

## CHAIR'S PROPOSAL

### ESTABLISHMENT OF AN *AD HOC* WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP AND RECOMMEND TO THE COMMISSION RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE HOLDING OF MEETINGS BY VIDEOCONFERENCE

*The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)*, gathered virtually, on the occasion of its 95<sup>th</sup> meeting:

*Aware of* its responsibility to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fish stocks covered by the Antigua Convention, in accordance with the relevant rules of international law;

*Recognizing* that the recent events worldwide as a consequence of the COVID 19 pandemic have led to the need to hold meetings by videoconference as an alternative to presential meetings;

*Taking into account* that the holding of the 95<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Commission was made possible by the commitment of Members to the development of *ad hoc* Rules of Procedure for this meeting, and recognizing the need for rules of a permanent nature, and that, to this end, it is necessary to establish an *ad hoc* Working Group which can recommend to the Commission a set of relevant rules;

*Agrees:*

1. To establish the *Ad Hoc* Working Group to develop and recommend to the Commission rules of procedure for the holding of meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies by videoconference.
2. The functions of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group shall be as follows:
  - (a) To produce, analyze and recommend to the Commission, the necessary set of rules of procedure for the conduct of formal meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies by videoconference;
  - (b) To issue a final report to the Commission with recommendations for its consideration and decision, during the intersessional period or at the regular annual meeting in 2021, whichever occurs first.
3. The *Ad Hoc* Working Group shall be composed of one representative designated by each Member of the Commission, with appropriate qualifications or experience relevant to the work of the Group.
4. The meetings of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group shall be held by videoconference and the exchange of working documents shall be done electronically.
5. The Chair of the Commission shall serve as Coordinator of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group.
6. The Coordinator of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group, in coordination with the Secretariat and with its support, considering the contributions provided by the members of the Group, shall establish the former, periodicity and content of its meetings, which will be held during the 2020-2021 intersessional period.