INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

~~102ND~~ 104th MEETING

[Lisbon, Portugal]
~~Panama City, Panama~~

RESOLUTION ~~C-24-07~~ C-26-XX- REV. 2
ON A REGIONAL VESSEL REGISTER ~~(AMENDS RES. C-18-06)~~

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in ~~Panama City~~Lisbon, Portugal on its 104th ~~102nd~~ Meeting:

Affirming the importance of ensuring that all vessels fishing in the Antigua Convention Area comply with the conservation and management measures agreed by the Commission;

Reaffirming the need to have pertinent information relative to the operations of vessels fishing in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO);

Recalling that Article XII, paragraph 2 (k), of the Antigua Convention stipulates that the Director shall maintain the record of vessels fishing in the Convention Area based, *inter alia,* on the information provided pursuant to Annex 1 of the Convention;

Concerned that the current IATTC Regional Vessel Register includes fishing vessels not from Members and Co-operating Non-Members of the Commission (CPCs) and the Commission cannot confirm whether these vessels are complying with relevant IATTC resolutions;

Further recalling that the Commission has been taking various measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing in the Convention Area,

Noting that large-scale fishing vessels are highly mobile and easily change fishing grounds from one ocean to another, and have high potential of operating in the Convention area without timely registration with the Commission,

Recalling that the FAO Council adopted on June 23, 2001, an International Plan of Action (IPOA) aiming to prevent, to deter and to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, that this plan stipulates that the regional fisheries management organization should take action to strengthen and develop innovative ways, in conformity with international law, to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing and in particular to establish records of vessels authorized and records of vessels engaged in IUU fishing,

Further noting that the International Maritime Organization, at its 30th Assembly meeting in December 2017, adopted Resolution A.1117(30), which amends the IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme to expand fishing vessels' eligibility for IMO numbers from such vessels 100 GT and above to include motorized inboard fishing vessels below 100 GT down to 12 meters in length overall authorized to operate outside waters under national jurisdiction of the flag State,

Recognizing the utility and practicality of using IMO numbers as a unique vessel identifier (UVI) for fishing vessels, and

Aware of the need to amend its Resolution C-14-01 on a Regional Vessel Register:

Agrees that:

1. The Director shall establish and maintain a record of vessels that have been authorized to fish in the Antigua Convention Area for species covered by the Convention, on the basis of the information detailed in paragraphs 2 and 43. The record shall contain only vessels that fly the flags of CPCs.

2. On the basis of the records at their disposal the IATTC staff shall introduce for each vessel the date of inclusion into the IATTC Register.

1.3. Each CPC shall ensure that vessels under its flag jurisdiction are included in the IATTC Register no later than 72 hours prior to engaging in fishing or transshipment activities for species covered by the Convention.

2.4. Each CPC shall supply to the Director the following information with respect to each vessel under its flag jurisdiction to be included in the record established pursuant to paragraph 1. Vessels shall will not be accepted onto the Register until all data elements described in a through q have been submitted: :

a. name of vessel, registration number, previous names (if known), and port of registry;
b. a high resolution, colour photograph of the vessel that accurately depicts the vessel's current appearance and shows its registration number. , no older than 5 years, clearly showing its registration number;
c. previous flag (if known and if any);
d. International Radio Call Sign (if any);
e. name and address of owner or owners;
f. where and when built;
g. length, beam, and moulded depth;
h. freezer type and freezer capacity (if any), in cubic meters or in tons per day (as appropriate);
i. number and capacity of fish holds, in cubic meters and, in the case of purse-seine vessels, capacity breakdown by fish hold if possible;
j. name and address of operator(s) and/or manager(s)(if any);
k. type of vessel;
l. type of fishing method or methods;
m. gross tonnage;
n. power of main engine or engines;
o. the nature of the authorization to fish granted by the flag CPC, including (such as main target species and authorization to fish on the high seas);
p. existence of a valid authorization, including start and end dates of period of validity, authorisation by the flag CPC to fish/transship in the Convention area and,
q. International Maritime Organization (IMO) or Lloyd's Register (LR) number, if issued.[1]

5. Each CPC shall promptly notify the Director of any modifications to the information listed in paragraph 43.

5bis. Where a modification would change the vessel's historical record, the flag CPC shall provide a valid, recently issued certificate specifying the revised information. The Secretariat shall retain the certificate in its official records[2].

[1] Effective 1 January 2016, flag CPC's shall ensure that all their fishing vessels (except for recreational fishing vessels) authorized to fish in the Convention Area that are at least 100 gross tons (GT) or 100 gross registered tons (GRT) in size have an IMO or LR number issued. Effective 1 January 2020, flag CPCs shall ensure that all their motorized inboard fishing vessels (except for recreational fishing vessels) of less than 100 GT or 100 GRT down to a size limit of 12 meters in length overall (LOA) or registered length, authorized to fish in the high seas of the Convention Area have an IMO or LR number issued. In assessing compliance with this requirement, the Commission shall take into account extraordinary circumstances in which a vessel owner is not able to obtain an IMO or LR number despite following the appropriate procedures. Flag CPCs shall report any such extraordinary situations in their annual reports.

[2] Where an update concerns the well volume of a purse-seine vessel, the Secretariat shall verify that the flag CPC has sufficient allocated carrying capacity to accommodate any increase. In the event of a reduction, the corresponding amount of carrying capacity shall revert to the flag CPC.

6. The Director will ensure that all the information is uploaded onto the IATTC Register within 72 hours of receipt, to the extent possible, in accordance with the rules on data confidentiality.

7. Each CPC shall ensure that no vessel currently listed on the IUU Vessel List is submitted for inclusion on, or found on the IATTC Regional Vessel Register., ~~unless the ownership of the vessel has subsequently changed and the new owner has provided sufficient evidence demonstrating that the previous owner or operator has no legal, beneficial or financial interest in, or control of the vessels, or the CPC concerned is satisfied that, having taken into account all relevant facts, the vessel is no longer engaged in or associated with IUU fishing.~~ Where a vessel included on the IUU Vessel List is found to be on the IATTC Register, the Director shall remove the vessel from the Regional Vessel Register with notification of such action to the CPC.

~~3.~~8. Each CPC shall also promptly notify the Director of:

a. any additions to the record;
b. any deletions from the record by reason of:
   i. the voluntary relinquishment or non-renewal of the fishing authorization by the owner or operator of the vessel;
   ii. the withdrawal of the fishing authorization issued to the vessel in accordance with Article XX, paragraph 2, of the Convention;
   iii. the fact that the vessel is no longer entitled to fly its flag;
   iv. the scrapping, decommissioning or loss of the vessel; and
   v. any other reason, specifying which of the reasons listed above are applicable.

~~4.~~9. CPCs shall notify the Director by 30 June each year of their vessels[3] on the Regional Vessel Register flying their flag that were actively fishing in the IATTC Convention Area for species covered by the Convention from 1 January to 31 December of the previous year.

~~5.~~10. The Director shall request each CPC to provide complete data for its vessels in accordance with paragraph 2 if the CPC does not provide all the required information.

~~6.~~11. The Commission shall review this resolution in ~~2026~~ 2029 and consider revisions to improve its effectiveness, including revisions to the vessel information required. ~~in paragraph 2 of this resolution~~. In this context, the IATTC Secretariat should analyze and suggest options to adequately implement the inclusion of the date of the initial fishing license in the Register.

~~7.~~12. ~~CPCs shall update the vessel register with information requirements adopted in 2026 prior to the 105th meeting of the IATTC Commission in 2027.~~

For vessels currently included in the vessel register, CPCs shall update vessel information to include the requirements adopted in 2026 prior to the IATTC Commission meeting in 2029.

8.

[3] Excluding recreational fishing vessels.