

Consideration of non-CPC participation in ICCAT fisheries

(prepared by the Secretariat, in consultation with Japan and the Chair of the COC)

Following the submission of document COC_321/2023 by Japan for the 28th Regular Meeting of the Commission, concerning the catches of tuna and tuna-like species by non-CPCs, the Secretariat was requested to compile the catch data of non-CPCs from the past five years, based on statistical data submitted by non-CPCs to the Secretariat as well as the FAO (see **Table 1**).

These data should indicate the volume of catches by species and by non-CPC and should be considered by the Commission to assess the actual concern. Criteria for this assessment could be established, such as disregarding catches that account for less than 0.1% of the TAC.

Another point for discussion could be to what extent the Commission should tolerate the increase of the catch by non-CPCs when the stock condition is improving, which is likely to naturally increase their catches.

Letters to request cooperation with ICCAT, including through submission to ICCAT of information on the non-CPC's ICCAT fisheries as well as participating as an observer, Cooperating Non-Party, or Party have been sent to Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Montenegro, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Saint Lucia. A letter requesting information on ICCAT fisheries was also sent to Gibraltar.

The Secretariat has also compiled the statistical data for nominal catches received from coastal non-CPCs in **Appendix 1** of this document.

Table 1. Catches by species non-CP in the Atlantic Ocean.

(Unit: tons)

Country	Species	Source: FAO FishStatJ					Source: Statistical data submitted to the Secretariat				
		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Argentina	Swordfish	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	1.78					
Colombia	Bigeye tuna	0.00	0.00	0.00	899.00	300.00					
Colombia	Yellowfin tuna	12186.00	10478.00	14598.00	10186.00	11755.00					
Dominica	Yellowfin tuna	116.00	180.00	120.00	74.50	75.00	110.37	179.03	307.02		
Dominican Republic	Albacore	591.72	627.23	380.39	476.91	485.00					
Dominican Republic	Atlantic bluefin tuna	4.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00					
Dominican Republic	Yellowfin tuna	110.72	217.37	173.28	217.25	220.00					
Gibraltar	Atlantic bluefin tuna	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.60	17.38	20.02	21.58	24.90
Israel	Atlantic bluefin tuna	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00					
Montenegro	Atlantic bluefin tuna	95.00	59.00	24.24	23.00	25.00					
Montenegro	Swordfish	2.00	3.00	6.52	7.00	5.00					
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Bigeye tuna	0.00	0.00	0.57	0.00	0.00					
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Swordfish	2.00	0.00	1.00	0.09	0.00	1.97		1.17		
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Yellowfin tuna	13.00	1.00	6.00	0.24	0.00	12.90		5.94		
Saint Lucia	Albacore	1.00	0.66	0.30	0.32	0.26		0.66	0.30	0.32	0.26
Saint Lucia	Bigeye tuna	13.00	12.89	16.91	3.17	2.80		12.89	8.56	3.17	2.80
Saint Lucia	Swordfish	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03					0.03
Saint Lucia	Yellowfin tuna	199.24	171.85	189.54	156.28	173.80		171.85	189.54	156.28	173.80
Totals		13344.19	11761.00	15526.75	12053.77	13053.67	139.84	381.82	532.56	181.35	201.79