

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

82ND MEETING

LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA (USA)
4-8 JULY 2011

RESOLUTION C-11-10

**RESOLUTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF OCEANIC WHITETIP
SHARKS CAUGHT IN ASSOCIATION WITH FISHERIES IN THE
ANTIGUA CONVENTION AREA**

The Inter American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in La Jolla, California (USA), on the occasion of its 82nd Meeting:

Recalling that Article VII, paragraph 1 (f) of the Antigua Convention establishes that the Commission shall adopt, as necessary, conservation and management measures and recommendations for species belonging to the same ecosystem and that are affected by fishing for, or dependent on or associated with, the fish stocks covered by the Convention, with a view to maintaining or restoring populations of such species above levels at which their reproduction may become seriously threatened;

Taking due note that the Scientific Advisory Committee expressed concern about the recent declining trend in catches of oceanic whitetip shark (*Carcharhinus longimanus*) by purse seiners; and

Recognizing that the Scientific Advisory Committee recommends that conservation measures for this species be taken immediately without waiting for the results of the stock assessment;

Agrees that:

1. Members and Cooperating non-Members (CPCs) shall prohibit retaining onboard, transshipping, landing, storing, selling, or offering for sale any part or whole carcass of oceanic whitetip sharks in the fisheries covered by the Antigua Convention.
2. CPCs shall require vessels flying their flag to promptly release unharmed, to the extent practicable, whitetip sharks when brought alongside the vessel.
3. CPCs shall record *inter alia*, through the observer programs, the number of discards and releases of oceanic whitetip sharks with indication of status (dead or alive) and report it to IATTC.
4. This Resolution shall enter into force on 1st January 2012.