AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Approval of minutes of the 16th meeting
4. Review of the implementation of the *Dolphin safe certification system* TT-17-04
5. Review of trigger for follow-up of discrepancies of weight TT-17-05
6. Modification of the AIDCP Dolphin Safe Certification system TT-17-06
7. Recommendations for the IRP TT-17-08
8. Other business
9. Place and date of next meeting
10. Adjournment

APPENDICES

1. List of attendees
The 17th Meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Tuna Tracking was held in La Jolla, California (USA), on October 18, 2004. The attendees are listed in Appendix 1.

1. **Opening of the meeting**

The meeting was opened by Ms. Pat Donley of the United States, the Chair of the Working Group.

2. **Adoption of the agenda**

The Working Group agreed to discuss under item 6 of the agenda the document prepared by Costa Rica (TT-17-08) entitled *Allocation of whole tuna used in the production of tuna loins and canned tuna exported and certified as AIDCP Dolphin Safe Tuna*. The provisional agenda was otherwise adopted as presented.

3. **Approval of minutes of the 16th meeting**

The minutes of the 16th Meeting of the Working Group, as previously circulated by the Secretariat, were approved with no changes.

4. **Review of the implementation of the dolphin safe certification system (TT-17-04)**

Dr. Robin Allen presented a report on the implementation of the dolphin safe certification system (TT-17-04) which updated information provided at the last meeting of the Working Group, and presented information on comparisons of dolphin safe certificates and their corresponding Tuna Tracking Forms (TTFs).

The European Union and the United States questioned why it often takes so long to hear from Parties that have been notified that the amount of certified tuna exceeds the amount of tuna that can be accounted for on dolphin safe TTFs by more than 10 percent. Parties were encouraged to reply to these notifications as soon as possible.

The Chair noted that the increased number of original TTFs received by the Secretariat in a timely manner is an indicator that the program is working well.

5. **Review of trigger for follow-up of discrepancies of weight**

Dr. Allen reviewed document TT-17-05, recalling that the 9th Meeting of the Parties decided that, if the amount of tuna recorded on a certificate exceeds the amount recorded on the corresponding TTF by 10 percent or more, the matter should be investigated by the government issuing the certificate.

During the discussion of this matter at the 9th Meeting of the Parties, the question arose of whether this 10-percent trigger level should be changed, and the Working Group decided to revisit this issue at this meeting.

Dr. Allen reminded the meeting that the point of the comparison exercise is to verify the accuracy of the dolphin safe certificates, ensuring that tuna is not claimed to be dolphin safe when it may not be. This possibility arises if there is a larger amount of dolphin safe tuna recorded on a certificate than is documented on a corresponding TTF.

The latest information analyzed showed that, in four of the 37 trips with valid dolphin safe certificates issued since June 1, 2003, the discrepancy was greater than 10 percent. With a trigger level of 5 percent, two additional certificates would have required investigation.

After consideration, the Working Group decided to continue using the 10-percent trigger for investigation of dolphin safe certificates on which the amount of dolphin-safe tuna exceeds that recorded on TTFs.

6. **Modification of the AIDCP Dolphin Safe Certification system**

One of the matters addressed under this agenda item was a continuation of the discussion begun at the last meeting of the working group of a proposal made by El Salvador, TT-17-06, to modify the Procedures for AIDCP Dolphin Safe Tuna Certification. Among other changes, the El Salvador proposal would make
the system mandatory and provide additional certification for non-dolphin safe tuna. Several delegations made it clear that they could not support the certification of non-dolphin safe tuna, and the United States made clear that the system needed to provide the possibility of the procedures being voluntary for each party, as is currently the case. Some delegations made specific suggestions regarding certain parts of the proposal, and it was decided that if El Salvador wanted to pursue modifications to the system it should bring back a revised proposal for consideration at the next meeting of the working group.

The Working Group then discussed a proposal by Costa Rica (TT-17-08), which addresses the weight relationship between whole tuna and tuna processed into loins or cans, with the idea that this relationship should be formalized in the AIDCP dolphin safe certificates.

Several delegations noted that this proposal needs to be carefully evaluated and reviewed with tuna industry representatives. After some discussion, the working group agreed that the next step is for the Parties to study the proposal in consultation with their tuna industries, and determine whether they agree with the conversion factors proposed by Costa Rica, and if not, to present conversion factors they believe are more appropriate. The Parties agreed to report their findings to the Secretariat well before the next meeting of the Working Group. The Chair volunteered to investigate what factors other international organizations might be using for similar purposes and report these findings to the Secretariat. The Secretariat would use the information gathered to prepare a report and recommendation for the next meeting of the Working Group concerning factors that might be used to convert the weight of tuna loins and canned tuna to round weight.

7. **Recommendations to the IRP**

The working group had no recommendations for the IRP.

8. **Other business**

No other business was discussed.

9. **Time and place of next meeting.**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Working Group would be held immediately prior to the next meeting of the IRP.

10. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned on 18 October 2004.
Appendix 1.

INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM
PROGRAMA INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACIÓN DE LOS Delfines

PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON TUNA TRACKING
GRUPO DE TRABAJO PERMANENTE SOBRE EL SEGUIMIENTO DEL ATÚN

17th MEETING - 17ª REUNIÓN
18 Oct 2004
La Jolla, California

ATTENDEES - ASISTENTES

BOLIVIA

HANS BELLOTA
Dirección General de Intereses Marítimos

COLOMBIA

JAIME E. RIVAS
LUIS R. PAREDES
Ministerio de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural
ARTURO VEGA
INCODER
YESID CASTRO
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

ARMANDO HERNÁNDEZ
ALVARO BUSTAMANTE
ALVARO F. BUSTAMANTE JR.
GUILLERMO DAW
HUGO MARINO

COSTA RICA

ASDRÚBAL VÁSQUEZ
GEORGE HEIGOLD
INCOPECA

ECUADOR

HUMBERTO MOYA
LUIS TORRES
Ministerio de Comercio Exterior, Industrialización, Pesca y Competitividad

BRUNO LEONE
RAFAEL TRUJILLO

EL SALVADOR

SONIA SALAVERRÍA
Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería

EUROPEAN UNION - UNION EUROPEA

ROBERTO CESARI
European Commission
CARLOS ALDEREGUIA
Secretaría General de Pesca

JAVIER ARÍZ TELLERÍA
Instituto Español de Oceanografía
AMOR SOLÁ
Embajada de España en Washington

GUATEMALA

NICOLÁS ACEVEDO
ERIK VILLAGRÁN
Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación

MEXICO

RICARDO BELMONTES
CONAPESCA
MICHEL DREYFUS
HUMBERTO ROBLES
PEDRO ULLOA
Instituto Nacional de la Pesca

LUIS FUEYO
SEMARNAT/PROFEPA
NICARAGUA

MIGUEL A. MARENCO
ADPESCA
JORGE MAYORGA
Ministerio de Industria, Fomento y Comercio

EDWARD WEISSMAN

PANAMA

GEORGE NOVEY
Autoridad Marítima de Panamá

ARNULFO FRANCO
MARÍA PATRICIA DÍAZ

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA

DAVID HOGAN
JAMES STORY
Department of State

PAT DONLEY
JEREMY RUSIN
OTHAY EASLEY
MICHELLE ZETWO
WILLIAM JACOBSON
National Marine Fisheries Service

CHARLES HART
SUSAN JACKSON

VENEZUELA

ALVIN DELGADO
Programa Nacional de Observadores de Venezuela

FREDDY DE CORDOVA

VANUATU

HUGO ALSINA
Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Maritime Affairs
Vanuatu

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS - ORGANIZACIONES NO GUBERNAMENTALES

HÉCTOR LÓPEZ
FUNDATUN

CRISTOBEL BLOCK
The Humane Society

NINA YOUNG
The Ocean Conservancy

TUNA INDUSTRY – INDUSTRIA ATUNERA

PAUL KRAMPE

SECRETARIAT - SECRETARÍA

ROBIN ALLEN, Director
ERNESTO ALTAMIRANO
DAVID BRATTEN
ALEJANDRA FERREIRA
MÓNICA GALVÁN

JOSHIE GROSS
BRIAN HALLMAN
MARLON ROMÁN
NICHOLAS WEBB