

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

103RD MEETING

Panama City, Panama

1-5 September 2025

PROPOSAL IATTC-103 O-1

**SUBMITTED BY COSTA RICA, BELIZE, EL SALVADOR,
GUATEMALA, HONDURAS, NICARAGUA AND PANAMA**

AMENDMENT TO PARAGRAPH 5 c OF RESOLUTION C-14-03

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Exercising the functions of Chair, facilitator, or coordinator of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies is essential to developing and adopting resolutions and recommendations, as well as to the Commission's decision-making process. In accordance with the Antigua Convention's implicit principles of effective participation and inclusiveness, any difficulties that developing country Members encounter in exercising their rights and responsibilities to the minimum extent required shall be addressed in a manner that mitigates inequalities, particularly economic ones. The Capacity Fund, governed by Resolution C-14-03, was created for this purpose.

Given that the majority of Members are developing countries and territories, and that the Commission has recently benefited from greater participation by Chairs from these states, a particular difficulty has been identified: ensuring such participation, given the financial difficulties of these Members. This could discourage this trend and have negative effects. In view of this, a practical approach to effectiveness is required. This approach would allow Chairs to attend meetings in person, if permitted, and exercise their functions with the necessary objectivity. This would eliminate the dual status of representative of a Member and Chair at the same time. The presented proposal intends to enable the Director, using the Capacity Development Fund, to authorize expenses for these individuals to attend meetings while carrying out their chair and coordination duties, on the same basis as representatives of Members who receive this financial support.

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Panama City (Panama) on the occasion of its 103rd Meeting:

Taking into account the provisions of Article XXIII of the Antigua Convention that the Commission shall seek to adopt measures relating to technical assistance, technology transfer, training and other forms of cooperation, to assist developing countries that are members of the Commission to fulfill their obligations under the Convention, as well as to enhance their ability to develop fisheries under their respective national jurisdictions and to participate in high seas fisheries on a sustainable basis;

Recalling that the Antigua Convention, in its Article XXIII, likewise establishes that the members of the Commission shall facilitate and promote such cooperation, especially financial and technical, and the transfer of technology, as may be necessary for the effective implementation of the previous paragraph;

Considering that it is essential to ensure broad, dynamic, and substantive participation by the delegates of the Members of the Commission, including, among others, the opportunity to be elected as Chairs of the bodies that are part of the Commission's structure;

Recognizing that the Fund established by Resolution C-11-11 and amended by Resolution C-14-03 was created to ensure the broad participation of developing countries and territories in the work of the Commission, given the importance of greater involvement of these countries and territories in all areas of regulatory decision-making;

Agrees:

To amend subparagraph c of paragraph 5 of Resolution C-14-03, so that it now reads as follows:

- “c. The participation in person of representatives of developing countries in the meetings of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies, as well as of scientific experts in the meetings of the Scientific Advisory Committee, and of the Chairs of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies, who are nationals of those countries, for the exercise of that capacity during the corresponding non-virtual meetings.”

The Director shall submit an annual report to the Committee on Administration and Finance detailing the use of funds under this subparagraph, specifying the amounts used, the meetings covered, and the criteria applied.