

INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM  
PROGRAMA INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACION DE LOS DELFINES

**PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON TUNA TRACKING**  
**17<sup>TH</sup> MEETING**

LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA (USA)  
18 OCTOBER 2004

**DOCUMENT TT-17-05**

**REVIEW OF TRIGGER FOR FOLLOW-UP OF DISCREPANCIES OF  
WEIGHT**

At the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Tuna Tracking, held in Lima on June 7, 2004, the Secretariat presented information comparing the amount of tuna recorded on dolphin safe certificates with the amount recorded on their corresponding Tuna Tracking Forms (TTFs). The 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties to the AIDCP endorsed the recommendation of the Working Group that, if the amount of tuna recorded on a certificate exceeds the amount recorded on the corresponding TTF by 10 percent or more, the matter should be investigated by the government issuing the certificate.

During the discussion of this matter in Lima, the question arose of whether this 10-percent trigger level should be changed, and the Working Group decided to revisit this issue at its next meeting.

The point of the comparison exercise is, evidently, to verify the accuracy of the dolphin safe certificates, ensuring that tuna is not claimed to be dolphin safe when it may not be. This possibility arises if there is a larger amount of dolphin safe tuna recorded on a certificate than is documented on a corresponding TTF. It should be kept in mind that a certificate may include tuna from several different TTFs, although the amount of tuna from each TTF must be listed separately. Also, a TTF may be associated with the tuna recorded on several different certificates.

In four of the 37 trips with valid dolphin safe certificates issued since June 1, 2003, the discrepancy was greater than 10 percent. With a trigger level of 5 percent, two additional certificates would have required investigation.