS. Submission of these portions of the Annual Report in other formats will no longer be accepted by the Secretariat.
3. Notwithstanding Paragraph 2, upon exception granted by the Chair of the Compliance Committee, in consultation with the Chair of the WG-ORT and the Secretariat, CPCs may request assistance from the Secretariat to complete reporting requirements offline for upload into IOMS by the Secretariat. These requests for exception must be submitted at least two weeks in advance of the respective reporting deadline, with CPCs indicating the difficulties encountered on the utilization of IOMS. Such requests for exception, including the difficulties encountered by CPCs, shall be circulated to the Commission. The Secretariat shall include in its report to the Compliance Committee for the Annual Meeting a summary of requests and exceptions pursuant to this paragraph.
4. CPCs may communicate to the Secretariat and the WG-ORT their experiences on technical aspects of system implementation including any difficulties experienced and identification of potential improvements to functionalities to enhance IOMS implementation and performance. The Commission may consider these recommendations to further develop the system.

5. As detailed in the *Recommendation by ICCAT to Continue the Development of an Integrated Online Reporting System* (Rec. 21-20), the WG-ORT shall continue its work and as new modules are developed in IOMS, CPCs shall be required to submit the relevant compliance documents and scientific data through IOMS, as appropriate.
6. This Recommendation supplements ICCAT's Revised Guidelines for the Preparation of Annual Reports (Ref. 23-24) and repeals and replaces the Recommendation by ICCAT on the application of the Integrated Online Management System (Rec. 22-17).