

# AGREEMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM

## CRITERIA FOR ATTAINING THE STATUS OF COOPERATING NON-PARTY OR FISHING ENTITY IN AIDCP

1. Each year, the Secretariat shall contact all non-parties and fishing entities with purse-seine vessels known to be fishing for tuna in the Agreement Area, to urge them to become a Party to the AIDCP or to attain the status of a Cooperating Non-Party or Cooperating Fishing Entity to AIDCP (Cooperating Status). In doing so, the Secretariat shall provide copies of all relevant resolutions adopted by the Parties.
2. Any non-party or fishing entity that seeks to be accorded Cooperating Status shall apply to the Secretariat requesting such status. Such requests must be received by the Secretariat no later than ninety (90) days in advance of an annual meeting of the Parties in order to be considered at that meeting.
3. Non-parties and fishing entities requesting Cooperating Status shall fulfill the following requirements in order to have this status considered by the Parties:
  - a. Information requirements:
    - i. Communicate full data on its historical fisheries in the Agreement Area, including nominal catches, number/type of vessels, name of fishing vessels, fishing effort and fishing areas;
    - ii. Communicate annually catch and effort data and size-frequency distribution of the catches (when possible) in due time and appropriate format for scientific evaluation of the stocks;
    - iii. Communicate details on current fishing presence in the Agreement Area, number of vessels and vessel characteristics;
    - iv. Communicate research programs it has conducted in the Agreement Area and share the information and the results with the Parties.
  - b. Compliance requirements:
    - i. Respect all AIDCP conservation measures in force ;
    - ii. Respect the capacity limits already in force in IATTC for tuna vessels;
    - iii. Inform the Parties of the management and conservation measures it takes to ensure compliance by its vessels, including *inter alia* and as appropriate, observer programs, inspection at sea and in port, and Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS);
    - iv. Respond to alleged violations of AIDCP measures by its vessels, as determined by the appropriate bodies, and communicate to Parties the actions taken against the vessels.
  - c. Participation:

Participation at plenary meetings, as an observer.
4. An applicant for Cooperating Status shall also:
  - a. confirm its commitment to respect the AIDCP conservation and management measures; and
  - b. inform the Parties of the measures it takes to ensure compliance by its vessels with the conservation and management measures of the AIDCP.
5. The Joint Working Group on Fishing by non-Parties shall be responsible for reviewing requests for Cooperating Status and for recommending to the Parties whether an applicant should receive Cooperating Status. In granting Cooperating Status, caution shall be used to avoid excess fishing capacity or illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities in the Agreement Area.

6. Cooperating Status shall be reviewed annually by the Parties, and may be revoked if the Cooperating Non-Party or Cooperating Fishing Entity has not complied with the criteria for attaining such status established by this resolution.