

Original: Spanish

Special Meeting Participation Fund¹

In 2020 the Commission adopted the *Recommendation by ICCAT Amending the Recommendation 14-14 on the Establishment of a Meeting Participation Fund for Developing ICCAT Contracting Parties* (Rec. 20-09) which substitutes and repeals Rec. 14-14 in its entirety.

Recommendation 20-09 establishes a Meeting Participation Fund (MPF) to support representatives of those ICCAT Contracting Parties which are developing States for the purpose of attending and/or contributing to the work of the Commission and other subsidiary bodies. This fund was initially provisioned with €60,000.00 from the Working Capital Fund.

The new Recommendation differs from the previous one in that some minimum criteria must be met in order to control costs and minimize the administrative burdens. These minimum criteria are as follows: when a developing Contracting Party sends more than six official delegates to a Commission meeting or more than four to a subsidiary body meeting using its own resources, it will not be entitled to receive financial support from the MPF; in addition, the delegates must travel in the least expensive economy class or another that is more economical, and the flight itinerary must be defined at least 30 days in advance of the meeting.

This fund was financed in 2024 with an allocation of €250,000.00 charged to Chapter 13b) of the ICCAT budget, as approved by the Commission in 2023.

To these funds, the carryover of financial year 2023 must be added, which amounted to €308,692.94. Therefore, the available amount in 2024 has been €558,692.94.

It should be noted that the carryover from financial year 2023 included a voluntary contribution from the European Union through the European Union Fund for Capacity Building. This contribution was made under a contract which terminated in July 2024 and is pending settlement.

In 2024, 126 trips have been organised and 30 CPCs have benefitted.

For 2025, this fund will have a carryover from 2024 of €117,017.12 and the settlement of the contract entered into with the European Union in 2022, which is estimated to be €90,000.00. Assuming that there is the same number of requests as in 2024 for participation in 2025 meetings, and therefore, the same expense will be incurred (€441,675.82), it is estimated that for 2025 it will be necessary to allocate to this fund at least €250,000.00, to reach a balance of €457,017.12. However, if this trend continues, the amount under this heading will need to be increased for the following years, as otherwise it will not be possible to cover all the expenses.

Special Meeting Participation Fund (MPF)

Opening balance for financial year 2024	€308,692.94
REVENUE	€250,000.00
Financed by ICCAT	€250,000.00
EXPENSES	€441,675.82
Scientific meetings	€278,957.19
<i>Blue Marlin Data Preparatory Meeting (Hybrid/Miami, Florida, United States, 11-15 March 2024).</i>	<i>€17,467.04</i>
<i>SCRS Workshop (Hybrid/Madrid, Spain, 18-20 March 2024).</i>	<i>€23,735.42</i>

¹ Data at 4 November 2024.

<i>Yellowfin Data Preparatory Meeting (Hybrid/Madrid, Spain, 8-12 April 2024).</i>	€26,501.77
<i>Intersessional Meeting of the Bluefin Tuna Species Group (Hybrid/Sliema, Malta, 15-18 April 2024).</i>	€5,440.69
<i>Intersessional Meeting of the Swordfish Species Group (including MSE) (Hybrid/Madrid, Spain, 6-9 May 2024).</i>	€4,766.31
<i>Mediterranean Albacore Data Preparatory and Stock Assessment Meeting (Hybrid/Madrid, Spain, 13-18 May 2024).</i>	€5,869.04
<i>Intersessional Meeting of the Subcommittee on Ecosystems and Bycatch (Hybrid/Madrid, Spain, 27-31 May 2024).</i>	€16,618.67
<i>Meeting of the Working Group on Stock Assessment Methods (WGSAM) (Hybrid/Madrid, Spain, 3-6 June 2024).</i>	€7,047.66
<i>Blue Marlin Stock Assessment Meeting (Hybrid/Madrid, Spain, 17-21 June 2024).</i>	€21,050.16
<i>Yellowfin Tuna Stock Assessment Meeting (Hybrid/Madrid, Spain, 8-12 July 2024).</i>	€40,741.04
<i>SCRS Species Group meetings and/or SCRS plenary (Hybrid/Madrid, Spain, 16-27 September 2024).</i>	€109,719.39
Second Intersessional Meeting of Panel 1 (Hybrid/Natal, Brazil, 22-24 May 2024).	€29,448.38
First Meeting of the Standing Catch Document Scheme Working Group (CDS WG) (Hybrid/Madrid, Spain, 4 March 2024) / Intersessional Meeting of Panel 2 (Hybrid/Madrid, Spain, 5-8 March 2024).	€15,537.68
Meeting of the Electronic Monitoring Systems Working Group (EMS WG) (Hybrid/Porto, Portugal, 10 June 2024) / Second Meeting of the Standing Catch Document Scheme Working Group (CDS WG) (Hybrid/Porto, Portugal, 11 June 2024) / 17th Intersessional Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Monitoring Measures (IMM) (Hybrid/ Porto, Portugal, 12-14 June 2024).	€21,176.68
Third Intersessional Meeting of Panel 1 (Hybrid/Limassol, Cyprus, 9-10 November 2024) / 24th Special Meeting of the Commission (Hybrid/Limassol, Cyprus, 11-18 November 2024).	€96,555.89
Balance at 4 November 2024	€117,017.12

Summary of expenses								
CPC	Scientific meetings		Second Intersessional Meeting of Panel 1		First Meeting of the Standing Catch Document Scheme Working Group (CDS WG) / Intersessional Meeting of Panel 2		Meeting of the Electronic Monitoring Systems Working Group (EMS WG) / Second Meeting of the Standing Catch Document Scheme Working Group (CDS WG) / 17th Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Monitoring Measures (IMM)	Third Intersessional Meeting of Panel 1 / 24th Special Meeting of the Commission
Algeria	b)	€1,837.45						
	g)	€1,886.05						
	h)	€2,333.49			X	€2,277.61		X
	k)	€3,277.53						
	k)	€2,820.36						
Belize	k)	€8,026.00	X	€2,025.36				X
Brazil	a) C	€857.94						
	C	€3,982.48						
	g)	€1,384.18						
	j)	€3,630.11						
Costa Rica	k)	€7,255.25						X
Côte d'Ivoire	c)	€3,050.96						
	i)	€3,262.12						
	j)	€3,133.57						X
	k)	€3,697.14						
Egypt	d)	€2,919.93						
	f)	€3,015.65						
	g)	€2,919.86			X	€2,721.21	X	€2,710.81
	k)	€3,345.71						X
	k)	€3,210.24						
El Salvador	b)	€2,960.16						
	g)	€3,787.49	X	€2,123.99			X	€3,201.33
	k)	€6,577.77						X
Gabon	a)	€3,950.50						
	b)	€1,521.00						
	c)	€3,271.92						X
	i)	€3,361.09						
	j)	€3,371.93						
The Gambia	b)	€2,276.79						X
Ghana	c)	€2,926.27						
	h)	€2,586.81						
	j)	€3,141.90	X	€4,201.93				X
	k)	€6,508.25						
Guatemala	b)	€2,932.45	X	€2,360.95				

	c)	€3,376.83								
	j)	€3,728.58								
Equatorial Guinea								X		
Guinea (Rep.)	b)	€2,343.87								
	c)	€2,991.26								
	e)	€3,029.46	X	€2,444.54			X	€2,909.14	X	€4,569.88
	i)	€2,762.94								
	j)	€3,039.77								
	k)	€6,105.15								
Honduras								X	€5,372.98	
Liberia			X	€4,335.84						
Libya					X	€2,548.20		X	€3,228.66	
Mauritania	j)	€3,515.13	X	€3,729.15	X	€2,635.71	X	€3,008.97		
	k)	€6,413.24								
Mexico	b)	€2,805.61								
	g)	€3,696.29						X	€5,373.26	
	j)	€3,225.92								
	k)	€6,802.61								
Namibia								X	€4,993.30	
Nicaragua			X	€1,773.15						
Nigeria	k)	€3,690.71						X	€4,030.91	
	k)	€3,674.62								
Panama	a)	€2,360.45	X	€1,664.78					X	€5,229.28
	b)	€2,809.69								
	g) C	€836.26								
	k)	€6,983.75								
São Tomé e Príncipe	a)	€3,945.77								
	b)	€2,399.02								
	i)	€2,046.00					X	€2,294.00	X	€4,875.36
	j)	€3,637.82								
	k)	€6,723.73								
Senegal	a)	€3,420.07	X	€2,520.68	X	€2,837.18	X	€3,177.43		
	c)	€3,099.96								
	i)	€2,929.91								
	j)	€3,188.97								
	k)	€5,378.75								
Sierra Leone	k)	€6,960.20								
South Africa			X	€2,268.01					X	€4,251.46
Tunisia	b)	€1,849.38								
	d)	€2,520.76								
	e)	€1,736.85								
	f)	€2,853.39			X	€2,517.77			X	€2,983.55
	g)	€2,108.54								
	h)	€2,127.36								
	k)	€3,134.45								

	k)	€2,676.85							
Uruguay	a)	€2,932.31							
	c)	€3,802.09							
	i)	€3,626.47				X	€3,875.00	X	€5,072.36
	j)	€3,921.72							
Venezuela	i)	€3,061.63							
	j)	€3,205.62						X	€5,693.62
	k)	€2,966.76							
	k)	€3,490.32							
Total		€278,957.19	€29,448.38	€15,537.68		€21,176.68		€96,555.89	

- a) *Blue Marlin Data Preparatory Meeting*
 b) *SCRS Workshop*
 c) *Yellowfin Tuna Data Preparatory Meeting*
 d) *Intersessional Meeting of the Bluefin Tuna Species Group*
 e) *Intersessional Meeting of the Swordfish Species Group (including MSE)*
 f) *Mediterranean Albacore Data Preparatory and Stock Assessment Meeting*
 g) *Meeting of the Subcommittee on Ecosystems and Bycatch*
 h) *Meeting of the Working Group on Stock Assessment Methods (WGSAM)*
 i) *Blue Marlin Stock Assessment Meeting*
 j) *Yellowfin Tuna Stock Assessment Meeting*
 k) *SCRS species groups meetings and/or SCRS plenary*
 C: *Trip cancelled*