INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION 101st MEETING

Victoria, Canada 7-11 August 2023

PROPOSAL IATTC-101 A-4

SUBMITTED BY UNITED STATES

AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION C-19-01 ON THE COLLECTION AND ANALYSES OF DATA ON FISH-AGGREGATING DEVICES

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Victoria, Canada, on the occasion of its 101st Meeting:

Agrees:

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SECTION 3. NON-ENTANGLING FADS

- 10. To reduce the entanglement of sharks, sea turtles or any other species, as of 1 January 2019-2024, CPCs shall ensure that the design and construction deployment of any FAD to be deployed or redeployed (i.e., will be placed in the water) in the IATTC Convention Area shall comply with the specifications are based on the principles set out in Annex II.
- 11. Annex II is consistent with the 2023 FAD Working Group Recommendations and the 2015–2023 recommendations—Recommendations of the scientific staff of the IATTC. The scientific staff of the IATTC, in coordination with the SAC and the FAD Working Group, shall continue to review research results on the use of non-entangling material and biodegradable material on FADs, and shall provide specific recommendations no later than the 2018-2024 IATTC annual meeting, consistent with Paragraph 5.

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Annex II

Principles for design and deployment-construction of non-entangling FADs

- 1. The use of mesh net shall be prohibited for any part of a FAD.
 - a. If the raft is covered, only non-entangling material and designs shall be used.
 - b. The subsurface structure shall only be made using non-entangling materials.
- 1. The floating or raft part (flat or rolled structure) of the FAD can be covered or not. If it is covered with mesh net, it must have a stretched mesh size less than 7 cm and the mesh net must be well wrapped around the whole raft so that there is no loose netting hanging below the FAD when it is deployed.

- 2. The design of the underwater or hanging part (tail) of the FAD should avoid the use of mesh net. If mesh net is used, it must be tied as tightly as practicable in the form of sausages or have a stretched mesh size less than 7 cm in a panel with weight at the end.
- <u>32</u>. To reduce the amount of synthetic marine debris, the use of natural or biodegradable materials (such as hessian canvas, hemp ropes, etc.) for drifting FADs should be promoted.