

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

104TH MEETING

**Lisbon, Portugal
August 24 to September 5, 2026**

PROPOSAL IATTC-104 S-1

PRESENTED BY MEXICO

**RESOLUTION C-26-XX
RESOLUTION ON COORDINATION AND COOPERATION BETWEEN
THE IATTC AND THE PROCESSES RELATED TO THE BBNJ
AGREEMENT**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Mexico presents this proposal with the objective of strengthening institutional and scientific coordination between the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and emerging processes related to the implementation of the BBNJ Agreement, considering the growing relevance of international discussions on area-based management tools and other conservation measures applicable on the high seas. Mexico considers that it is essential for these processes to be developed in a complementary and coherent manner with the mandates, technical capabilities, and conservation measures already adopted by the competent regional fisheries management organizations.

The proposal seeks to promote a preventive and constructive approach aimed at strengthening regional ocean governance, avoiding potential regulatory duplication, and recognizing the contributions that the IATTC and its Members already make in conservation, ecosystem management, and fisheries sustainability in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. Mexico also believes that greater coordination and technical cooperation will contribute to generating greater legal certainty, regulatory efficiency, and consistency among the different international frameworks applicable in areas outside national jurisdiction.

Recalling the objectives and principles of the Antigua Convention and especially the commitment of Members to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of fish stocks covered by the Convention, as well as associated or dependent species and related marine ecosystems;

Recognizing the role of regional fisheries management organizations as competent mechanisms for the adoption of conservation and management measures based on the best available scientific evidence;

Taking note of the adoption of the Agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement) under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

Recognizing the importance of strengthening cooperation, coordination, and complementarity among the various international and regional frameworks related to the conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources in areas outside national jurisdiction;

Emphasizing on the need to avoid regulatory duplication and to promote institutional coherence among the measures adopted by the IATTC and those that may be developed in other international forums with an impact on the Convention Area;

Recognizing the conservation and management measures already implemented by the Commission and its Members, including those focused on the ecosystem approach, the reduction of bycatch, fisheries monitoring, the protection of associated species, and the sustainability of fisheries;

Aware of the importance of strengthening scientific and technical exchange among the IATTC and other relevant international processes related to marine biodiversity and ocean governance;

Agrees:

1. To reassert the role of the IATTC as the competent regional organization for the conservation and management of the stocks covered by the Convention and for the adoption of science-based measures aimed at sustainable management and the ecosystem approach in the Convention Area.
2. To promote cooperation and coordination among the IATTC and relevant bodies, mechanisms, and processes derived from the BBNJ Agreement, including other regional fisheries management organizations, to strengthen the complementarity, compatibility, and effectiveness of conservation and management measures applicable in areas outside national jurisdiction.
3. To request the scientific staff and the Secretariat to identify possible mechanisms for information exchange, scientific coordination, and technical consultation with relevant processes related to the BBNJ Agreement, particularly regarding area-

based conservation measures and other initiatives that could have an impact on fisheries under the Commission's jurisdiction.

4. Furthermore, to request the scientific staff to prepare a report on the conservation and management measures currently implemented by the Commission and its Members that contribute to the conservation of marine biodiversity and the ecosystem approach in the Convention Area.
5. To establish an ad hoc working group, open to all Members and cooperating non-Members, to analyze aspects related to institutional coordination, compatibility of measures, scientific exchange, and cooperation among the IATTC and the relevant processes derived from the BBNJ Agreement.
6. To request the Director to report to the Commission, at its next annual meeting, on progress related to the implementation of this resolution and on opportunities to strengthen institutional and scientific cooperation in the region.
7. To encourage Members and Cooperating non-Members to continue strengthening conservation and management measures compatible with the ecosystem approach and with the long-term sustainability objectives of fisheries and associated marine ecosystems.