

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

100TH MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona, USA

1-5 August 2022

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

AGENDA

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3. General presentation of proposals submitted by Members on resolutions and others	
4. a. The fishery in 2021 and status of the tuna and billfish stocks	IATTC-100-01
b. Review of the Commission staff's research	IATTC-100-02a
c. Report and recommendations of the 13 th meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee	IATTC-100-03 IATTC-100-03-ADD
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a. 6 th Meeting of the <i>Ad Hoc</i> Working Group on FADs	
b. 9 th Meeting of the Committee on Administration and Finance	
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7. Election of Chair and Deputy Chair of the Commission	
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ANNEXES

1	List of attendees	
2.	RESOLUTIONS	
2a	Resolution on the process for improved compliance of resolutions adopted by the Commission	C-22-02
2b	Amendment to Resolution C-12-07 on establishing a program for transshipments by large-scale fishing vessels	C-22-03
2c	Harvest strategy for North Pacific albacore in the eastern Pacific Ocean	C-22-04
2d	Amendments to paragraphs 13 and 14.e.ii of Resolution C-21-04	C-22-05
2e	Resolution on terms of reference for a Working Group on Ecosystem and By-catch	C-22-06
2f	Establishment of an <i>Ad Hoc</i> Working Group on Electronic Monitoring (EMWG)	C-22-07

3. PROPOSALS [Not adopted]

- 3a A-1 **European Union.** Bluefin tuna
- 3b B-1 **European Union.** Sharks
- 3c B-2 **Canada and Ecuador.** Sharks
- 3d E-1 **European Union.** Regional Vessel Register
- 3e G-1 Rev 2 **Ecuador.** South Pacific albacore tuna
- 3f H-1 **Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru.** Dorado
- 3g J-1 Rev **Ecuador.** Harvest control rules
- 3h K-1 Rev 2 **Ecuador.** Observers on longliners
- 3i L-1 **Ecuador.** Transshipments
- 3j M-1 Rev **Costa Rica.** BBNJ

4 REPORTS

- 4a Report of the 9th Meeting of the Committee on Administration and Finance
- 4b Report of the 13th Meeting of the Committee for the Review of Implementation of Measures Adopted by the Commission (“Review Committee”)
- 4c Report of the 23rd Meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Fleet Capacity
- 4d Recommendations of the 6th Meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on FADs

5 OTHER

- 5a Bolivia statement on capacity request

The 100th meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) was held in Phoenix, Arizona, USA, on 1-5 August 2022. The attendees are listed in Appendix 1.

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by the Chair of the IATTC, Mr. Alfonso Miranda, of Peru. He reminded participants that, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the subsequent limitations derived from it, the meeting would be exceptionally held in a hybrid format. He noted, however, with satisfaction that 19 Members were present, with one Member participating remotely (China) and only one Member absent (Kiribati).

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes, in the understanding that several issues would be addressed under item 13 "Other business".

3. General presentation of proposals submitted by Members on resolutions and others

Following a by now well-established practice, Members that had submitted resolution proposals were given the opportunity to present them, which allowed for the process of consideration and discussion of this proposal to commence without delay, before reaching agenda item 6.

Following an intervention of China in relation to the date of publication of one of these proposals, it was made clear that none of them had been submitted after the deadline of 21 days before the opening of the meeting and the last to be posted on the IATTC website had been so before the deadline of 10 days stipulated in paragraph 15 of the IATTC Rules of Procedure.

4. a. The tuna fishery, stocks, and ecosystem in the eastern Pacific Ocean in 2021

Dr. Alex Aires-da-Silva, IATTC Coordinator of Scientific Research, gave a detailed presentation of the issue under consideration, based on Document [IATTC-100-01: “Report on the tuna fishery, stocks, and](#)

[ecosystem in the eastern Pacific Ocean in 2021](#)".

This presentation gave rise to a series of questions by Members that highlighted the following issues.

- **Bigeye tuna:** to a question on the reason for the observed reduction in bigeye tuna catches and increase in yellowfin tuna catches, Dr. Aires-da-Silva responded that it reflected probably the application of the limitations regarding the use of FADs as well as the fact that the program for monitoring that use was working well, which did not exclude the need to be vigilant in order to avoid endangering the *status quo*, particularly regarding bigeye tuna. Venezuela made a statement, which it asked to be reflected in the minutes of the meeting, to express its concern about the increase in sets on FADs and its consequences on the catches of juvenile bigeye and yellowfin tunas. It also raised concerns about the decrease in bigeye tuna catches observed during 2021 and so far in 2022 and stressed that although this could be due to the implementation of Resolution C-21-04, it was important to be very vigilant to ensure that such a decrease was not an indication of problems with this stock.

In response to a question on the situation regarding the pilot program of strengthened monitoring particularly focused on bigeye tuna catches in application of Resolution C-21-04, including the potential consequences of that program on the time necessary for the landing of the catch, Dr. Aires-da-Silva reported the progress that has been made regarding the arrangements needed for starting the pilot program, including the contracting of a Coordinator, Ms. Cristina de la Cadena, from Ecuador, and the contracting of a local coordinator based in Manta, Ecuador, and of the teams of samplers. Dr. Cleridy Lennert, from the staff of the Commission, provided further details on the programmed activities and reiterated the need for owners and operators as well as for the crew of the vessels whose catch will be sampled in port to provide their cooperation and support.

- **Skipjack:** in reaction to the positive comments by Members in acknowledgment of the interim stock assessment that had been carried out by the staff and its importance and value, Dr. Aires-da-Silva took this opportunity to recall the need to strengthen and improve the available data, particularly regarding the historical data related to that fishery, which he urged CPCs to provide, as an important step towards ensuring the best science possible in the programmed future benchmark assessment of the stock.
- **Blue sharks:** several Members expressed their concern regarding the proposed inclusion of these sharks in CITES Annex II, when it is well known that the status of this species is healthy, which should be highlighted in response to any consultations from CITES on this topic. Dr. Aires-da-Silva stated that the Commission and its staff had not been consulted yet and that, if so, an appropriate approach would be to provide CITES with the information that the IATTC has on this species.
- **Dorado – Mahi Mahi:** several Members emphasized their interest in the involvement of the IATTC staff and its contribution to the assessment and management of that stock, which is not only highly migratory but also of great importance for a number of coastal States of the EPO. Without anticipating the discussion of the proposal for a resolution on that topic, which was submitted by Ecuador, Dr. Aires-da-Silva noted that, indeed, the EPO fishery for Dorado was the most important in the world, with an annual catch of about 50,000 tons. Some Members questioned the suitability of further work by the IATTC in this fishery, notably in view of the resources required for the tropical tuna fishery and in view of the fact that catches of dorado represent less than 2% of purse-seine bycatch while there is a direct longline fishery where only two CPC harvest 98% of the catches.
- **Billfish:** in response to a Member, Dr. Aires-da-Silva stressed the continuing need to improve the gathering of data on striped marlin and sailfish, particularly from the recreational fisheries that are the most important actor in this respect.

Under this agenda item, the Commission also listened to a presentation by Ms. Dorothy Lowman, from the

United States, co-chair with Mr. Masanori Miyahara, from Japan, of the Joint IATTC and WCPFC-NC Working Group on the Management of Pacific Bluefin Tuna, to report on the results of its 7th meeting, which was held on 12-14 July 2022.

Mexico thanked Ms. Lowman for her presentation and expressed its satisfaction for the situation of the Pacific bluefin tuna. It suggested that the IATTC participate more actively in the activities of the Working Group and that, as a demonstration of that increased involvement, a future meeting of the Working Group should take place back-to-back with an IATTC regular meeting. Japan also thanked Ms. Lowman for the presentation of this report, concerning a stock that, because it migrates from West to East, requires a strengthen coordination between the two involved RFMOs. It announced it would host the next meeting of the Joint Working Group in Fukuoka. The United States joined Mexico and Japan in their expression of gratitude for the report and satisfaction for what it reflected, reiterated its commitment to support the Joint Working Group and thanked Japan for hosting its next meeting.

4b. Review of the Commission staff's research

The Coordinator of Scientific Research, Dr. Aires-da-Silva, presented Document [IATTC-100-02a - Staff activities and research plan](#), which updates the contents of Document [IATTC-98-02a](#), which outlined the staff's work and research plans for the period 2019-2023 and beyond, within the framework of the Strategic Science Plan which had been endorsed by the Commission at its 93rd meeting (SSP; see document [IATTC-93-06a](#)). Before summarizing these activities, projects, and programmes of work in his presentation, he reminded the participants that the SSP comprises seven main research areas, as follows:

1. Data collection for scientific support of management
2. Life-history studies for scientific support of management
3. Sustainable fisheries
4. Ecological impacts of fisheries: assessment and mitigation
5. Interactions among the environment, the ecosystem, and fisheries
6. Knowledge transfer and capacity building
7. Scientific excellence

The Commission welcomed this presentation and expressed its wish that the work proceed as efficiently as possible on these various projects and programmed activities, which had been already considered both in the Scientific Advisory Committee as well as in the context of the consideration of the budget. Only a few issues were specifically highlighted in the subsequent discussion:

- In response to a question concerning the tagging program for skipjack, and more specifically the 2019 and 2022 cruises, Dr. Aires-da-Silva expressed that more time was needed to integrate the results obtained from these cruises before submitting them to the Commission and CPCs;
- Regarding future activities of the scientific staff, an update on the specific activities to be carried out in 2023 on swordfish was requested; Costa Rica and other delegations reiterated their wish that work be done with the active support of the scientific staff on dorado (mahi mahi); and, finally, the question of improving the data from the longline fleet and its urgent need was raised by several delegations.

The representative of the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC) took this opportunity to express her satisfaction for the work carried out jointly by the two secretariats within the framework of the 2011 Memorandum of Understanding between the two organizations.

The Coordinator of Scientific Research also made reference to Document [IATTC-100-02b - Unfunded projects](#), which describes a series of activities and works that the scientific staff considers quite important, but for which there is currently no financial resource to undertake them.

4c. Report and recommendations of the 13th meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC)

The Director *ad interim*, Amb. Jean-François Pulvenis, in his capacity as Chair of the SAC, reported on the 13th SAC meeting held in May 2022 by videoconference. He called the attention of the participants:

- on the recommendations that have been adopted by the SAC for their consideration and endorsement by the Commission. The text of these recommendations is to be found in Document [IATTC-100-03 - Recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Committee \(SAC\) to the Commission](#);
- on the recommendations from the Working Group on Bycatch and from the Working Group on FADs, as they were discussed and approved by the SAC, whose text is to be found in Document [IATTC-100-03-ADD - Recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Committee \(SAC\) to the Commission \(Addendum\)](#).

All these recommendations were submitted to the Commission for their discussion during the meeting in a bilingual table (see document [Recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Committee \(SAC\) to the Commission \(table\)](#)).

These recommendations were endorsed by the Commission in a general manner except for the two following issues, for which the Chair proposed the adoption of two resolutions:

- The first, for implementing recommendation 3.2. (b) on the establishment of an Electronic Monitoring Working Group. The reservations voiced by Japan and supported by some other delegations led to the revision of the Chair's text (see Document [INF-A. REV Chair's text - Establishment of an Ad Hoc Working Group on Electronic Monitoring](#)) and allowed for the subsequent adoption by consensus of Resolution C-22-07;
- the second, for implementing recommendation 4. (a) and (b), on the replacement of the current Working Group on Bycatch with a Working Group on Ecosystem and Bycatch. The Chair's text, which includes the terms of reference of the new group, was adopted by consensus as Resolution C-22-06.

4d. Conservation recommendations by the Commission staff

The Coordinator of Scientific Research, Dr. Alexandre Aires-da-Silva, referred to Document [IATTC-100-04 - Staff recommendations to the Commission](#) and made a summarized presentation of these recommendations. There were no comments on the presentation or the recommendations themselves.

5. Reports of subsidiary bodies and working groups:

a. 6th Meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on FADs

Dr. Josu Santiago, Chair of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on FADs, reported on its 6th meeting held in May 2022 by videoconference, and made a detailed presentation of the recommendations that were adopted by the Working Group and are reproduced in Document [IATTC-100-03-ADD - Recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Committee \(SAC\) to the Commission \(Addendum\)](#) as they were subsequently approved by the SAC.

The Commission endorsed the recommendations presented in the report.

b. 9th Meeting of the Committee on Administration and Finance

Mr. Marco Valleta, from the European Union, who had accepted graciously to chair, reported on the 9th meeting of the Committee (see Annex 4a) and presented its recommendations to the Commission, as follows:

1. To approve a budget for the IATTC for 2023 for a total amount of US \$ 8,904,395, in the understanding that the individual contributions would still have to be defined, taking into account that

no agreement had been reached yet on the manner in which the budgeted cost of the strengthened monitoring program in application of Resolution C-21-04 would be distributed.

2. Approve the activities planned for 2022 and 2023 to be supported by the Special Fund for promoting institutional capacity-building established by Resolution C-14-03, as referred to in Document [CAF-09-02 - Special Fund for promoting institutional capacity-building](#).
3. Approve a budget of US\$ 1,440,000 for the program of transshipments at sea in 2023 and renew the contract with MRAG for three years.

The discussion focused afterwards on the question of the distribution of the costs of the enhanced monitoring program and a compromise formula was found as follows: 50% to be taken from the current budgetary surplus (consistent with the agreed principle that the surplus would not be used to fund regular recurrent activities); 25% to be contributed by the Members directly participating in the program and 25% to be contributed by all Members; these individual contributions to be made in the same proportion than those to the general budget.

As a result of the consensus that was reached on this issue, the Commission approved a budget of US\$ 8,519,111 for 2023, that is, a total amount very similar to that of the previous year. The amount of the Members' individual contribution is specified in Resolution C-22-08. The Commission also approved the renewal of the contract with MRAG for the observer program for transshipments at sea for three more years, as well as the proposed budget for this program of US\$ 1,440,000. Finally, it approved the implementation of the proposed activities under the Special Fund for Institutional Capacity-Building.

c. 13th Meeting of the Committee for the Review of Implementation of Measures Adopted by the Commission

Mr. Luis Molledo, from the European Union, who accepted graciously to chair in the absence of Mr. David Hogan, of the United States, reported on the 13th meeting of the Committee and made a detailed presentation of its recommendations (see Annex 4b), which, afterwards, were all adopted by the Commission.

As recommended by the Committee, the Commission also agreed to renew the status of Cooperating Non-Member to Bolivia, Honduras, Indonesia, Chile, and Liberia. The representative of Chile, who was present at the meeting, took this opportunity to make a statement in which he not only reiterated the commitment of his country to abide by the measures adopted by the Commission but also its interest to become a Party to the Antigua Convention.

Ecuador tabled once again the proposal that it had made during the meeting of the Committee, consisting in establishing an obligation for Cooperating Non-Members to contribute to the budget of the Commission through the payment of an annual contribution whose amount would have to be decided, in a manner consistent with the practice observed by other RFMOs and particularly by the WCPFC. This proposal was received with interest, but its consideration was postponed to the next meeting, when a draft resolution might be formally submitted.

Regarding the IUU list, the Commission adopted once again the current list, unchanged, and agreed that the proposal to include the Colombian-flagged vessel Patricia Lynn would be revisited next year.

d. 23rd Meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Fleet Capacity

The Chair of the Commission, Mr. Alfonso Miranda, who also graciously accepted to chair in the absence, at that time, of Mr. Luis Molledo, presented his report on the 23rd meeting of the Working Group (see Annex 4c).

He noted that the meeting had focused mainly on the presentation by the consultant, Dr. Dale Squires, of the components of a plan of action for the management of the fleet capacity based upon a transferable day credit scheme, with complementary observations on the initial allocation of the "Proportional Allowable Effort Shares (PAES)" as well as, for illustration purposes, of a proposed resolution.

The discussion that followed this presentation demonstrated that at the present stage no final conclusion could be reached and no formal decision be taken. For this reason, the Working Group did not adopt specific recommendations, only a general recommendation that the exploration of a satisfactory scheme be continued to reduce capacity directly or indirectly, including through the elaboration of a draft resolution setting clear rules.

Ecuador took the opportunity of the presentation of the report, to remind the Commission of the case of the *Victoria A* and reiterated its request that this vessel be included in the Regional Vessel Register in the list of inactive/sunk vessels, as it had done in previous meetings and, more recently, through a letter that had been circulated a few weeks before the current annual meetings. As it had been already the case in the Working Group, two main factors prevented the Commission to reach a consensus: first, several Members also reiterated their own capacity claims and emphasized that no order of priority should be allowed regarding the consideration of all pending claims; second, other Members recalled the position that they had repeatedly stated in previous meetings that none of these claims should be approved and the corresponding capacity activated in the absence of a prior agreement on the capacity management plan which has been in the works for several years now.

On the issue of purse seine vessels with freezing holds, the Commission established that in order for these holds not be taken into consideration when calculating the total capacity in cubic meters of wells volume of such vessels, strict control should be ensured that they are not used to store the fish but only for freezing them temporarily before their transfer to special refrigerated wells for their storage and the importance of controlling that they are empty before their arrival at port.

6. Discussion of resolutions and recommendations

a. Resolutions adopted

The following resolutions were adopted:

Subject	Resolution
Resolution on the process for improved compliance of resolutions adopted by the Commission	C-22-02
Amendment to Resolution C-12-07 on establishing a program for transshipments by large-scale fishing vessels	C-22-03
Harvest strategy for North Pacific albacore in the eastern Pacific Ocean	C-22-04
Amendments to paragraphs 13 and 14.e.ii of Resolution C-21-04	C-22-05
Resolution on terms of reference for a Working Group on Ecosystem and Bycatch	C-22-06
Establishment of an <i>Ad Hoc</i> Working Group on Electronic Monitoring (EMWG)	C-22-07
Financing FY 2023	C-22-08

b. Proposals submitted but not approved*:

The outcomes at the end of the presentation and discussion of these proposals, which could not garner the consensus needed for their approval, were as follows:

Prop.	Subject	
A-1	Bluefin tuna EUR	In substance, this proposal meant to strengthen and complement the measures established in Resolution C-21-05, to ensure among others its efficient implementation, based on an ISC evaluation of the bluefin tuna stock that concluded in its overexploitation. Japan, Mexico and the United States emphasized that the later evaluations of the stock showed its recuperation and noted that potential changes should be first presented to the Joint IATTC - WCPFC NC Working Group on Pacific Bluefin Tuna [USA].
B-1	Sharks EUR	This proposal purported to strengthen the measures related to the prohibition of shark finning established by Resolution C-05-03, particularly through the obligation, among

		others, to keep the fins attached to the carcass. In view of the strong reservations expressed by several Members, there was no consensus to adopt that proposal.
B-2	Sharks CAN ECU	As for the proposal submitted by the European Union, no consensus could be reached. Several delegations stressed that keeping shark [USA] fins attached to the carcass would raise difficulties regarding the storage of sharks in addition to the fact that these body parts have different markets.
E-1	Regional Vessel Register EUR	The purpose of the proposal was to include the identification of the beneficial owners in the information to be provided by the flag State when including a vessel in the Register. In the face of strong reservations from one Member and in view that, at least at this stage, consensus was impossible to reach, the EU withdrew its proposal.
G-1 REV 2	South Pacific Al- bacore ECU	Strong reservations of several Members to the proposed freezing of the catch at 2021 level or at the average level of the period 2015-2021 prevented this proposal from being adopted. Some of [USA] these Members also insisted that more information was needed on this fishery before undertaking to adopt conservation and management measures in its respect.
H-1	Dorado (Mahi mahi) CRI, SLV, NIC, PAN, GTM, PER	Adoption of this proposal was prevented by a number of concerns and questions raised regarding the Commission’s priorities as it relates to dorado. Members recognized the importance of dorado as an EPO species and that dorado caught “in association with tuna fisheries” is covered by the Commission. On the other hand, Members raised questions regarding the priority of the Commission focusing on directed dorado fisheries given limited resources, and the need to prioritize species most crucial to the Commission. It was noted that dorado is seen as different from other stocks the IATTC manages because the primary fishing impact on the species is from dorado-directed fisheries, largely within exclusive economic zones of CPCs.
J-1 REV	Harvest control rules ECU	While acknowledging the interest and importance of the proposal, several delegations stressed that it was not mature enough yet to be considered for its adoption.
K-1 REV 2	Observers on longliners ECU	This proposal has its origin on the observed discrepancy between the purse-seine fleet – with a 100% coverage for Class-6 vessels, in addition to the allocation of observers on smaller vessels, mandatory or voluntary in view of the circumstances – and the longline fleet – with a maximum of 5% of observed fishing effort (as defined in Resolution C-19-08). Despite the support of a number of CPCs (European Union, Costa Rica, Vanuatu, Canada, United States, El Salvador, Panama and Chile), the objections raised by several Members regarding the substance and the timing of the proposal for a gradual increase in number of observers (human and electronic) made its adoption impossible.
L-1	Transshipments ECU	This proposal was withdrawn in favor of the EU proposal, which did not ban at-sea transshipment [USA].

* All original proposals can be found on the IATTC website.

7. Election of Chair and Deputy Chair

The Commission unanimously decided to re-elect Mr. Alfonso Miranda, of Peru, as Chair of the

Commission. It elected by consensus Mr. Enrique de la Vega, of Colombia, as Deputy Chair.

8. Election of Chairs of subsidiary bodies and working groups

The Commission elected or re-elected the following persons:

Working Group or Committee	Chair(s)
Compliance Committee	Luis Molledo (EU)
Committee on Administration and Finance	Rachael Wadsworth (USA)
Permanent Working Group on Fleet Capacity	Julio Guevara (Nicaragua)
Permanent <i>Ad Hoc</i> Working Group on FADs	Josu Santiago (EU)
Working Group on Ecosystem and Bycatch	Yonat Swimmer (USA) Manuel Correia (Venezuela)

9. Other business

a. Proposed inclusion of blue sharks in CITES, Appendix II

Several delegations expressed their strong concern regarding a proposal that was submitted for consideration of the upcoming CITES 19th Conference of the Parties, which would lead to the inclusion of blue sharks in Appendix II of that Convention (see Proposal CoP19 Prop. 37). Since some IATTC Members are among the co-authors of that proposal, the possibility of the Commission as a whole taking a position on this proposal was excluded. However, there was a general agreement on asking the IATTC scientific staff to send all the information and data that it may have on this species to the CITES secretariat in advance of the Conference. Some delegations, such as Japan, noted their interest in providing the scientific staff with all the assistance that it might need in this respect.

b. Proposed resolution on the BBNJ process

Costa Rica stressed the need to address the question of the ongoing negotiations of a binding legal instrument on biodiversity in the areas beyond national jurisdiction, particularly with a view at ensuring that national delegations that participate in the process do include representatives and experts from the national fisheries authority and from the fishery sector. The objective of such participation would be to avoid that this new binding instrument and its implementation undermine or affect the activities and decisions of RFMOs and RFBs, as previously mandated in the UN General Assembly Resolution 72/249 that initiated this process. To this end, Costa Rica presented the text of a proposed agreement, in the form of a resolution (see Proposal [M-1. CRI - REV Marine Biological diversity of areas Beyond National Jurisdiction \(BBNJ\)](#)). While in general Members agreed on the need for national delegations to include representatives and experts from the fisheries authorities and the fishery sector, some considered that it would not be appropriate to formally adopt such a text that had been just tabled, moreover on an issue which they did not expect to be addressed during the meeting and for which they had not received specific instructions.

c. Implementations of the IATTC Rules of Procedure

In response to a comment made by the European Union, the Secretariat recalled that the IATTC Rules of Procedure expressly set a process for the preparation, circulation, adjustments, and final approval of the minutes of the IATTC meetings, with well-defined deadlines. Despite the practical difficulties to comply with these deadlines, the Secretariat expressed that it would make its best efforts to ensure the circulation of the first draft minutes as promptly as possible.

The European Union also noted the need to “*appoint a rapporteur from one of the Members at the beginning of each meeting*”, as stipulated in paragraph 10 of the Rules of Procedure, which should be done at the next meeting of the Commission.

d. Statement by Bolivia

Bolivia read a written statement regarding its request for the replenishment of 5,830 m³ of well volume, the partial and provisional activation of 2,439 m³ of that volume, and the allocation of an additional 5,000 m³ of capacity, in line with the previous statements that it had submitted at the last meetings of the Commission, for its inclusion in the corresponding Minutes (see Annex 5a).

10. Place and date of next meeting

The Commission decided that the next annual meetings would be held from 31 July to 11 August 2023 and expressed its utmost appreciation and gratitude for the generous invitation by Canada to host these meetings in a venue still to be announced by the Canadian authorities.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM on 5 August 2022.

Annex 1. List of attendees

ASISTENTES - ATTENDEES
MIEMBROS - MEMBERS

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Annex 2. Resolutions

2a. Resolution on the process for improved compliance of resolutions adopted by the Commission

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

100TH MEETING (EXTRAORDINARY)

Phoenix, Arizona, USA

1-5 August 2022

RESOLUTION C-22-02

RESOLUTION ON THE PROCESS FOR IMPROVED COMPLIANCE OF RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Phoenix, Arizona on the occasion of its 100th Meeting:

Reaffirming that compliance by Members with measures adopted by the Commission is one of the key elements to achieve the objective of the Antigua Convention;

Concerned that in general the level of compliance within the Commission needs to be improved in order to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fish stocks covered by the Convention; and

Aware that other tuna regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) have already started a comprehensive program for reviewing each member's compliance status;

Agrees that:

1. This Resolution shall be applied to Members and co-operating non-Members of the Commission (CPCs).

A) Meetings of the Committee for the Review of Implementation of Measures adopted by the Commission (the Committee)

2. Unless otherwise decided by the Commission:

(a) Committee meetings shall be held for a period of at least two days in the week preceding the Commission's ordinary meeting;

(b) Committee meetings shall be held during the ordinary meeting of the Commission in case there are Members that did not participate in the Committee meeting but are participating in that Commission meeting. Committee meetings may also be held, if necessary, during the ordinary meeting of the Commission for other reasons. Committee meetings, explicitly devoted to discussing improvements in the compliance process, shall be held biennially during the intersessional period, either virtually or in-person.

B) Committee preparatory work

3. In preparation for Committee meetings, the following procedures shall be followed:

(a) Three months prior to the Committee meeting, the Director shall send each CPC a standard questionnaire on compliance with IATTC resolutions (Annex). The contents of the questionnaire shall be kept updated by the Director, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, to reflect amendments to, or repeals of, existing resolutions, or the adoption of new resolutions.

(b) The Director shall extract information on possible non-compliance with IATTC resolutions from

the data from the observer programs for purse-seine fishing vessels, at-sea transshipment, and longliners-as well as other available information, and send to each CPC, three months prior to the Committee meeting, such information related to the fishing vessels flagged to that CPC.

- (c) Each CPC shall fill in the questionnaire and send it back to the Director two months prior to the Committee meeting at the latest. Each CPC shall also investigate the possible non-compliance cases in sub-paragraph (b) and report the results of the investigation back to the Director two months prior to the Committee meeting.
- (d) The Director shall circulate all the filled-in questionnaires to all CPCs one month prior to the Committee meeting. The Director shall also circulate to all CPCs, one month prior to the Committee meeting, the list of names and flags of the fishing vessels involved in the possible non-compliance cases as well as the response of the flag CPCs to such cases.

C) Committee mandate and meetings - Provisional Compliance report

- 4. The Committee meeting shall review each CPC's compliance and enforcement of IATTC resolutions during the inter-sessional period preceding the meeting, based on, *inter alia*, the filled-in questionnaires, the compliance report provided by the Director and the information on possible non-compliance cases with IATTC resolutions in paragraph 3 (d). The Committee meeting shall also discuss non-submission or late submission of the questionnaire by CPCs as well as repeated absences at Committee meetings. The order of such reviews shall be decided by the Chairman of the Committee in a fair and transparent manner.
- 5. At the end of the meeting, the Committee shall identify, for each CPC, the compliance record, areas of possible improvement as well as any recommended actions for consideration of the Commission based on the results of the review and discussion in paragraph 4. Such identifications and recommendations shall be recorded in the Provisional Compliance report in accordance with Annex 2, which shall be sent to the Commission.

D) Follow-up of the Committee's work

- 6. Upon receiving the Provisional Compliance report from the Committee, the Commission shall adopt the Final Compliance report in accordance with Annex 2 during the annual meeting subsequent to the Committee meeting.
- 7. Normally no later than 30 days following the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, the Committee Chair shall send a letter to each CPC informing the CPC of its compliance status. Each CPC shall respond to the Commission in writing at least 2 months prior to the subsequent annual meeting of the Commission, in a format to be developed by the Secretariat, to inform the Commission of steps it has taken or plans to address the identified compliance issues, and any other information the CPC deems relevant to share.
- 8. The Committee may consider development of a scheme of sanctions and incentives as well as a mechanism for their application to improve compliance by all CPCs to be submitted to the Commission for consideration and possible adoption.
- 9. Following the recommendations from the Committee identified in the Final Compliance Report, per the request of the interested CPC, the IATTC may consider capacity building support measures and technical assistance for this CPCs or other possible actions to raise awareness of the IATTC obligations, including identification missions undertaken by the IATTC Secretariat
- 10. To facilitate the implementation of IATTC reporting requirements and review pursuant to this Resolution, the Committee shall also develop a set of common guidelines and formats for data submissions.
- 11. The information resulting from the compliance review process shall be used exclusively for the objectives established in Annex 3 of the Antigua Convention
- 12. This resolution amends and replaces Resolution C-11-07.

Annex 1

Standard Questionnaire on Compliance with IATTC Resolutions

Name of member:			
Resolution	Paragraph No.	Specific obligations	Compliance Status Please answer Yes or No or NA (not applicable). If the answer is No, please use the attachment to explain the details
C-11-01	3	All class 5 and 6 purse seiners stopped fishing for 62 days in one of the two closure periods.	
	4	Any class-4 purse seiner that fished during a closure period made only one fishing trip of up to 30 days, with an observer on board.	
	5	All class 4 to 6 purse seiners did not fish in the offshore closure area from 29 September to 29 October.	
	6.a	CPC informed the Director of the names of all class 4 to 6 purse seiners that would observe each closure period.	
	7.a	CPC took the legal and administrative measures to implement the closure before the start of the closure.	
	7.b	CPC informed all interested parties in its tuna industry of the closure.	
	7.c	CPC informed the Director that the steps in 7a and 7b of the Resolution had been taken.	
	7d	All class 4 to 6 purse seiners were in port at the time their respective closure began. Vessels that were not in port had AIDCP observers on board and did not fish in the EPO.	
	8	The longline catch of bigeye tuna did not exceed the allocation per paragraph 8 of the Resolution.	
	10	The catch of bigeye tuna did not exceed 500 t or the catch level in 2001. If the catch exceeded 500 t, CPC provided monthly reports to the Director.	
	12	CPC notified the Director, by 15 July, of its actions taken to implement the measures contained in this resolution.	
	16	All class 4 to 6 purse seiners landed all bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin tuna except for cases stipulated in paragraph 16 of the Resolution.	

C-11-02	1	CPC reported to the IATTC on its implementation of the IPOA-Seabirds.	
	2	All longline fishing vessels used at least two seabird bycatch mitigation measures in the areas specified in the Resolution.	
	5	CPC informed the IATTC, by 1 September, of the mitigation measures that its longline fishing vessels plan to use.	
	7	CPC provided any available information on interactions with seabirds involving its longline fishing vessels.	
C-11-03	1.a	Fishing vessels did not fish near or interact with a data buoy in a manner stipulated in the Resolution.	
	1.b	Fishing vessels did not take on board a data buoy.	
	1.d	Fishing vessels entangled with a data buoy removed the entangled fishing gear with as little damage to the buoy as possible.	
C-11-04	2	The IATTC fee was paid	
C-11-05	2	CPC notified the Director of any change in the list of its LSTFLVs at the time it occurred.	
	4.a	CPC authorized its LSTFLVs on the list to fish in the Convention Area after checking their ability to comply with IATTC resolutions.	
	4.b	LSTFLVs on the list complied with all relevant IATTC resolutions.	
	4.c	LSTFLVs possessed valid certificates of vessel registration and valid authorizations to fish/transship.	
	4.d	CPC ensured that none of its LSTFLVs had been, were and would be involved in IUU activities.	
	5	CPC reported to the Commission the results of the review of internal actions and measures taken pursuant to paragraph 4 of the Resolution.	
	6	CPC prohibited its LSTFLVs not on the list from fishing for, retaining, transshipping and landing tuna and tuna-like species.	
C-11-06	2	CPC notified the Director of all the information listed in para 2 on each of its vessels on the Regional Vessel Register.	
	3	CPC notified the Director of any modification to the information in paragraph 2 of the Resolution.	

	4	CPC notified the Director of any additions or deletions of vessels.	
	5	CPC notified the Director of any fishing vessel no longer flying its flag.	
C-11-09	1	Fishing vessels transshipped tuna and tuna-like species at sea only under the IATTC regional observer program for at-sea transshipment.	
	2	LSTLFVs conducted in-port transshipment in accordance with Annex 1 of the resolution.	
	5	CPC decided whether or not to authorize its LSTLFVs to transship at sea.	
	7	CPC submitted to the Director the list of carrier vessels authorized to receive tuna in at-sea transshipment operations.	
	8	CPC notified the Director of any change of the authorized carrier vessels.	
	10	Carrier vessels are equipped with an operating VMS.	
	11	At-sea transshipments by LSTLFVs within waters under national jurisdiction were conducted with the prior authorization of the coastal State.	
	12	At-sea transshipments were conducted by LSTLFVs with the prior authorization of CPC.	
	13	The master and/or owner of the LSTLFV provided CPC with the necessary information at least 24 hours before the transshipment.	
	14	The master of the carrier vessel completed and transmitted the transshipment declaration to the Director and CPC along with the IATTC Record number within 24 hours of the completion of the transshipment.	
	15	The master of the carrier vessel transmitted the transshipment declaration along with the IATTC Record number to the authorities of the landing country 48 hours before landing.	
	16	All carrier vessels that transshipped at sea had IATTC observers on board.	
	17	LSTLFVs/carrier vessels did not transship without IATTC observers present.	
	18.a	The quantity of fish transshipped was consistent with the catches reported by the LSTLFV.	

	18.b	CPC validated Statistical Documents after confirming that the transshipment had been conducted in accordance with this resolution.	
	18.c	Import of transshipped bigeye tuna was made only with valid Statistical Documents and copies of the corresponding transshipment declarations.	
	19	CPC made necessary notification to the Director before 15 September.	
	20	All landed or imported tuna which had been transshipped was accompanied by transshipment declarations.	
Annex 3	9	Carrier vessels implemented the stipulated obligations.	
	11	LSTLFVs gave necessary access to IATTC observers.	
	14	The observer fee was paid.	
C-11-10	1	CPC prohibited retaining on board, transshipping landing, storing selling, or offering for sale any part or whole carcass of oceanic whitetip shark	
	2	CPCs required to promptly release unharmed, to the extent practicable, whitetip sharks when brought alongside the vessel.	
	3	CPCs recorded through, <i>inter alia</i> , the observer programs, the number of discards and releases of oceanic whitetip sharks with indication of status (dead or alive) and report it to IATTC.	
C-09-04		CPC placed an observer on each trip of purse seiners of capacity greater than 363 t and ensured that at least half of the observers were IATTC observers.	
C-07-03	1	CPC is implementing the FAO Guidelines on sea turtles.	
	2	CPC reported to the IATTC by 30 June on the progress of implementation of the FAO Guidelines.	
	3	CPC enhanced the implementation of sea turtle bycatch reduction measures and collaborated with other CPCs in the exchange of information.	
	4	CPC implemented observer programs for fisheries that may impact sea turtles.	
	6.c	Purse-seine fishing vessels released all sea turtles entangled with FADs.	

	6.d	Research was conducted to modify FADs to reduce sea turtle entanglement.	
	7.a	Longline fishing vessels carried and used the equipment to promptly release incidentally-caught sea turtles.	
	7.b	CPC continued to improve technique to reduce sea turtle bycatch.	
	7.c	CPC conducted fishing trials for reduction of sea turtle bycatch and provided the results to the IATTC.	
C-05-02	2	The level of fishing effort by vessels fishing for North Pacific albacore tuna did not increase.	
	3	CPC reported all catches of albacore tuna, by gear type, to the IATTC every six months.	
C-05-03	3	Retained sharks were fully utilized.	
	4	The vessels did not have on board shark fins that totaled more than 5% of the weight of sharks on board up to the first point of landing.	
	11	CPC reported required data for catches, effort by gear type, landing and trade of sharks by species.	
	11	CPC sent a comprehensive annual report of the implementation of the resolution by 1 May.	
C-04-05	2	Fishermen on purse-seine vessels were required to promptly release unharmed, to the extent practicable, all sharks, billfishes, rays, dorado, and other non-target species.	
	4.a	Fishermen were required to promptly release unharmed, to the extent practicable, all sea turtles.	
	4.b.	The Commission was provided with all data on bycatches of sea turtles in all fisheries targeting species covered by the Convention.	
	4.d.ii.	Vessels were prohibited from disposing of salt bags or any other type of plastic trash at sea.	
	4.d.iii	Sea turtles entangled in FADs and other fishing gear were released, when practicable	
	4.d.v	Longline vessels carried on board the necessary equipment (<i>e.g.</i> de-hookers, line cutters and scoop nets) for appropriate release of incidentally caught sea turtles.	
	4.e.	Specific measures for the protection of encircled or entangled sea turtles were implemented.	

C-04-06	1	Fishing vessels 24 meters or more in length carried an operating VMS on board.	
C-03-01	1	All bigeye tuna imported were accompanied by validated Statistical Documents or Re-export Certificates.	
	2	Statistical Documents and Re-export Certificates accompanying exported bigeye tuna were validated by government officials or authorized individuals or institutions.	
	3	CPC has provided to the Director sample forms of Statistical Documents and Re-export Certificates and information on validation as well as any change.	
	5	CPC reported to the Director the data on imported bigeye tuna by 1 April and 1 October, respectively.	
	6	CPC examined export data upon receiving the import data from the Director and reported the results to the Commission.	
C-03-05	2	Catch and effort data were submitted by 30 June by species and fishing gear.	
	2	Length-frequency data were submitted by 30 June by species and fishing gear.	

Attachment

Details of the the possible case of non-compliance

Current status of the fishing vessel

Status or result of investigation

Actions taken based on the result of the investigation, including sanctions and preventive actions

Annex 2

Status categories for possible non-compliance issues

Possible Non-Compliance Issues Status ¹	Criteria	Suggested action
Resolved	CPC addressed the compliance issue.	No further action required.
Not Resolved	CPC's investigation into the compliance issue is in progress. CPC has not responded.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPC to provide in writing additional information including update(s) on any investigation and corrective actions taken or planned to solve the case. • Review by the Committee and Commission and recommend further action(s), including taking into account any identified capacity building needs and seriousness or frequency of the compliance issue where applicable. • Automatic inclusion of the compliance issue on the subsequent(s) Draft compliance report(s) for review by the Committee and Commission until the issue is no longer considered as 'not resolved' by the corresponding national authority.
Additional information required	Where there exists no/insufficient/incorrect information or data for verification	Review by the Committee and the Commission and seek further information and action(s) by Contracting Party(ies)
Need of interpretation or clarification by Committee / Commission	Ambiguity of relevant obligation	If necessary, review conservation measure to address any technical impediments to implementation
No compliance status assigned	Cases of emergency relating to the safety of a ship and those on board or saving life at sea	No action required
No consensus reached	No consensus is reached on compliance status	Report to reflect discussion in the Committee
¹ For the purposes of this Resolution, 'compliance status' refers to the adequacy of the relevant CPC's response to the compliance issues identified with respect to the IATTC Resolutions and obligations. Suggested action' refers to further actions to be taken to address compliance issues identified.		

2b. Amendment to Resolution C-12-07 on establishing a program for transshipments by large-scale fishing vessels

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

100TH MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona (USA)

1-5 August 2022

RESOLUTION C-22-03

**AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION C-12-07 ON ESTABLISHING A
PROGRAM FOR TRANSSHIPMENTS BY LARGE-SCALE FISHING
VESSELS**

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Phoenix, Arizona (USA) on the occasion of its 100th Meeting:

Taking account of the need to combat illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing activities because they undermine the effectiveness of the conservation and management measures already adopted by the IATTC;

Expressing grave concern that organized tuna-laundering operations have been conducted, and a significant amount of catches by IUU tuna longline fishing vessels have been transshipped under the names of duly licensed fishing vessels;

In view therefore of the need to ensure the monitoring of the transshipment activities by large-scale longline vessels in the Antigua Convention Area, including the control of their landings; and

Aware of the need to amend consequently its Resolution C-11-09 on establishing a program for transshipments by large-scale fishing vessels;

Noting the need for better transshipment information-sharing protocols between IATTC and WCPFC and the need for a harmonized approach towards managing the overlap area,

Agrees:

SECTION 1. GENERAL RULES

1. Except under the program to monitor transshipment at sea outlined below in Section 2, all transshipment operations in the Antigua Convention Area of tuna and tuna-like species and sharks caught in association with the fisheries covered by the Convention (hereinafter referred to as “tuna and tuna-like species and sharks”) must take place in port.
2. Each Member and Cooperating Non-Member of the Commission (CPC) shall take the necessary measures to ensure that large-scale tuna-fishing vessels¹ (LSTFVs) flying its flag comply with the obligations set out in Annex 1 when transshipping in port.
3. This Resolution does not apply to troll vessels, pole-and-line vessels or vessels engaged in the

¹ For the purposes of this Resolution, “Large-scale tuna fishing vessels” are defined as all vessels fishing beyond areas of national jurisdiction or beyond each CPC-controlled areas and targeting tuna or tuna-like species.

transshipment of fresh fish² at sea.

SECTION 2. PROGRAM TO MONITOR TRANSSHIPMENTS AT SEA

4. The Commission hereby establishes a program to monitor transshipments at sea, which applies only to large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels (LSTLFVs) and to carrier vessels authorized by their respective flag CPC to receive transshipments from these vessels at sea. No at-sea transshipment of tuna and tuna-like species and sharks caught by fishing vessels other than LSTLFVs shall be allowed.
5. Each CPC shall determine whether or not to authorize its LSTLFVs to transship at sea. Only LSTLFVs that are included in the IATTC list of authorized longline vessels and that operate under the jurisdiction of CPCs that participate in the observer program established by this Resolution and that finance the costs of its implementation are authorized to make transshipments at sea. The Director will maintain a publicly searchable list LSTLFVs authorized to conduct at-sea transshipment. Any such transshipments must be conducted in accordance with the procedures defined in Sections 3, 4 and 5, and annexes 2 and 3 of this Resolution.

SECTION 3. RECORD OF VESSELS AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE TRANSSHIPMENTS AT SEA IN THE CONVENTION AREA

6. The Commission shall establish and maintain a record of carrier vessels authorized by their respective flag CPCs to receive tuna and tuna-like species and sharks at sea from LSTLFVs in the Convention Area (IATTC Record of Carrier Vessels). For the purposes of this Resolution, carrier vessels not on this Record are deemed not to be authorized to receive tuna and tuna-like species and sharks in at-sea transshipment operations.
7. Each CPC shall submit to the Director, in electronic format if possible, the list of the carrier vessels that it has authorized to receive at-sea transshipments from its LSTLFVs in the Convention Area. This list shall include the following information for each vessel:
 - a. The flag of the vessel;
 - b. Name of vessel, register number;
 - c. IMO number;
 - d. Previous name (if any);
 - e. Previous flag (if any);
 - f. Details of previous deletion from other registries (if any);
 - g. International radio call sign;
 - h. Type of vessel, length, gross tonnage (GT) and carrying capacity;
 - i. Name and address of owner(s) and operator(s); and
 - j. Time period authorized for transshipping.
8. Each CPC shall promptly notify the Director, after the establishment of the initial IATTC Record, of any addition to, deletion from and/or modification of the IATTC Record, at the time such changes occur.
9. The Director shall maintain the IATTC Record and take measures to ensure publicity of the Record through electronic means, by placing it on the IATTC website, in a manner consistent with confidentiality requirements notified by CPCs for their vessels.
10. Regardless of vessel size, all carrier vessels authorized for at-sea transshipment shall be required to install and operate a VMS in accordance with Resolution C-04-06* on the establishment of a Vessel

² For the purposes of this Resolution, “fresh fish” means tuna or tuna-like species that are alive, whole or dressed/gutted, but not further processed or frozen.

Monitoring System (VMS).

*[Note: Resolution C- 14-02 (amended) on the establishment of a vessel monitoring system (VMS) replaces Resolution C- 04-06 on 1 January 2016]

SECTION 4. AT-SEA TRANSSHIPMENT

11. Transshipments by LSTLFVs in waters under the jurisdiction of the CPCs are subject to prior authorization from the Coastal CPC concerned. CPCs shall take the necessary measures to ensure that LSTLFVs flying their flag comply with the following conditions:

Flag CPC Authorization

12. LSTLFVs are not authorized to transship at sea unless they have obtained prior authorization from their flag CPC.

Notification obligations

Fishing vessel:

13. To receive the prior authorization mentioned in paragraph 12, the master and/or owner of the LSTLFV must notify electronically (i.e., email, facsimile, etc.) the following information to its flag CPC authorities at least 24 hours in advance of an intended transshipment. When transmitting the following information, the LSTLFV shall provide a copy of this information to the relevant coastal State (if transshipment occurs within an easy):
 - a. the name of the LSTLFV and its number in the LSTLFV List, and the vessel IMO number if eligible,
 - b. the name of the carrier vessel and its number in the IATTC Record of Carrier Vessels, and the product to be transshipped,
 - c. the tonnage by species and product to be transshipped³,
 - d. the date and location of transshipment, and
 - e. the geographic location of the tuna and tuna-like species and sharks catches.

The LSTLFV concerned shall complete and transmit to its flag CPC, not later than five (5) working days after the transshipment, the IATTC transshipment declaration, along with its number in the IATTC LSTLFV List, in accordance with the format set out in Annex 2.

Receiving carrier vessel:

14. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall complete and transmit electronically the IATTC transshipment declaration to the Director and the flag CPC of the LSTLFV, and Coastal States where applicable, along with its number in the IATTC Record of Carrier Vessels, within 24 hours of the completion of the transshipment.
15. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall, 48 hours before landing, transmit an IATTC transshipment declaration, along with its number in the IATTC Record of Carrier Vessels, to the competent authorities of the CPC where the landing takes place.

Regional Observer Program

16. Each CPC shall ensure that all its carrier vessels that transship at sea have on board an IATTC observer, in accordance with the IATTC Regional Observer Program in Annex 3. The IATTC observer shall monitor compliance with this Resolution, and notably that the transshipped quantities are consistent with the catch reported on the IATTC transshipment declaration.
17. Vessels shall be prohibited from commencing or continuing at-sea transshipping in the Convention

³ Applies to all tuna and tuna-like species and sharks.

Area without an IATTC observer on board, except in cases of *force majeure* duly notified to the Director.

SECTION 5. GENERAL PROVISIONS

18. To ensure the effectiveness of the IATTC conservation and management measures pertaining to species covered by Statistical Document Programs:
 - a. In validating the Statistical Document, flag CPCs of LSTLFVs shall ensure that transshipments are consistent with the reported catch amount by each LSTLFV;
 - b. The Flag CPC of the LSTLFV shall validate the Statistical Documents for the transshipped fish, after confirming that the transshipment was conducted in accordance with this Resolution. This confirmation shall be based on the information obtained through the IATTC Observer Program; and
 - c. CPCs shall require that the catches of species covered by the Statistical Document Programs by LSTLFVs in the Convention Area, when imported into the territory or area of a CPC, be accompanied by validated statistical documents and a copy of the IATTC transshipment declaration.
19. Each CPC shall report annually before 15 September to the Director:
 - a. The quantities by species transshipped during the previous year.
 - b. The names and IMO numbers of its vessels on the IATTC LSTLFV List which have transshipped during the previous year;
 - c. The names, flags and IMO numbers of the vessels not included in the IATTC Regional Vessel Register involved in transshipments with its vessels on the IATTC LSTLFV List that fished in the Convention Area, as well as the tonnage by species transshipped during the previous year; and
 - d. A comprehensive report assessing the content and conclusions of the reports of the observers assigned to carrier vessels which have received transshipment from its LSTLFVs.
20. All tuna and tuna-like species and sharks caught in the Convention Area, landed in, or imported into, the territory or area of a CPC, either unprocessed or after having been processed on board and which are transshipped, shall be accompanied by the IATTC transshipment declaration until the first sale has taken place.
21. Each year, the Director shall present a report on the implementation of this Resolution to the annual meeting of the Commission, which shall review compliance with this Resolution.
22. The Secretariat shall seek to coordinate with the WCPFC observer program coordinators to encourage increased cooperation between carrier observer programs.
23. This resolution shall be reviewed at the annual meeting in 2023, and if necessary, adopt measures for the effective authorization, monitoring and control of transshipments with vessels not included in the IATTC Regional Vessel Register
24. This Resolution replaces Resolution C-12-07 and shall enter into force on 1 January 2023.

Annex 1

CONDITIONS RELATING TO IN-PORT TRANSSHIPMENT BY LSTFVS

General

1. Transshipment operations in port may only be undertaken in accordance with the procedures detailed below.

Notification obligations

2. Fishing vessel:
 - 2.1. At least 48 hours prior to transshipping, the captain of the LSTFV must notify the following information to the Port State authorities:
 - a. the name of the vessel and its number in the IATTC Regional Vessel Register,
 - b. the name of the carrier vessel, and the product to be transshipped,
 - c. the tonnage, by species and by product, to be transshipped⁴,
 - d. the date and location of transshipment,
 - e. the major fishing grounds of the tuna and tuna like species and sharks catches;
 - f. the vessel IMO number, if eligible.
 - 2.2. The captain of an LSTFV shall, at the time of the transshipment, inform the vessel's Flag CPCs of the following;
 - a. the products and quantities involved,
 - b. the date and place of the transshipment,
 - c. the name, IMO number, registration number and flag of the receiving carrier vessel,
 - d. the geographic location of the tuna and tuna like species and sharks catches.
 - 2.3. The captain of the LSTFV shall complete and transmit to the vessel's flag CPC not more than five (5) working days after the transshipment, the IATTC transshipment declaration, along with the vessel's number in the IATTC LSTFV List, in accordance with the format set out in Annex 2.

Receiving vessel

3. Not later than 24 hours before the beginning and at the end of the transshipment, the master of the receiving carrier vessel shall inform the Port State authorities of the quantities of catches of tuna and tuna-like species and sharks transshipped to the carrier vessel, and complete and transmit to the competent authorities of the vessel's flag CPC the IATTC transshipment declaration.

Landing State

4. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall, 48 hours before landing, complete an IATTC transshipment declaration, and transmit it to the competent authorities of the landing State where the landing is to take place.
5. The Port State and the landing State referred to in the above paragraphs shall take the appropriate measures to verify the accuracy of the information received, and shall cooperate with the flag CPC of the LSTFV to ensure that landings are consistent with the catches reported by the vessel. This verification shall be carried out so that the vessel suffers the minimum interference and inconvenience and that degradation of the fish is avoided.
6. Each flag CPC with LSTFVs shall report each year to the IATTC the details of the transshipments by

⁴ Applies to all tuna and tuna-like species and sharks.

its vessels.

**ANNEX 2
IATTC TRANSSHIPMENT DECLARATION**

Carrier vessel				Fishing vessel (Gear Long line)					
Name of vessel and radio call sign				Name of vessel and radio call sign					
Country flag		IMO Number		Country flag		IMO Number, if eligible			
Flag State authorization number				Flag State authorization number					
National register Number				National register Number					
IATTC identification number				IATTC identification number					
	Day	Month	Hour		Year	Agent	Master name of fishing vessel		
Departure				From		Signature	Signature		
Return				to					
Transshipment						Master name of carrier vessel	Observer name		
						Signature			
Indicate the weight in kgs or the unit used (box, basket) and the landed weight in kgs of this unit _____ kgs									
Location of transshipment: Latitude _____ Longitude _____									
Species (*)	Location of the catch (EPO, WPO, overlap area)	Type of Product							Total
		Whole	Gilled and Guttet <u>G.G</u>	Headed				Other	

Signed by the observer if the transshipment is made at sea

(*) Applies to all tuna and tuna-like species and sharks

ANNEX 3

IATTC REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAM

1. Each CPC shall require carrier vessels included in the IATTC Record of Carrier Vessels which transship at sea, to carry an IATTC observer during each transshipment operation in the Convention Area.
2. The Director shall appoint the observers, and shall place them on board the carrier vessels authorized to receive transshipments in the Convention Area from LSTLFVs flying the flag of CPCs that implement the IATTC observer program established by this Resolution.

Designation of the observers

3. The designated observers shall have the following qualifications to accomplish their tasks:
 - a. sufficient experience to identify species and fishing gear;
 - b. satisfactory knowledge of IATTC conservation and management measures;
 - c. the ability to observe and record information accurately; and
 - d. a satisfactory knowledge of the language of the flag of the vessel observed.

Obligations of the observer

4. Observers shall:
 - a. not be, to the extent possible, nationals or citizens of the flag CPC of the receiving carrier vessel;
 - b. be capable of performing the duties set forth in point 5 below;
 - c. be included in the list of observers maintained by the Director; and
 - d. not be a crew member of an LSTLFV or an employee of an LSTLFV company.
5. The observer's tasks shall be, in particular, to:
 - 5.1. on the LSTLFV intending to transship to a carrier vessel, and before the transshipment takes place:
 - i. check the validity of the fishing vessel's authorization or license to fish for tuna and tuna-like species and sharks in the Convention Area;
 - ii. check and record the total quantity of catch on board, and the quantity to be transferred to the carrier vessel;
 - iii. check that the VMS is functioning, and examine the logbook;
 - iv. verify whether any of the catch on board resulted from transfers from other vessels, and check the documentation on such transfers;
 - v. in the case of an indication that there are any violations involving the fishing vessel, immediately report the violations to the master of the carrier vessel; and
 - vi. record the results of these duties on the fishing vessel in the observer's report.
 - 5.2. on the carrier vessel:
 - a. monitor the carrier vessel's compliance with the relevant conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission. In particular the observers shall:
 - i. record and report upon the transshipment activities carried out;
 - ii. verify the position of the vessel when engaged in transshipping;
 - iii. observe and estimate products transshipped;
 - iv. verify and record the name of the LSTLFV concerned and its registration number;
 - v. verify the data contained in the transshipment declaration;
 - vi. certify the data contained in the transshipment declaration; and

- vii. countersign the transshipment declaration;
 - b. issue a daily report of the carrier vessel's transshipping activities;
 - c. establish general reports compiling the information collected in accordance with this paragraph and provide the captain the opportunity to include therein any relevant information.
 - d. submit to the Director, the Coastal State (where applicable) and the flag CPCs the aforementioned general report within seven (7) from the end of the period of observation; and
 - e. exercise any other functions as defined by the Commission.
6. Observers shall treat as confidential all information with respect to the fishing operations of the LSTLFVs and of the LSTLFVs owners and accept this requirement in writing as a condition of appointment as an observer.
 7. Observers shall comply with requirements established in the laws and regulations of the flag CPC which exercises jurisdiction over the vessel to which the observer is assigned.
 8. Observers shall respect the hierarchy and general rules of behavior which apply to all vessel personnel, provided such rules do not interfere with the duties of the observer under this program, and with the obligations of vessel personnel set forth in paragraph 9 of this program.

Obligations of the flag CPCs of carrier vessels

9. The responsibilities regarding observers of the flag CPCs of the carrier vessels and their captains shall include the following, notably:
 - a. Observers shall be allowed access to the vessel personnel and to the gear and equipment;
 - b. Upon request, observers shall also be allowed access to the following equipment, if present on the vessels to which they are assigned, in order to facilitate the carrying out of their duties set forth in paragraph 5:
 - i. satellite navigation equipment;
 - ii. radar display viewing screens when in use; and
 - iii. electronic means of communication.
 - c. Observers shall be provided accommodations, including lodging, food and adequate sanitary facilities, equal to those of officers;
 - d. Observers shall be provided with adequate space on the bridge or pilot house for clerical work, as well as space on deck adequate for carrying out observer duties; and
 - e. The flag CPCs shall ensure that captains, crew and vessel owners do not obstruct, intimidate, interfere with, influence, bribe or attempt to bribe an observer in the performance of his/her duties.
10. The Director, in a manner consistent with any applicable confidentiality requirements, shall provide to the flag CPC of the carrier vessel under whose jurisdiction the vessel transshipped and to the flag CPC of the LSTLFV, copies of all raw data, summaries, and reports pertaining to the trip three months prior to the meeting of the Committee for the Review of Implementation of Measures adopted by the Commission.

Obligations of LSTLFVs during transshipments

11. Observers shall be allowed to visit the fishing vessel, if weather conditions permit, and shall be granted access to personnel and areas of the vessel necessary to carry out their duties set forth in paragraph 5.
12. The Director shall submit the observer reports to the Committee for the Review of Implementation of Measures adopted by the Commission and to the Scientific Advisory Committee.

Observer fees

13. The costs of implementing this program shall be financed by the flag CPCs of LSTLFVs wishing to

engage in transshipment operations. The fee shall be calculated on the basis of the total costs of the program. This fee shall be paid into a special account of the Director and the Director shall manage the account for implementing the program;

14. No LSTLFV may participate in the at-sea transshipment program unless the fees, as required under paragraph 13, have been paid.

2c. Harvest strategy for North Pacific albacore in the eastern Pacific Ocean

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

100TH MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona (USA)

1-5 August 2022

RESOLUTION C-22-04

HARVEST STRATEGY FOR NORTH PACIFIC ALBACORE IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Phoenix, Arizona (USA), on the occasion of its 100th Meeting:

Recalling Resolutions C-05-02, C-13-03, and C-18-03 on North Pacific albacore tuna;

Recalling further its responsibility for the conservation and management of tunas and tuna-like species in the Convention Area, and for the formulation of recommendations to its Members and Cooperating non-Members (CPCs) with regard to the conservation and management of these resources;

Observing that the 2020 stock assessment of North Pacific albacore from the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC) indicates that North Pacific albacore tuna is neither being overfished nor is it in an overfished state;

Further Observing that the spawning stock biomass of North Pacific albacore tuna has remained stable at relatively high levels during the recent historical period, such that no management action has been required;

Recognizing that fishing effort limits continue to be an effective management tool for troll and pole-and-line fisheries targeting this stock in the convention area of the IATTC;

Recognizing that changes in oceanographic conditions are likely to influence ecosystem characteristics throughout the North Pacific Ocean, thereby resulting in potential changes to the population dynamics and distribution of this species;

Recognizing the importance of working with the WCPFC, as provided for in Article XXIV of the Antigua Convention, in order to manage North Pacific albacore tuna throughout its entire migratory range spanning/across the Pacific Ocean north of the equator;

Recalling further Article 22(4) of the WCPFC Convention that provides for cooperation with the IATTC regarding fish stocks that occur in the convention areas of both organizations;

Taking into account Article IV of the Antigua Convention calling upon members of the Commission to apply the precautionary approach, as described in the relevant provisions of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, as well as the 1995 United Nations

Fish Stocks Agreement, for the conservation, management and sustainable use of fish stocks covered by the Convention;

Bearing in mind that Article 7.5.3 of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing indicates that regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) should determine stock-specific target and limit reference points, the action to be taken if reference points are approached or exceeded, and measures to be taken to ensure that limit reference points will not be exceeded;

Considering the ISC has determined that its management strategy evaluation (MSE) work is complete and ready to form the basis for adoption of a harvest strategy for North Pacific albacore; and,

Recalling that, as directed in Resolution C-18-03, the IATTC Scientific Staff has made recommendations in respect of the ISC's MSE framework for consideration by the Commission;

Further recalling the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), at its 13th meeting, as well the IATTC Scientific Staff, recommended that the Commission use the results of the concluded MSE process to establish reference points and a harvest control rule (HCR) for North Pacific albacore tuna.

Agrees:

1. A harvest strategy, which includes the elements described in this Resolution, shall be adopted for all fisheries which harvest North Pacific albacore tuna in the Convention Area.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

- a. Considering the overarching objective of ensuring the sustainability of North Pacific albacore tuna and current fisheries supported by the stock in the eastern Pacific Ocean, the following management objectives are established:
 - i. Maintain Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB) above the Limit Reference Point, with a probability of at least 80% over the next 10 years.
 - ii. Maintain depletion of total biomass around historical (2006-2015) average depletion over the next 10 years.
 - iii. Maintain fishing intensity (F) at or below the target reference point with a probability of at least 50% over the next 10 years.
 - iv. To the extent practicable, management changes (e.g., catch and/or effort) should be relatively gradual between years.

REFERENCE POINTS

- b. For the purpose of the North Pacific albacore harvest strategy, the following reference points are established:
 - i. Target reference point (TRP) = $F_{45\%}$, which is the fishing intensity (F) level that results in the stock producing 45% of spawning potential ratio (SPR)
 - ii. Threshold reference point ($SSB_{\text{threshold}} = 30\%SSB_{\text{current},F=0}$), which is 30% of the

dynamic unfished spawning stock biomass

- iii. Limit reference point (LRP) = $14\%SSB_{\text{current},F=0}$, which is 14% of the dynamic unfished spawning stock biomass

ACCEPTABLE LEVELS OF RISK

- c. The risk of breaching the Limit Reference Point based on the most current estimate of SSB shall be no greater than 20%.

MONITORING

- d. The IATTC staff shall collaborate with the ISC to conduct regular stock assessments of North Pacific albacore tuna every three years, at which time status relative to reference point in paragraph 1.b. will be evaluated.
- e. When performing a stock assessment, IATTC staff shall collaborate with the ISC to consider if the biology, environmental conditions, data sources, status of the stock, and/or other underlying assumptions have changed substantially enough to warrant revisiting the components in this harvest strategy.

HARVEST CONTROL RULES

- f. By 2023, the Commission shall adopt harvest control rules as part of the harvest strategy for North Pacific albacore, consistent with Figure 1.
- g. The harvest control rules adopted pursuant to paragraph 1.f. shall outline *inter alia* the actions the Commission will take to manage North Pacific albacore tuna.
- h. The actions referenced under paragraph 1.g. shall be determined by the position of the most recent fishing intensity and biomass estimates relative to the reference points established pursuant to this Resolution.

OTHER PROVISIONS

- 2. The Commission shall promote compatibility, starting with the definition of “reference points”, between the harvest strategy adopted through this Resolution, and any future harvest strategy adopted in the WCPFC with respect to North Pacific albacore.
- 3. The staff will coordinate with ISC to develop in 2023, criteria for the identification of exceptional circumstances.
- 4. The Director shall communicate this Resolution to the WCPFC Secretariat.

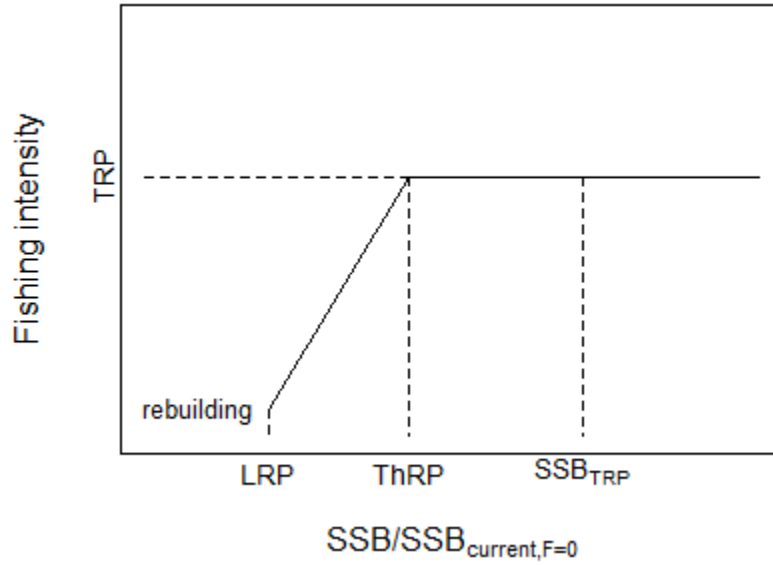


Figure. 1. Illustration of the harvest control rules with target reference point (TRP), threshold reference point (ThRP), limit reference point (LRP), and the expected SSB when fishing at the TRP (SSB_{TRP}). The harvest control rules to be adopted pursuant to paragraph 1.f. are intended to include the triggering of a rebuilding plan if the $SSB/SSB_{current,F=0}$ falls below the LRP.

2d. Amendments to paragraphs 13 and 14.e.ii of Resolution C-21-04

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

100TH MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona, USA

1-5 August 2022

RESOLUTION-C-22-05

AMENDMENT TO PARAGRAPHS 13 AND 14.e.ii OF RESOLUTION C-21-04

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), on the occasion of its 100th Meeting:

Aware of its responsibility for the scientific study of the tunas and tuna-like species in its Convention Area and for formulating recommendations to its Members and Cooperating Non-Members (CPCs) with regard to these resources;

Recognizing the need to ensure that the management measures adopted conform to technical rigor, oriented to management objectives, based on the best scientific information available;

Taking into account the best scientific information available, reflected in the IATTC staff's recommendations, and the precautionary approach;

Recalling the need to ensure that the implementation of management measures does not impose unnecessary burdens or obligations that may disrupt the logistics of fishing activities;

*Recognizing that the information on closure periods that CPCs are required to submit to the Director has traditionally been by **15 July** of each year, which is a timely date prior to the start of the agreed closure periods and relevant for planning by each CPC;*

Agrees:

To amend paragraphs 13 and 14.e.ii of Resolution C-21-04, so that hereafter it reads:

“13. a. For each one of the closure periods stipulated in paragraph 3 of this Resolution, each CPC shall notify the Director, by **15 July** of each year, the names of all the purse-seine vessels that will observe that closure period, also identifying those that must observe additional closure days pursuant to paragraphs 4 and 5 of this resolution. For those vessels that that must observe additional closure days pursuant to paragraph 5 of this resolution, each CPC shall notify the Director by 15 June of each year.

b. Every vessel that fishes, regardless of the flag under which it operates or whether it changes flag or the jurisdiction of the CPC under which it fishes during the year, must observe the closure period to which it was committed.”

“14. e. ii. in the event said vessel has already observed a closure period prescribed in paragraph 3 in the same year during which the *force majeure* event occurred, it shall observe a reduced closure period of 40 consecutive days the following year, in one of the two periods prescribed in paragraph 3, to be notified to the Director by the CPC no later than **15 July** of that year.”

2e. Resolution on terms of reference for a Working Group on Ecosystem and Bycatch

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

100TH MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona USA

01-05 August 2022

RESOLUTION C-22-06

RESOLUTION ON TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A WORKING GROUP ON ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in La Jolla, California (USA), on the occasion of its 100th Meeting:

In accordance with the provisions of Article VII, paragraph 1 (u), of the Antigua Convention;

Agrees:

To establish a permanent Working Group on Ecosystem and Bycatch (EBWG), with the following terms of reference:

1. The EBWG shall be composed of one representative designated by each member of the Commission, with appropriate qualifications or relevant experience in the field of competence of the Group, and who may be accompanied by such experts or advisors as that member may deem appropriate. It may also include representatives of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations recognized by the Commission. The EBWG may invite to participate in its work organizations or individuals with recognized scientific or practical fisheries experience in matters related to the work of the Commission. (Art XI Antigua §1-2)
2. The functions of the EBWG shall be the following:
 - (a) Identify and discuss the relationships between bycatch and target species in a given fishery;
 - (b) To promote and facilitate a better understanding of the relationship between species and the environment across different spatio-temporal scales;
 - (c) To evaluate and recommend, as appropriate, at the request of the Scientific Advisory Committee, the Commission, or at the initiative of the Group itself:
 - i. bycatch mitigation and reduction measures as well as resilience and adaptation plans for fisheries and target species in a dynamic environment, including, but not limited to, adaptive management and climate change impact and adaptation plans;
 - ii. conservation and management measures and recommendations for species belonging to the same ecosystem and that are impacted by fishing for, or dependent on or associated with, the fish stocks covered by the Antigua Convention, with a view to maintaining or restoring, as appropriate populations of such species above levels at which their reproduction and sustainability may become seriously threatened;

- iii. measures and best practices, as appropriate, to avoid, reduce and minimize waste, discards, catch by lost or discarded gear, catch and mortality of non-target species (both fish and non-fish species), effective methods for safe handling and release of non-target species, and the effects if fishing in the Convention Area on associated or dependent species and habitats, in particular endangered species and sensitive habitats;
 - iv. programs and/or standards for monitoring and data collections to support the Commission's scientific investigations on ecosystem and bycatch topics;
- (d) To the extent practicable, assist with the technical development, evaluation and promotion of selective, environmentally safe and cost-effective fishing gear and techniques for bycatch reduction and minimization of ecosystem impacts, as well as making recommendations to the Commission regarding related activities such as education, training, technology transfer and capacity building.
- 3. The conclusions and recommendations adopted by the EBWG:
 - i. shall be submitted first of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), for its consideration and endorsement and later submission to the Commission, as endorsed;
 - ii. may be submitted to the Commission directly, whenever they could not be considered and/or endorsed by the SAC or upon the request of the Commission itself.
 - 4. The EBWG shall endeavor to adopt its reports and recommendations by consensus. If efforts to achieve consensus fail, the reports shall so indicate, and shall reflect the views of the majority and minority. At the request of any member of the Group, its views shall also be reflected in all or any part of the reports.
 - 5. In order to optimize its work, the EBWG:
 - i. shall ensure an appropriate coordination with all other relevant IATTC bodies and fora in addition to seek their inputs, in order to avoid duplication and ensure consistency within the IATTC
 - ii. may seek appropriate inputs from all relevant stakeholders, such as inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations or natural persons such as scientists, researchers, managers, fishers, etc.
 - 6. This resolution shall enter into force at the time of its adoption and the EBWG shall immediately replace the existing Working Group on Bycatch.

2f. Establishment of an Ad Hoc Working Group on Electronic Monitoring (EMWG)

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

100TH MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona USA

01-05 August 2022

RESOLUTION C-22-07

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN *AD HOC* WORKING GROUP ON ELECTRONIC MONITORING (EMWG)

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Phoenix, Arizona, USA, on the occasion of its 100th meeting:

Acknowledging the recommendation adopted by its Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) at its 13th meeting that an electronic monitoring working group be established in parallel with the workshops on the implementation of an electronic monitoring system (EMS) in the Antigua Convention area, whose terms of reference were defined in Resolution C-21-02,

Agrees:

1. In January 2023, the Secretariat will circulate a solicitation for a Chair of an *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Electronic Monitoring (EMWG or EM Working Group), to be established in accordance with paragraph 3 of this Resolution.
2. The IATTC Secretariat shall designate an interim IATTC staff person that could serve as a point of contact with the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) to collaborate with them on the EM Working Group in the WCPFC until the Chair of the EM Working Group is appointed.
3. *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Electronic Monitoring will be established in 2023. The EM Working Group will initiate its work by holding its first meeting after the 101st annual meeting of the IATTC, near the end of the calendar year in 2023.
4. The EM Working Group shall have the following functions:
 - a. review the outcomes of the EM workshops to identify recommendations for the EMWG, in coordination with the scientific staff and the SAC, to make recommendations to the Commission on all issues related to the EMS workplan and its implementation
 - b. enhance communication and foster mutual understanding on matters related to EM between CPCs as well as between relevant stakeholders;
 - c. perform such other functions as the Commission may direct.
5. The EMWG shall meet at least once a year, on the occasion of the ordinary meeting of the Commission.
6. The EMWG may convene additional meetings in a virtual format at the request of at least two (2) of the members of the Commission and supported by members in consensus.
7. The EMWG shall exercise its functions in accordance with the IATTC Rules of Procedure and any specific guideline or directive as the Commission may adopt.

2g. Financing FY 2023

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

100TH MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona, USA
1-5 August 2022

RESOLUTION C-22-08

FINANCING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Phoenix, Arizona, USA, on the occasion of its 100th Meeting:

Understanding the importance of ensuring sufficient funding for the Commission in a timely manner, so that it may continue to effectively develop and implement the agreed conservation and management program for the living marine resources of the IATTC Convention Area, and conduct the associated data collection and research;

Noting that non-payment of the agreed contributions may impair the Commission's ability to continue its operations;

Aware that the allocation of the costs of supporting the Commission among Members should be transparent, fair and equitable, stable, and predictable, but also should allow for redistribution of costs as new Members join;

Taking into account Resolution C-15-05, whereby the Commission, at its 89th Meeting, agreed on a formula for calculating the contributions of the Members to the Commission's budget for the years 2013-2017 and beyond,

Taking into account the relevant provisions of the Antigua Convention;

Noting that several non-Members derive benefits from catching or utilizing fish covered by the Convention, but do not make contributions to the Commission's budget;

Taking note of the Commission staff's proposals regarding the budget presented in Document CAF-09-01; and

Recognizing the need to seek economies in the operation of the Commission, in order to reduce costs;

Agrees:

1. To adopt a budget of US\$ 8,519,111 for fiscal year (FY) 2023.
2. That the Members shall contribute to the Commission's budget for FY 2023 in accordance with the following schedule:

	FY 2023 (US\$)
Belize	46,071
Canada	133,226
China	285,562
Colombia	300,522

	FY 2023 (US\$)
Korea	244,743
Costa Rica	152,049
Ecuador	1,848,566
El Salvador	116,650
United States	1,746,553
France	156,218
Guatemala	70,309
Japan	274,261
Kiribati	45,861
Mexico	1,155,882
Nicaragua	92,884
Panama	800,106
Peru	199,671
Chinese Taipei	235,794
European Union	362,641
Vanuatu	52,499
Venezuela	199,042
Total	8,519,111

Annex 3. Proposals (Not adopted)
3a. A1: European Union. Bluefin tuna

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

100TH MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona, USA
1-5 August 2022

PROPOSAL IATTC-100 A-1

SUBMITTED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

**EU PROPOSAL ON A RESOLUTION ON MONITORING AND
CONTROL MEASURES FOR THE BLUEFIN TUNA FISHERY IN
THE EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN (EPO)**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The purpose of this proposal is to improve the monitoring and control of Resolution C-21-05 by establishing a minimum set of measures to promote its effective implementation. The 2020 stock assessment of Pacific bluefin tuna by the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC) showed that the stock is overfished and is subject to overfishing relative to most of the commonly used reference points. In addition to the management objectives established by Resolution C-21-05, further measures are needed to better monitor the situation of the stock despite slight recent improvements and in view of increasing catch levels. As to date, there are no monitoring and control measures applicable to the Pacific bluefin tuna fishery in the EPO, in sharp contrast with the substantial number of provisions applicable to the tropical tuna stocks, which overall are in much better shape than the Pacific bluefin tuna.

The current proposal is based on the ICCAT large expertise on bluefin tuna. It foresees, among other aspects: compulsory registration of vessels, traps and farms authorized in Pacific bluefin tuna operations, catch and transshipment reports, identification of designated ports for landing and transshipment operations, a specific observer programme combined with video-camera monitoring. In addition, the SAC and the IATTC scientific staff are tasked to consider possible recommendation for closure periods as a way to better manage the fishery in the area.

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Phoenix, Arizona (USA) on the occasion of its 100th Meeting:

[Desirous] to establish a regime of the monitoring and control of the bluefin tuna fishery in the EPO for the implementation of Resolution C-21-05,

Agrees as follows:

DEFINITIONS

1. For the purposes of this Resolution:
 - a) “fishing vessel” means any powered vessel used for the purposes of the commercial exploitation of bluefin tuna resources, including catching vessels, fish processing vessels, support vessels,

towing vessels, vessels engaged in transshipment and transport vessels equipped for the transportation of tuna products and auxiliary vessels, except container vessels.

- b) “catching vessel” means a vessel used for the purposes of the commercial capture of bluefin tuna resources.
- c) “processing vessel” means a vessel on board of which fisheries products are subject to one or more of the following operations, prior to their packaging: filleting or slicing, freezing and/or processing.
- d) “auxiliary vessel” means any vessel used to transport dead bluefin tuna (not processed) from a transport/farming cage, a purse seine vessel or a trap to a designated port and/or to a processing vessel.
- e) “towing vessel” means any vessel used for towing cages.
- f) “fishing actively” means, for any catching vessel, the fact that it targets bluefin tuna during a given fishing season.
- g) “transfer operations” means:
 - any transfer of live bluefin tuna from the catching vessel's net to the transport cage;
 - any transfer of live bluefin tuna from the transport cage to another transport cage;
 - any transfer of the cage with live bluefin tuna from a towing vessel to another towing vessel;
 - any transfer of live bluefin tuna from one farm to another, or between different cages in the same farm;
 - any transfer of live bluefin tuna from the trap to the transport cage independently of the presence of a towing vessel.
- h) “control transfer” means any additional transfer being implemented at the request of the fishing/farming operators or the control authorities for the purpose of verifying the number of fish being transferred.
- i) “trap” means fixed gear anchored to the bottom, usually containing a guide net that leads bluefin tuna into an enclosure or series of enclosures where it is kept prior to harvesting or farming.
- j) “trap CPC” means the CPC where a tuna trap is installed in the waters under its jurisdiction.
- k) “caging” means the relocation of live bluefin tuna from the transport cage or trap to the farming or fattening cages.
- l) “fattening” or “farming” means caging of bluefin tuna in farms and subsequent feeding aiming to fatten and increase their total biomass.
- m) “farm” means a marine area clearly defined by geographical coordinates, used for the fattening or farming of bluefin caught by traps and/or purse seine vessels. A farm could have several farming locations, all of them defined by geographical coordinates (with a clear definition of longitude and latitude for each one of the points of the polygon).
- n) “harvesting” means the killing of bluefin tuna in farms or traps.
- o) “transshipment” means the unloading of all or any of the fish on board a fishing vessel to another fishing vessel. However, unloading of dead bluefin tuna from the purse seine, the trap or the towing vessel to an auxiliary vessel shall not be considered as transshipment.
- p) “sport fishery” means non-commercial fisheries whose members adhere to a national sport organization or are issued with a national sport license.

- q) “recreational fishery” means non-commercial fisheries whose members do not adhere to a national sport organization or are not issued with a national sport license.
- r) “stereoscopic camera” means a camera with two or more lenses, with a separate image sensor or film frame for each lens, enabling the taking of three-dimensional images for the purpose of measuring the length of the fish and assisting in refining the number and weight of bluefin tuna.
- s) “control camera” means a stereoscopic camera and/or conventional video camera for the purpose of the controls foreseen in this Resolution.
- t) “farming CPC” means the CPC under whose jurisdiction the farm for bluefin tuna is located.

IATTC RECORD OF VESSELS AUTHORIZED TO FISH BLUEFIN TUNA

- 2. CPCs shall establish and maintain an IATTC record of all fishing vessels authorized to operate for bluefin tuna in the EPO. Each flag CPC shall submit electronically each year to the Secretariat at the latest 15 days before the beginning of the fishing activity the list of its catching vessels. Submissions shall be undertaken in accordance with the format to be developed by the IATTC Director.
- 3. No retroactive submissions shall be accepted. Subsequent changes shall only be accepted if the notified fishing vessel is prevented from participation due to legitimate operational reasons or *force majeure*. In such circumstances, the CPC concerned shall immediately inform the Secretariat, providing full details of the fishing vessel(s) intended to replace a vessel or vessels, included on the record and a comprehensive account of the reasons justifying the replacement and any relevant supporting evidence or references.
- 4. Fishing vessels not entered into the IATTC record of vessels referred to in paragraph 2 are deemed not to be authorized to fish for, retain on board, transship, transport, transfer, process or land bluefin tuna. The prohibition against retention on board does not apply to CPCs whose domestic legislation requires that all dead fish must be landed, providing that the value of the catch is subject to confiscation.

IATTC RECORD OF TUNA TRAPS AUTHORIZED TO FISH FOR BLUEFIN TUNA

- 5. The Commission shall establish and maintain an IATTC Record of all tuna traps authorized to fish for bluefin tuna in the EPO. For the purposes of this Recommendation, tuna traps not entered into the record are deemed not to be authorized to be used to fish for, retain, and participate in any operation to catch, transfer, harvest or land bluefin tuna.
- 6. Each CPC shall submit electronically to the Secretariat, the list (including the name of the traps, register number) of its authorized tuna traps.

IATTC RECORD OF TUNA FARMS FOR BLUEFIN TUNA

- 7. The Commission shall establish and maintain an IATTC Record of farms used for fattening or farming bluefin tuna in the EPO. For the purposes of this Recommendation, tuna farms not entered into the record are deemed not to be authorized to be used to fish for, retain, and participate in any operation to transfer, harvest or land bluefin tuna.
- 8. Each CPC shall submit electronically to the Secretariat, the list of its authorized tuna farms

CATCH AND TRANSSHIPMENT REPORTS

- 9. Each CPC shall ensure that its catching vessels fishing actively for bluefin tuna and trap operators communicate to their authorities, during the whole period in which they are authorized to fish bluefin tuna by electronic or any other effective means, daily information from logbooks, including the date, time, location (latitude and longitude), the weight and number of bluefin tuna caught in the

EPO. This communication shall include operations where the catch was zero as well as releases and discards of dead fish.

10. The masters of catching and towing vessels shall maintain a bound or electronic fishing logbook of their operations in accordance with the requirements of Annex 1.

FISHING PERIOD

11. At the SAC meeting in the year 2023 and at the subsequent meeting of the IATTC in 2023, the IATTC scientific staff shall present to the SAC an analysis of bluefin tuna in the EPO with the view to recommend to the Commission possible closures to the fishery as a way to improve the management of the fishery.

GENERAL RULES ON BY-CATCHES

12. All by-catches of dead bluefin tuna, whether retained or discarded, shall be deducted from the quota of the flag CPC and reported to IATTC. If by-catch of bluefin tuna occurs in waters under the fishery jurisdiction of CPCs whose current domestic legislation requires that all dead or dying fish must be landed, this landing obligation shall be complied with also by vessels flying foreign flags.
13. If no quota has been allocated to the CPC of the catching vessel or trap concerned or if it has already been consumed, the catching of bluefin tuna as by-catch is not permitted, and CPCs shall take the necessary measures to ensure their release. CPCs shall report information on such quantities on an annual basis to the Secretariat who shall make it available to the Scientific Staff.

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES AND SPORT FISHERIES

14. When CPCs allocate, where appropriate, a specific quota to sport and recreational fisheries that allocated quota should be set even if catch and release is compulsory for bluefin tuna caught in sport and recreational fisheries to account for possible dead fish. Each CPC shall regulate recreational and sport fisheries by issuing fishing authorizations to vessels for the purpose of sport and recreational fishing.
15. CPCs shall take the necessary measures to prohibit the catch and retention on board, transshipment or landing of more than one bluefin tuna per vessel per day for recreational fisheries. This prohibition does not apply to CPCs whose domestic legislation requires that all dead fish, including those caught by sport and recreational, shall be landed.
16. The marketing of bluefin tuna caught in recreational and sport fishing shall be prohibited.
17. Each CPC shall take measures to record catch data including weight of each bluefin tuna caught during sport and recreational fishing and communicate to the IATTC Director the data for the preceding year by 31 July each year.
18. Dead catches from sport and recreational fisheries shall be counted against the quota allocated to the CPC in accordance with Resolution C-21-05.
19. CPCs shall make available upon request from IATTC the list of sport and recreational vessels which have received an authorization.

USE OF AERIAL MEANS

20. The use of any aerial means, including aircraft, helicopters or any types of unmanned aerial vehicles to search for bluefin tuna shall be prohibited.

DESIGNATED PORTS

21. Each CPC who has been allocated a bluefin tuna quota shall designate ports where landing or transshipping operations of bluefin tuna are authorized. This list shall be communicated each year to the Secretariat as part of the annual fishing plan communicated by each CPC. Any amendment shall be communicated to the Secretariat. Other CPCs may designate ports in which landing or transshipping operations of bluefin tuna is authorized and communicate a list of these ports to the Secretariat.

REPORTING OF CATCHES FROM CPCs TO THE SECRETARIAT

22. CPCs shall send weekly catch reports to the Secretariat. CPCs shall report to the Secretariat the dates when their entire quota of bluefin tuna has been utilized. The Secretariat shall promptly circulate this information to all CPCs.

TRANSSHIPMENT

23. Transshipment operations of bluefin tuna in the EPO shall be allowed only at designated ports defined in paragraph 17.
24. All transshipments shall be inspected by the relevant authorities of the designated port CPC authorities.

CPC OBSERVER PROGRAMME

25. Each CPC shall ensure coverage by observers, issued with an official identification document, on vessels and traps active in the bluefin tuna fishery on at least 20% of their catching vessels, 100% of towing vessel and 100% of harvesting operations from traps.
26. The observer tasks shall be, in particular, to record and report upon the fishing activity, which shall include, inter alia, the amount of catch including by-catch, and species disposition such as retained on board or discarded dead or alive; area of catch by latitude and longitude; date of catch; observe and estimate catches and verify entries made in the logbook.
27. Data and information collected under each CPC's observer programme shall be provided to the Scientific Staff in accordance with requirements and procedures to be developed by IATTC taking into account CPC confidentiality requirements.

IATTC REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAMME

28. An IATTC shall develop a regional Observer Programme by 2024 to ensure observer coverage of 100%:
 - a) on all purse seine vessels authorized to fish bluefin tuna;
 - b) during all transfers of bluefin tuna from purse seine vessels;
 - c) during all transfers of bluefin tuna from traps to transport cages;
 - d) during all transfers from one farm to another;
 - e) during all cagings of bluefin tuna in farms;
 - f) during all harvesting of bluefin tuna from farms; and
 - g) during the release of bluefin tuna from farming cages into the sea.
29. Purse seine vessels without an IATTC regional observer shall not be authorized to fish or to operate in the bluefin tuna fishery.

30. IATTC regional observers should not be of the same nationality as the catching vessel/tugboat/trap or farm for which their services are required. In addition, to the extent possible, the Secretariat shall ensure that regional observers deployed have a satisfactory knowledge of the language of the flag CPC of the vessel or the farming CPC or the trap CPC.
31. One IATTC regional observer shall be assigned to each farm for the whole period of caging operations. In cases of *force majeure*, and following confirmation by the farming CPC authorities, an IATTC regional observer could be shared by more than one farm to guarantee the continuity of farming operations. However, the farming CPC authorities shall immediately request the deployment of an additional regional observer.
32. While the IATTC regional observer programme is not in place, the coverage set out in paragraph 23 shall be ensured by the CPC observer programme.

MONITORING BY VIDEO CAMERA OF A TRANSFER AND CAGING

33. For transfers of live bluefin tuna the master of the catching vessel or the representative of the farm or trap, where appropriate, shall ensure that the transfer activities shall be monitored by video camera in the water with a view to verify the number of fish being transferred. Each of the cages used in transfers or caging operations and each transfer and caging operations shall be allocated a unique identification number. The minimum standards and procedures for the video recording shall be in accordance with Annex 2.
34. Article 27 will also apply to release of bluefin tuna by CPCs for the purposes of compensating any catch in excess of the quota established by Resolution 21-05.
35. The farming CPC shall ensure that transfer activities from cages to the farm shall be monitored by their enforcement authorities by video stereoscopic camera in the water. One video record shall be produced for each caging operation.
36. In cases where there is more than a 10% difference in number between the estimates made by master of the fishing vessel or the trap, and the figure reported by the regional observer, an investigation shall be initiated by the CPC of the catching vessel or trap.
37. A programme using stereoscopic cameras systems or alternative methods that guarantee the same level of precision and accuracy shall cover 100% of all caging operations, in order to refine the number and weight of the fish. This programme using stereoscopic cameras shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures set out in Annex 3.
38. A difference greater than or equal to 10% between the number of bluefin tuna individuals reported caught by the vessel/trap and the quantities established by the control camera at the moment of caging shall constitute a Potential Non-Compliance of the vessel/trap concerned.
39. Each CPC shall take the necessary measures to ensure that the video records as referred to in paragraphs are made available to the national inspectors and CPC observers at request. Each CPC shall establish the necessary measures to avoid any replacement, edition or manipulation of the original video records.

MARKET MEASURES

40. Consistent with their rights and obligations under international law, exporting and importing CPCs shall prohibit domestic trade, imports, landings, processing, and exports of bluefin tuna that farms do not comply with this Resolution.

Annex 1

Minimum standard information for fishing logbooks

1. Master name and address
 2. Dates and ports of departure, dates and ports of arrival
 3. Vessel name, register number, IATTC number, international radio call sign and IMO number (if available)
 4. Fishing gear:
 - a) Type by FAO code
 - b) Dimension (length, number of hooks...)
 5. Operations at sea with one line (minimum) per day of trip, providing:
 - a) Activity (fishing, steaming)
 - b) Position: Exact daily positions (in degree and minutes), recorded for each fishing operation or at noon when no fishing has been conducted during this day
 - c) Record of catches including:
 - i) FAO code
 - ii) round (RWT) weight in kg per day
 - iii) number of pieces per day
- For purse seine vessels this should be recorded by fishing operation including nil returns
6. Master signature
 7. Means of weight measure: estimation, weighing on board and counting
 8. The logbook is kept in equivalent live weight of fish and mentions the conversion factors used in the evaluation.

Annex 2

Minimum standards for video recording procedures

Transfers

- i) The electronic storage device containing the original video record shall be provided to the observer as soon as possible after the end of the transfer operation that shall immediately initialize it to avoid any further manipulation.
- ii) The original recording shall be kept on board the catching vessel or by the farm or trap operator where appropriate, during their entire period of authorization.
- iii) Two identical copies of the video record shall be produced. One copy shall be transmitted to the regional observer on board of the purse seine vessel and one to the CPC observer on board the towing vessel, the latter of which shall accompany the transfer declaration and the associated catches to which it relates. If the inspection services are present during the transfer they shall also receive a copy of the relevant video record. This procedure should only apply to CPC observers in the case of transfers between towing vessels.
- iv) At the beginning and/or the end of each video, the unique number assigned to the transfer shall be displayed.
- v) The time and the date of the video shall be continuously displayed throughout each videorecord.
- vi) Before the start of the transfer, the video shall include the opening and closing of the net/door and whether the receiving and donor cages already contain bluefin tuna.
- vii) The video recording must be continuous without any interruptions and cuts and cover the entire transfer operation.
- viii) The video record should be of sufficient quality to estimate the number of bluefin tuna being transferred.
- ix) If the video record is of insufficient quality to estimate the number of bluefin tuna being transferred, the operator may request to the flag authorities of the vessel or trap to conduct a control transfer. Such voluntary control transfer must include movement of all the bluefin tuna from the receiving cage into another cage, which must be empty.

Caging operations

- i) The electronic storage device containing the original video record shall be provided to the CPC observer as soon as possible after the end of the caging operation who shall immediately initialize it to avoid any further manipulation.
- ii) The original recording shall be kept by the farm where applicable, during their entire period of authorization.
- iii) Two identical copies of the video record shall be produced. One copy shall be transmitted to the CPC observer deployed on the farm.
- iv) At the beginning and/or the end of each video, the unique number shall be displayed.
- v) The time and the date of the video shall be continuously displayed throughout each videorecord.
- vi) Before the start of the caging, the video shall include the opening and closing of the net/door and whether the receiving and donor cages already contain bluefin tuna.
- vii) The video recording must be continuous without any interruptions and cuts and cover the entire caging operation.

viii) The video record should be of sufficient quality to estimate the number of bluefin tuna being transferred.

ix) If the video record is of insufficient quality to estimate the number of bluefin tuna being transferred, then a new caging operation shall be requested by the control authorities. For those cases when the origin of the fish is a purse seine vessel, the new caging operation must include movement of all the bluefin tuna from the receiving farm cage into another farm cage, which must be empty.

Annex 3

Standards and procedures for stereoscopic cameras systems in the context of caging operations

Use of stereoscopic cameras systems

The use of stereoscopic cameras systems in the context of caging operations shall be conducted in accordance with the following:

- i. The sampling intensity of live fish shall not be below 20% of the amount of fish being caged. When technically possible, the sampling of live fish shall be sequential, by measuring one in every five specimens. Such a sample shall be made up of fish measured at a distance between 2 and 8 meters from the camera.
- ii. The dimensions of the transfer gate connecting the donor cage and the receiving cage shall be set at maximum width of 8 to 10 meters and maximum height of 8 to 10 meters.
- iii. When the length measurements of the fish present a multi-modal distribution (two or more cohorts of distinct sizes), it shall be possible to use more than one conversion algorithm for the same caging operation. The most up to date algorithm(s) established by SCRS shall be used to convert fork lengths into total weights, according to the size category of the fish measured during the caging operation.
- iv. Validation of the stereoscopic length measurements shall be undertaken prior to each caging operation using a scale bar at a distance of 2 and 8 m.
- v. When the results of the stereoscopic program are communicated, the information shall indicate the margin of error inherent to the technical specifications of the stereoscopic camera system, which shall not exceed a range of +/- 5 percent.
- vi. The report on the results of the stereoscopic program should include details on all the technical specifications above, including the sampling intensity, the way of sampling methodology, the distance from the camera, the dimensions of the transfer gate, and the algorithms (length-weight relationship). The Scientific Staff shall review these specifications, and if necessary provide recommendations to modify them.
- vii. In cases where the stereoscopic camera footage is of insufficient quality to estimate the weight of bluefin tuna being caged, a new caging operation shall be ordered by the flag CPC authorities of the catching vessel or the trap CPC authorities, or the farming CPC authorities.

3b. B-1: European Union. Sharks

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

100TH MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona, USA

1-5 August 2022

PROPOSAL IATTC-100 B-1

SUBMITTED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

EU PROPOSAL TO REPLACE RESOLUTION C-05-03

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The Antigua Convention requires IATTC to adopt conservation measures for species associated with the main targeted stocks.

The European Union is proposing a new Resolution which aims at eliminating the loopholes that prevent the effective enforcement and control of the implementation of the finning ban in the Convention area introduced through IATTC Resolution C-05-03.

This management measure aims to respond to concerns about the threats to shark populations from the practice of shark finning, in fact:

- The current fins to carcass weight ratio requirement has no solid scientific basis underpinning its appropriateness reliable and robust method for the implementation of the finning ban;
- Current scientific evidence clearly indicates that fins to carcass weight ratio varies widely among species, fin types used in calculations, the type of carcass weight used (whole or dressed), and the method of processing used to remove the fins (fin cutting technique);
- The use of the fins to carcass weight ratios undermines the collection of essential information on species level interactions with fishing fleets, crucial for accurate stock assessments for sharks;
- The use of the ratio measure is not possible to control at sea;
- The only way to guarantee that sharks are not finned is to require that the carcasses be landed with the fins attached.

RESOLUTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF SHARKS CAUGHT IN ASSOCIATION WITH FISHERIES IN THE IATTC CONVENTION AREA

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Phoenix, Arizona (USA) on the occasion of its 100th Meeting:

Considering that many sharks are part of pelagic ecosystems in the Convention area, and that sharks are captured in fisheries targeting tunas and tuna-like species;

Recognizing the need to improve the collection of species-specific data on catch, discards and trade as a basis for improving the conservation and management of shark stocks and aware that identifying sharks by species is rarely possible when fins have been removed from the carcass;

Recalling that United Nations General Assembly Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries, adopted annually by consensus, since 2007 (62/177, 63/112, 64/72, 65/38, 66/68, 67/79, 68/71 and A/RES/69/109) calls

upon States to take immediate and concerted action to improve the implementation of, and compliance with, existing regional fisheries management organization or arrangement measures that regulate shark fisheries and incidental catch of sharks, in particular those measures which prohibit or restrict fisheries conducted solely for the purpose of harvesting shark fins, and, where necessary, to consider taking other measures, as appropriate, such as requiring that all sharks be landed with each fin naturally attached;

Further recalling that the FAO International Plan of Action for Sharks calls on States to encourage full use of dead sharks, to facilitate improved species-specific catch and landings data and monitoring of shark catches and the identification and reporting of species-specific biological and trade data;

Aware that despite regional agreements on the prohibition of shark finning, shark fins continue to be removed on board and the rest of the shark carcass discarded into the sea;

Emphasizing the recommendations of IOTC and WCPFC Scientific Committees and WCPFC Technical and Compliance Committee that the use of fins-to-carcass weight ratios is not a verifiable means of ensuring the eradication of shark finning and that it has proven ineffective in terms of implementation, enforcement and monitoring;

Noting the recent adoption of Recommendation 2015:10 on Conservation of Sharks Caught in Association with Fisheries Managed by the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC), which establishes the fins attached policy as exclusive option for ensuring the shark finning ban in the NEAFC Convention area;

Further noting the recent adoption of the fins naturally attached policy by NAFO at its 2016 Annual Meeting,

Agrees as follows:

1. Members and Cooperating non-Members (CPCs) should establish and implement a national plan of action for conservation and management of sharks, in accordance with the *FAO International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks*.
2. CPCs shall take the necessary measures to require that their fishermen fully utilize their entire catches of sharks, with the exception of those species for which a retention ban has been adopted by the IATTC. Full utilization is defined as retention by the fishing vessel of all parts of the shark excepting head, guts, and skins, to the point of first landing.
3. CPCs shall prohibit the removal of shark fins on board vessels. CPCs shall prohibit the retention on-board, transshipment, carrying and landing of shark fins which are not naturally attached to the shark carcass until the first point of landing.
4. Without prejudice to paragraph 3, in order to facilitate on-board storage, shark fins may be partially sliced through and folded against the shark carcass, but shall not be removed from the carcass until the first point of landing.
5. CPCs shall prohibit the purchase, offer for sale and sale of shark fins which have been removed on-board, retained on-board, transhipped or landed, in contravention of this Resolution.
6. In fisheries in which sharks are unwanted species, CPCs shall, to the extent possible, encourage the release of live sharks, especially juveniles and pregnant sharks that are caught incidentally and are not used for food and/or subsistence. CPCs shall require that fishers are aware of and use identification guides and handling practices.
7. CPCs shall report data for catches of sharks, in accordance with IATTC reporting requirements and procedures, including all available historical data, estimates and life status of discards (dead or alive)

and size frequencies. CPCs shall send to the IATTC Secretariat, by May 1, at the latest, a comprehensive annual report of the implementation of this Resolution during the previous year.

8. CPCs shall, where possible, in cooperation with the IATTC scientific staff, undertake research to:
 - a) identify ways to make fishing gears more selective;
 - b) improve knowledge of key biological/ecological parameters, life-history and behavioural traits, migration patterns of key shark species;
 - c) identify key shark mating, pupping, and nursery areas; and
 - d) improve handling practices for live sharks to maximise post-release survival.
9. The Scientific Advisory Committee shall annually review the information reported by CPCs and will, as necessary, provide recommendations to the Commission on ways to strengthen the conservation and management of sharks within IATTC fisheries.
10. The Commission shall consider appropriate assistance to developing CPCs for the identification of shark species/groups and the collection of data on their shark catches.
11. Resolution C-05-03 is replaced by this measure.
- 12.

3c. B-2: Canada and Ecuador. Sharks

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

100TH MEETING

**Phoenix, Arizona, USA
1-5 August 2022**

PROPOSAL IATTC-100 B-2

SUBMITTED BY CANADA AND ECUADOR

**JOINT PROPOSAL ON A RESOLUTION TO CONSOLIDATE EXISTING SHARK
MEASURES, AND INTRODUCE ADDITIONAL PROTECTIONS AIMED AT
ADDRESSING THE PRACTICE OF SHARK FINNING AND REDUCING SHARK
BYCATCH**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The existing conservation and management framework for shark species pursuant to the Antigua Convention area is dispersed across six key resolutions, excluding Resolution C-19-06 on whale sharks. This poses challenges with respect to the implementation, monitoring and compliance by Parties and cooperating non-Parties (CPCs) of these important obligations and requirements.

Mindful of these considerations, the delegations of Canada and Ecuador propose to consolidate the following resolutions in their entirety:

- C-05-03 (Conservation of Sharks Caught in Association with Fisheries in the Eastern Pacific).
- C-11-10 (Conservation of Oceanic Whitetip Sharks Caught in Association with Fisheries in the Antigua Convention Area).
- C-16-04 (Amendment to Resolution C-05-03 on the Conservation of Sharks Caught in Association with Fisheries in the Eastern Pacific Ocean)
- C-16-05 (Management of Shark Species)
- C-21-06 (Conservation Measures for Shark Species, with Special Emphasis on the Silky Shark)

As well as text from relevant paragraphs of the following Resolution:

- C-04-05 (Consolidated Resolution on Bycatch)

The proposed consolidation and restructuring of existing measures under logical themes is expected to improve their implementation by CPCs.

This proposal also introduces new measures, which both delegations view as necessary to more effectively address the bycatch of sharks and the practice of shark finning in the IATTC Convention Area. There are a number of issues with the shark fin requirement (i.e. ratio of fin weight to shark body weight) currently in force at the IATTC. Most notably, that this ratio varies by species, cutting practice, and processing method, allows for the practice of shark finning to continue undetected. This proposal therefore introduces a requirement for fins to be naturally attached, widely recognized as best practice. The introduction of this requirement is consistent with approaches on shark fin requirements adopted by other tuna-RFMOs, including the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). Moreover, this proposal also seeks to reduce the mortality of sharks caught in EPO longline fisheries by expanding the restrictions on the use of shark lines and steel leaders. The adoption of these new elements is expected to benefit conservation efforts related to sea turtles and seabirds in the EPO.

Finally, with a view to improving clarity and minimizing the potential for differences in interpretation of key paragraphs in the proposed resolution, the proposal includes a definitions section. Definitions are included for key terms including ‘sharks’, shark finning’, ‘naturally attached’, ‘shark lines’, and ‘wire leaders’.

CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR THE PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF SHARKS

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Phoenix, Arizona (USA), on the occasion of its 100th Meeting:

Recalling that the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks calls on States, within the framework of their respective competencies and consistent with international law, to cooperate through regional fisheries organizations with a view to ensuring the sustainability of shark stocks as well as to adopt a National Plan of Action for the conservation and management of sharks;

Recognizing further that certain species of sharks and rays, including silky shark, oceanic whitetip shark, hammerhead sharks (*Sphyrna lewini*, *S. mokarran*, *S. zygaena*), as well as mobulid ray species, have been listed on Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES);

Noting that sharks are part of the pelagic ecosystems in the IATTC Convention Area and are caught by vessels fishing for tunas and tuna-like species and in fisheries targeting sharks

Considering that Article VII, paragraph 1 (f), of the Antigua Convention indicates that the Commission shall “*adopt, as necessary, conservation and management measures and recommendations for species belonging to the same ecosystem and that are affected by fishing for, or dependent on or associated with, the fish stocks covered by [the] Convention*”;

Recalling Article IV, paragraph 3, of the Antigua Convention, which states that “*where the status of target stocks or non-target or associated or dependent species is of concern, the members of the Commission shall subject such stocks and species to enhanced monitoring in order to review their status and the efficacy of conservation and management measures, revising those measures regularly in the light of new scientific information available*”;

Emphasizing the necessity of obtaining better data to develop and implement management measures in accordance with the variability of the fisheries, as well as to improve the understanding of fishing and pupping areas, catches and fishing effort that affect the fishing mortality of sharks by multi-species longline fleets, both artisanal and industrial, in the coastal countries;

Recognizing therefore the need to collect data on catch, effort, discards, and trade, as well as information on the biological parameters of many species, to enable effective shark conservation and management;

Desiring to consolidate IATTC resolutions C-05-03, C-11-10, C-16-04, C-16-05, and C-21-06, as well as relevant paragraphs of Resolution C-04-05 with a view to streamlining and improving obligations applicable to the conservation and management of sharks and rays at the IATTC;

Agrees as follow:

DEFINITIONS

1. For the purposes of this Resolution:

shark includes all species of sharks, skates, rays and chimaeras, as included within the Class Chondrichthyes.

shark finning means the practice of removing the fins from a shark and discarding the remainder of the shark while at sea.

full utilization means retention by the fishing vessel of all parts of the shark excepting head, guts, and skins, to the point of first landing.

naturally attached means that all fins of the shark must be fully, or partially connected to the carcass of the shark by connective tissue, or cartilage.

shark lines means individual lines or leaders used for the purpose of targeting sharks that are

constructed of steel, metal, wire trace or other materials, and that are attached to the float line or to the floats directly.

wire leaders means individual lines or leaders that are constructed of steel, metal, or wire trace, and that are attached to the main line or a branch line.

APPLICATION

2. This resolution shall apply only to sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IATTC.

FULL UTILIZATION AND SHARK FINNING MEASURES

3. Each CPC, cooperating fishing entity or regional economic integration organization (collectively “CPCs”) shall take the measures necessary to require the operators and crew of vessels flying their flag, and which are authorized to retain sharks, to fully utilize any catches of sharks.
4. CPCs shall ensure that the practice of shark finning is prohibited.
5. CPCs shall require their vessels to land sharks with the fins naturally attached to the carcass.
6. Fishing vessels are prohibited from retaining on board, transshipping, landing or trading in any fins harvested in contravention of this Resolution.

GENERAL GEAR RESTRICTIONS

7. CPCs shall prohibit longline vessels flying their flag and targeting tuna or swordfish or engaged in multi-species fisheries in the Convention Area from using “shark lines”. See **Annex 1**.
8. CPCs shall prohibit longline vessels flying their flag and targeting tuna or swordfish or engaged in multi-species fisheries in the Convention Area from using “wire leaders” as of January 1, 2023.

MEASURES SPECIFIC TO THE PROTECTION OF SILKY SHARKS

9. CPCs shall prohibit their vessels from retaining on board, transshipping, landing, or storing, in part or whole, carcasses of silky sharks (*Carcharhinus falciformis*) caught by purse-seine vessels in the IATTC Convention Area. CPCs shall require that their purse-seine vessels release live silky sharks whenever possible. However, if silky sharks are unintentionally caught and frozen as part of purse-seine vessel’s operations, if the flag CPC’s governmental authorities are present at the point of landing, the whole silky shark must be surrendered to them. If the flag CPC’s government authorities are unavailable, the whole silky shark surrendered may not be sold or bartered but may be donated for purposes of domestic human consumption. Silky sharks surrendered in this manner shall be reported to the Secretariat.
10. CPCs shall require all their longline vessels whose fishing licenses do not include sharks as a fishing target but catch sharks incidentally, to limit bycatch of silky sharks to a maximum of 20% of the total catch by fishing trip in weight. The 20% limit is set as an interim limit in the absence of data and scientific analysis on which to base conservation and management measures, and will be revised, based on recommendations by the scientific staff, once improved species-level catch and composition are made available.

11. CPCs shall require their multi-species fisheries using surface longlines¹ to limit the catch of silky sharks of less than 100 cm total length to 20% of the total number of silky sharks caught during the trip.
12. CPCs that allow retention of silky sharks by their longline vessels, shall ensure compliance with the measures established in paragraphs 10 and 11 by means of control and inspection mechanisms, for Port CPCs and Flag CPCs, as applicable. At a minimum, such mechanisms shall require effective inspections at the time of first unloading in port or the submission of catch logbooks that will allow for species identification, verification of size when caught, and enforcement of applicable sanctions such as prevention of entry into markets of product caught in violation of this measure. Where applicable, internationally recognized certification and reporting procedures for the conservation of silky sharks may be used for fulfilling the obligations of this paragraph. CPCs shall inform the IATTC Secretariat of the use of said certification procedures. Data derived from these control and inspection measures shall be communicated to the Secretariat, in accordance with IATTC data submission requirements.
13. The IATTC scientific staff shall indicate to the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) the geographical location of the silky shark pupping areas in the Convention Area. CPCs shall require vessels to not fish in silky shark pupping areas, as may be adopted by the Commission, in accordance with the recommendation of the IATTC scientific staff, in coordination with the SAC.
14. Vessels of less than 12 m length overall using manually operated fishing gear (*i.e.* without mechanical or hydraulic winches) and that do not deliver to motherships at any time during the fishing trip are excluded from the application of paragraphs 7 through 13 of this resolution. For this excluded fleet, CPCs shall continue working with the IATTC scientific staff on the strengthening of data-collection programs, which shall be presented at the meeting of the SAC in 2023.

MEASURES SPECIFIC TO THE PROTECTION OF OCEANIC WHITETIP SHARKS

15. CPCs shall prohibit retaining onboard, transshipping, landing, storing, selling, or offering for sale any part or whole carcass of oceanic whitetip sharks in the fisheries covered by the Antigua Convention.
16. CPCs shall require vessels flying their flag to promptly release unharmed, to the extent practicable, oceanic whitetip sharks when brought alongside the vessel.

SAFE RELEASE REQUIREMENTS

17. CPCs shall require purse-seine vessels flying their flag to follow safe release requirements for all sharks, except those retained aboard the vessel. Any shark (whether alive or dead) caught in the Convention Area that is not retained must be promptly released unharmed, to the extent practicable, as soon as it is seen in the net or on the deck, without compromising the safety of any persons. If a shark is alive when caught and is not retained, the shark must be released by using the following procedures, or equally effective means:

¹ For the purposes of this resolution, surface longlines are those in which the majority of hooks fish at depths shallower than 100 meters and target species other than swordfish.

- a. Sharks must be released out of the net by directly releasing them from the brailer into the ocean. Sharks that cannot be released without compromising the safety of persons or the sharks before being landed on deck must be returned to the water as soon as possible, either utilizing a ramp from the deck connecting to an opening on the side of the vessel, or through escape hatches. If ramps or escape hatches are not available, the sharks must be lowered with a sling or cargo net, using a crane or similar equipment, if available.
- b. The use of gaffs, hooks, or similar instruments is prohibited for the handling of sharks. No shark may be lifted by the head, tail, gill slits, or spiracles, or by using bind wire against or inserted through the body, and no holes may be punched through the bodies of sharks (*e.g.*, to pass a cablethrough for lifting the shark).
- c. No whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*) may be towed out of a purse-seine net, *e.g.*, using towing ropes.

RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

18. Each CPC shall annually report data for catches, effort by gear type, landing and trade of sharks by species, where possible, in accordance with IATTC reporting procedures, including available historical data. CPCs shall send to the IATTC Secretariat, by May 1, at the latest, a comprehensive annual report of the implementation of this Resolution during the previous year.
19. The Commission shall consider appropriate assistance to developing CPCs for the collection of data on shark catches.
20. At the SAC meeting in the year 2023 and at the subsequent Commission meeting in 2023, the IATTC scientific staff shall present an analysis of the unloading, observer, and long-term sampling program data on the catches of sharks in the fisheries of Central America, as well as the longline fleet operating in the EPO, with which they shall also recommend any improvement of the resolution..
21. CPCs shall require the collection and submission of catch data for silky and hammerhead sharks, in accordance with IATTC data reporting requirements. CPCs shall also record, through observer programs and other means, for purse-seine vessels of all capacity classes, the number and status (dead/alive) of silky and hammerhead sharks caught and released and report it to the IATTC.
22. CPCs shall record *inter alia*, through the observer programs, the number of discards and releases of oceanic whitetip sharks with indication of status (dead or alive) and report it to IATTC.

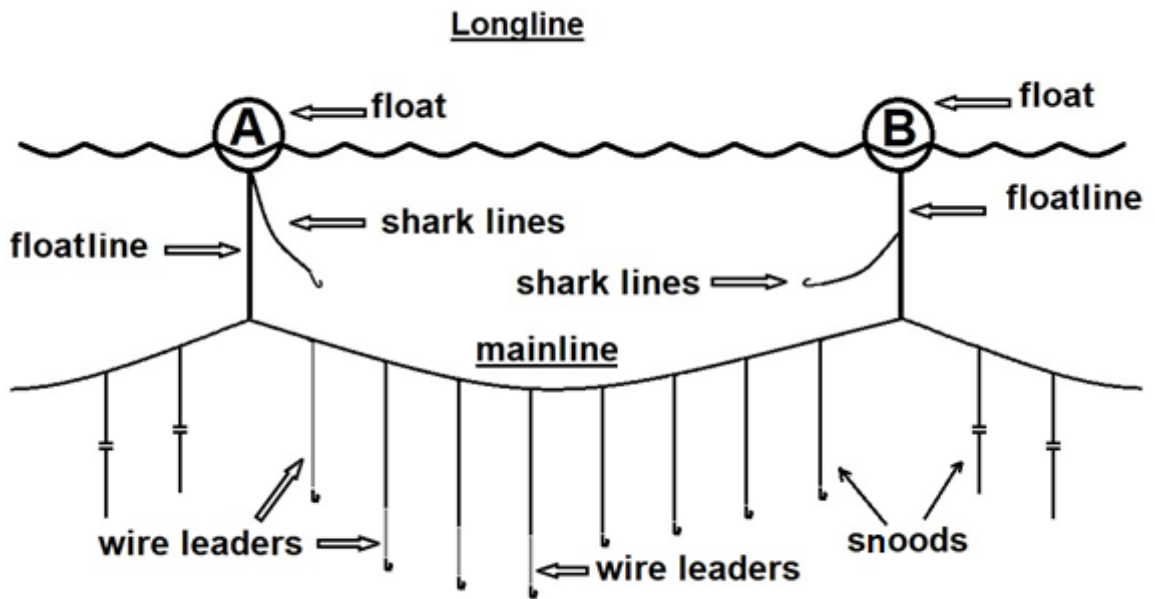
MANAGEMENT AND RESEARCH

23. CPCs should establish and implement a national plan of action for conservation and management of shark stocks, in accordance with the *FAO International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks*.

24. CPCs shall, where possible, in cooperation with the IATTC scientific staff, undertake research to:
 - a. identify ways to make fishing gears more selective, where appropriate, including research into alternative measures to prohibiting wire leaders;
 - b. improve knowledge of key biological/ecological parameters, life-history and behavioral traits, and migration patterns of key shark species;
 - c. identify key shark mating, pupping, and nursery areas; and
 - d. improve handling practices for live sharks to maximize post-release survival.
25. CPCs are encouraged, where possible, to conduct research to identify shark nursery areas.
26. The Commission should continue the long-term sampling program (Project C.4.a), to the extent possible, of those shark fisheries related to tunas and tuna-like species in Central America with the goal of improving data collection for assessing indicators of silky shark stocks.
27. CPCs with longline vessels included on the IATTC Regional Vessel Register shall provide to the IATTC Director, by February 15, 2023, all available shark catch data, by species and area, for the most recent ten (10) years, with a view to inform the IATTC scientific staff's analysis of catch levels. These data and analyses are to be presented at the 2023 meeting of the SAC.
28. The IATTC scientific staff shall provide CPCs, by October 1, 2022, a form through which to submit the catch by species and area referenced in paragraph 29 of this Resolution.
29. The IATTC scientific staff will present, at the SAC meeting in 2023, technical proposals aimed at promoting the live release of sharks from longline fishing gear.
30. The Commission shall prioritize research by the scientific staff in the following areas:
 - a. Identification of the pupping areas of the silky shark.
 - b. Mitigation of bycatch of sharks, especially in longline fisheries, and survival of sharks caught by all types of gears, giving priority to gears with significant catches. Survival experiments should include studies of the effects on survival of shorter sets and the use of circle hooks.
 - c. Improve handling practices for live sharks to maximize post-release survival.
 - d. Establish the appropriateness of the percentage limit on silky sharks catch established in paragraphs 9 and 10.
31. All paragraphs within this Resolution relating specifically to silky sharks shall be reviewed by the scientific staff and at the meeting of the SAC in 2023, in order to evaluate the adequacy of the measures of this Resolution.
32. The Director shall take the following actions in relation to sharks:

- a. Develop techniques and/or equipment to facilitate their release from the deck or from the net.
 - b. Seek the necessary funds to carry out experiments to determine the survival rates of released sharks.
 - c. Define areas and periods in which any of these species are most likely to be caught.
33. This Resolution shall enter into force on January 1, 2023.
34. This Resolution repeals and replaces Resolutions C-05-03, C-11-10, C-16-04, C-16-05, and C-21-06 in their entirety.

Annex 1. Schematic diagram of a shark line.



3d. E-1: European Union. Regional Vessel Register

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

100TH MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona, USA

1-5 August 2022

PROPOSAL IATTC-100 E-1

SUBMITTED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

EU PROPOSAL TO AMEND RESOLUTION C-18-06

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Lack of transparency on ‘beneficial ownership’, who ultimately benefits from the profits of the fishery, in the fishing industry prevents authorities from determining the ultimate owner of one or several vessels and to establish the links between those vessels and their operations. This is particularly relevant when the vessel/s is/are found to be fishing illegally or unsustainably, which poses a serious threat to the sustainable management of the ocean.

The purpose of the amendment proposed by the EU is to make information on who the real owners of a fishing vessel are (i.e. beneficial ownership) publicly available. Such information would facilitate the work of authorities in cases of involvement in IUU fishing operations, amongst others, and improve the transparency in the management of the fishing companies.

RESOLUTION (AMENDED) ON A REGIONAL VESSEL REGISTER

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in [Phoenix, Arizona](#) (USA) on the occasion of its 100th Meeting:

Affirming the importance of ensuring that all vessels fishing in the Antigua Convention Area comply with the conservation and management measures agreed by the Commission;

Reaffirming the need to have pertinent information relative to the operations of vessels fishing in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO);

Recalling that Article XII, paragraph 2 (k), of the Antigua Convention stipulates that the Director shall maintain the record of vessels fishing in the Convention Area based, *inter alia*, on the information provided pursuant to Annex 1 of the Convention;

Concerned that the current IATTC Regional Vessel Register includes fishing vessels not from Members and Co-operating Non-Members of the Commission (CPCs) and the Commission cannot confirm whether these vessels are complying with relevant IATTC resolutions;

Further recalling that the Commission has been taking various measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing in the Convention Area,

Noting that large-scale fishing vessels are highly mobile and easily change fishing grounds from one ocean to another, and have high potential of operating in the Convention area without timely registration with the Commission,

Recalling that the FAO Council adopted on June 23, 2001, an International Plan of Action (IPOA) aiming to prevent, to deter and to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, that this plan stipulates that the regional fisheries management organization should take action to strengthen and develop innovative ways, in conformity with international law, to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing and in particular to establish records of vessels authorized and records of vessels engaged in IUU fishing,

Further noting that the International Maritime Organization, at its 30th Assembly meeting in December 2017, adopted Resolution A.1117(30), which amends the IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme to expand fishing vessels' eligibility for IMO numbers from such vessels 100 GT and above to include motorized inboard fishing vessels below 100 GT down to 12 meters in length overall authorized to operate outside waters under national jurisdiction of the flag State,

Recognizing the utility and practicality of using IMO numbers as a unique vessel identifier (UVI) for fishing vessels and the **benefits to provide information on the beneficial owner of the vessel**, and

Aware of the need to amend its Resolution C-14-01 on a Regional Vessel Register:

Agrees that:

The Director shall establish and maintain a record of vessels that have been authorized to fish in the Antigua Convention Area for species covered by the Convention, on the basis of the information detailed in paragraph 2. The record shall contain only vessels that fly the flags of CPCs.

Each CPC shall supply to the Director the following information with respect to each vessel under its jurisdiction to be included in the record established pursuant to paragraph 1:

- a. name of vessel, registration number, previous names (if known), and port of registry;
- b. a photograph of the vessel showing its registration number;
- c. previous flag (if known and if any);
- d. International Radio Call Sign (if any);
- e. name and address of owner or owners;
- f. where and when built;
- g. length, beam, and moulded depth;
- h. freezer type and freezer capacity, in cubic meters;
- i. number and capacity of fish holds, in cubic meters and, in the case of purse-seine vessels, capacity breakdown by fish hold if possible;
- j. name and address of operator(s) and/or manager(s)(if any);
- k. **name and address of the beneficial owner(s) (if different from operator(s) and/or manager(s))**;
- l. type of vessel;
- m. type of fishing method or methods;
- n. gross tonnage;
- o. power of main engine or engines;
- p. the nature of the authorization to fish granted by the flag CPC (such as main target species);
- and
- q. International Maritime Organization (IMO) or Lloyd's Register (LR) number, if issued¹

¹ Effective 1 January 2016, flag CPC's shall ensure that all their fishing vessels (except for recreational fishing vessels) authorized to fish in the Convention Area that are at least 100 gross tons (GT) or 100 gross registered tons (GRT) in size have an IMO or LR number issued. Effective 1 January 2020, flag CPCs shall ensure that all their motorized inboard fishing vessels (except for recreational fishing vessels) of less than 100 GT or 100 GRT down to a size limit of 12 meters in length overall (LOA) or registered length, authorized to fish in the high seas of the Convention Area have an IMO or LR number issued. In assessing compliance with this requirement, the Commission shall take into account extraordinary circumstances in which a vessel owner is not able to obtain an IMO or LR number despite following the appropriate procedures. Flag CPCs shall report any such extraordinary situations in their annual reports.

Each CPC shall promptly notify the Director of any modifications to the information listed in paragraph 2.

Each CPC shall also promptly notify the Director of:

- a. any additions to the record;
- b. any deletions from the record by reason of:
 - i. the voluntary relinquishment or non-renewal of the fishing authorization by the owner or operator of the vessel;
 - ii. the withdrawal of the fishing authorization issued to the vessel in accordance with Article XX, paragraph 2, of the Convention;
 - iii. the fact that the vessel is no longer entitled to fly its flag;
 - iv. the scrapping, decommissioning or loss of the vessel; and
 - v. any other reason, specifying which of the reasons listed above are applicable.

CPCs shall notify the Director by 30 June each year of their vessels¹² on the Regional Vessel Register flying their flag that were actively fishing in the IATTC Convention Area for species covered by the Convention from 1 January to 31 December of the previous year.

The Director shall request each CPC to provide complete data for its vessels in accordance with paragraph 2 if the CPC does not provide all the required information.

The Commission shall review this resolution in 2022 and consider revisions to improve its effectiveness, including revisions to the vessel information required in paragraph 2 of this resolution.

This resolution replaces Resolution C-14-01.

² Excluding recreational fishing vessels.

3e. G-1 Rev 2: Ecuador. South Pacific albacore tuna

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

100TH MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona, USA
1-5 August 2022

PROPOSAL IATTC-100 G-1 REV 2

SUBMITTED BY ECUADOR

SOUTH PACIFIC ALBACORE TUNA

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Phoenix, Arizona (USA), on the occasion of its 100th Meeting:

Recalling its responsibility, established in the Antigua Convention, for the conservation and management of tunas and tuna-like species in the Convention Area and for the formulation of recommendations in this regard to its Members and Cooperating non-Members (CPCs);

Observing that south Pacific albacore tuna supports diverse fisheries in areas under national jurisdiction, as well as in areas beyond national jurisdiction, across the breadth of the Pacific Ocean south of the equator, encompassing the convention areas of the IATTC and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC);

Emphasizing the importance of regional and global cooperation to ensure the effective conservation and protection of living aquatic resources throughout their range of distribution, as encouraged in paragraph 12 of Article 6 of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

Thus recognizing the importance of working with the WCPFC, as provided for in Article XXIV of the Antigua Convention, in order to manage south Pacific albacore tuna fisheries throughout the migratory range of the stock in the Pacific Ocean south of the equator;

Recalling further paragraph 4 of Article 22 of the WCPFC Convention, which provides for cooperation with the IATTC regarding fish stocks that occur in the convention areas of both organizations;

Encouraged by recent collaborations in this regard between the scientific staff of the IATTC Secretariat and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community through which a Pacific-wide stock assessment of south Pacific albacore tuna was conducted;

Observing that fishing controls for south Pacific albacore tuna are currently in effect exclusively in the waters of the WCPFC Convention Area south of 20°S and that there are currently no controls in effect in the IATTC Convention Area outside the overlap area;

Considering the recommendation of the WCPFC Scientific Committee, at its 17th meeting, that longline catches of south Pacific albacore tuna be reduced in the WCPFC Convention Area to avoid further and prolonged depletion of vulnerable biomass by adult catches;

Recalling that longline fishing vessels greater than 24 meters length overall (LSTLFVs) are highly mobile and can easily change fishing grounds from one ocean to another, so they have a high potential to operate between IATTC and WCPFC convention areas;

Recalling Resolution C-03-07 on the establishment of a list of longline fishing vessels over 24 meters

(LSTLFVs) authorized to operate in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO);

Finally, taking into account Article IV of the Antigua Convention, which calls upon the Members of the Commission to apply the precautionary approach, as described in the relevant provisions of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as well as the 1995 United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement, for the conservation, management, and sustainable use of fish stocks covered by the Convention.

The IATTC therefore resolves that:

1. Members and Cooperating non-Members of the Commission (CPCs) shall not increase the number of their active **tuna longline vessels** that **fish for** south Pacific albacore tuna in the Convention area **south of [10°S]** above the average level reported during the recent period **(2000-2004 reference, 2015-2021 reference or [recent level (2021)] [any chosen year within these periods])**.
2. The Commission shall consider requests from CPCs that did not have active LSTLFVs that caught south Pacific albacore tuna in the Convention Area during the reference period to enter the fishery and revise this resolution, as appropriate.
3. CPCs whose vessels **fish for** south Pacific albacore tuna in the Convention Area shall cooperate to ensure the long-term sustainability of the fishery in the IATTC Convention Area, including, inter alia, cooperation and collaboration to improve research regarding the status of this stock.
4. Under the provisions established in Resolution C-03-05, CPCs shall annually report to the Commission all required data on their respective **[fisheries or fleets]** that caught south Pacific albacore tuna during the previous calendar year.. The data required shall be reviewed annually by SAC following the IATTC scientific staff recommendations.
5. The IATTC scientific staff, considering CPCs feedback, should develop and make available data forms as part of the ongoing process to improve data provision under Resolution C-03-05. The forms should be presented and reviewed at SAC-14, and distributed to CPCs and their **[fisheries or fleets]**.
6. The IATTC scientific staff shall present during the 14th meeting of the SAC data forms developed by the staff and CPCs during 2022. The SAC should review and adopt proper data forms considering the importance and scope.
7. The Commission shall seek to ensure compatibility between south Pacific albacore tuna conservation measures in the IATTC Convention Area and measures adopted or already in force in the WCPFC Convention Area.
8. The Director shall communicate this resolution to the WCPFC Secretariat [within 90 days from adoption].
9. This measure will go into effect January 1, 2023 and may be reviewed annually by the IATTC scientific staff and SAC.

3f. H-1: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru. Dorado

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

100TH MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona, USA

1-5 August 2022

PROPOSAL IATTC-100 H-1

**12. SUBMITTED BY COSTA RICA, EL SALVADOR, NICARAGUA,
PANAMA**

RESEARCH FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF DORADO

(Coryphaena hippurus)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Dorado (*Coryphaena hippurus*) is a highly valuable species for the fisheries in the eastern Pacific Ocean, exploited by both artisanal and medium-scale fisheries, as well as sport fisheries. In each of these activities, it provides substantive benefits to the fishing communities of coastal countries, so its sustainability must be ensured to contribute to the food security of these coastal communities. Also, this species is closely associated with tuna fishing activities, both in longline and purse-seine fisheries, and can sometimes be considered a target species, exploitable accompanying fauna, or as a bycatch species.

It is essential that the IATTC maintain a permanent, dynamic system of knowledge and management of dorado, as occurs with the relevant species of shark and others. This is in line with the provisions in the Antigua Convention, supported by the essential role played by the IATTC and the ecosystem approach, in the absence of government structures for specialized management of dorado as a highly migratory species, and given the interaction of tuna fisheries with this species and the risk of sustainability of this resource and as provided by international fisheries legislation.

This proposal intends to formally start the collection of relevant information that will allow activating the proper precautionary approach to knowledge for the management of dorado in the Convention Area. It promotes the development of tasks with minimal or no immediate economic impact, while identifying resources for more precise management. Its approval depends on the Commission ratifying its well-known responsibility in managing fishery resources and recognizing the challenge of continuously strengthening the IATTC's duties.

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), on the occasion of its 100th Meeting:

Recognizing that the fish stocks covered by the Convention are understood to be the stocks of tunas and tuna-like species and other species of fish taken by vessels fishing for tunas and tuna-like species in the Convention Area;

Bearing in mind that Article VII, paragraph 1 (f) of the Antigua Convention establishes that the Commission shall “adopt, as necessary, conservation and management measures and recommendations for species belonging to the same ecosystem and that are affected by fishing for, or dependent on or associated with, the fish stocks covered by this Convention, with a view to maintaining or restoring populations of such species above levels at which their reproduction may become seriously threatened”;

Reaffirming the obligations contained in the Antigua Convention, Article VII 1 (b) and (i), the Commission shall adopt, “standards for collection, verification, and timely exchange and reporting of data concerning the fisheries for fish stocks covered by this Convention” and shall establish “a comprehensive program for data collection”;

*Recognizing that dorado (*Coryphaena hippurus*) is a species targeted by artisanal and industrial longline fisheries and incidentally caught by purse-seine vessels operating in the Convention Area and is within the fish stocks of interest to the Commission;*

Recalling that collaborative research with the IATTC in 2014-2016 showed that the data available for the south eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) were sufficient to conduct an exploratory assessment of the core dorado stock and management strategies, while information from the EPO north was found to be limited;

Recalling that the IATTC has provided the opportunity for collaborative research, including three technical meetings on the *Coryphaena hippurus* resource between 2014 and 2016; the development of an exploratory assessment of the *C. hippurus* stock in the "core" region; an exploratory management strategy evaluation (MSE) for the EPO south; and an evaluation of potential reference points and harvest control rules for *C. hippurus* in the EPO;

Taking into account that, in its 10th meeting, the Scientific Advisory Committee recommended that the IATTC staff continue working with CPCs on research in relation to the stock status of dorado (*Coryphaena hippurus*) in the Convention Area;

Recalling that, in its 12th meeting, the Scientific Advisory Committee presented a proposal for a regional scientific plan for dorado (*Coryphaena hippurus*), based on the acceptance of the recommendation made at the 10th meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee, regarding the need for future research to improve the analysis of the stock assessment of *C. hippurus* in the Convention Area;

Emphasizing that the objective of the Convention is to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fish stocks in the Convention Area, and that both collaborative studies and exploratory research conducted by the Scientific Advisory Committee show a need for better data to assess the stock of *Coryphaena hippurus* in the Convention Area and research to improve the analysis and assessment of this fish stock.

Resolves as follows:

To start a research program to manage dorado (*Coryphaena hippurus*), by implementing the following tasks:

1. Members and Cooperating non-Members (CPCs)

- a. CPCs participating directly or indirectly, either as flag States or coastal States in the dorado fishery, shall require collection and submission of biological and fishery data for dorado from their artisanal or industrial longline fleets greater than 14 meters overall. For fleets of 14 meters or less in length, CPCs shall make their best effort, to the best of their abilities, to provide sampling data of at least 10% of the landings in their ports with respect to the number of individuals and total weight for each dorado fishing trip by 30 June (beginning in 2023) in a standardized reporting format.
- b. CPCs participating directly or indirectly, either as flag States or coastal States in the dorado fishery, shall require collection and submission of biological and fishery data for dorado from their purse-seine or longline fleets that catch dorado incidentally by 30 June (beginning in 2023) in a standardized reporting format, unless they have already been submitted pursuant to other requirements, such as observer programs.

2. IATTC

- a. **Director:** The Director shall identify the necessary financial resources (funds), including through cooperation, and shall seek to obtain those resources so that the scientific staff of the Commission can implement the Regional Scientific Plan for *C. hippurus* for 2023-2026, presented in Document SAC-12 INF-D, and prioritize according to available resources.

b. IATTC scientific staff:

- i. The scientific staff of the IATTC shall develop a proposal for a standardized format for data reporting and shall present it at the 2023 meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee. This format shall be used by the CPCs to submit information.
- ii. The scientific staff of the IATTC shall cooperate with CPCs to:
 - a. design and implement tagging programs as resources allow;

b. implement a tag recovery campaign for tagging programs implemented by CPCs.

3. Creation of an *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Dorado (*Coryphaena hippurus*)

Create an *ad hoc* working group, either virtual or face-to-face, to identify the information available on the dorado (*Coryphaena hippurus*) resource in the various fisheries of interest to the IATTC. Also, to identify information gaps that must be solved to know the status of this resource either as target or bycatch and the potential recommendation of management measures. The group shall include at least one member of each CPC that expresses interest in participating and shall be led by a person to be determined by the Commission.

3g. J-1 Rev: Ecuador. Harvest control rules

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

100TH MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona, USA

1-5 August 2022

PROPOSAL IATTC-100 J-1 REV 1

SUBMITTED BY ECUADOR

HARVEST CONTROL RULES FOR TROPICAL TUNAS (YELLOWFIN, BIGEYE, AND SKIPJACK)

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Phoenix, Arizona (USA), on the occasion of its 100th meeting:

Aware of its responsibility regarding the scientific study of tunas and tuna-like species in its Convention Area, and for adopting conservation and management measures for those resources, and

Recognizing that the sustainability of the resource can be reduced if the increase in fishing effort is considerable, and

Aware that the capacity of the purse-seine fleets fishing for tunas in the Convention Area continues to increase, and

Bearing in mind that Article 7.5.3a of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing indicates that regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs) should determine stock-specific target reference points, and, at the same time, the action to be taken if they are exceeded, and

Bearing in mind also that Article 7.5.3b of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing indicates that RFMOs should determine stock-specific limit reference points, and, at the same time, the action to be taken if they are exceeded; when a limit reference point is approached, measures should be taken to ensure that it will not be exceeded, and

Taking note of the variety of opinions that exist regarding the appropriate target reference points relating to the level of fishing mortality or the level of biomass that allow the long-term sustainable exploitation of the fish stocks, with the best possible catches; and on appropriate limit reference points related to the maximum values of fishing mortality or the minimum values of biomass, which should not be exceeded, and

Recognizing that, for the fishery for tropical tunas in the Convention Area, decision rules based on the precautionary principle will have to be developed to ensure that management objectives are achieved, including those deriving from the limit and target reference points adopted, and

Bearing in mind that, on the basis of the best available scientific information and the precautionary approach, the IATTC has used as an operational harvest control rule (HCR) limiting fishing mortality (F) at levels that do not exceed the level corresponding to the maximum sustainable yield (MSY), and

Considering that the Commission, during its 87th annual meeting, adopted interim limit and target reference points for tropical tunas in the eastern Pacific Ocean EPO, involving yellowfin tuna, bigeye tuna and skipjack tuna, and

Bearing in mind that the IATTC scientific staff indicates in Document SAC-07-07g, that the appropriateness of the operational HCR currently used with regard to the limit reference points has not been investigated in depth; therefore a more comprehensive management strategy evaluation (MSE) is necessary to evaluate the HCR; and alternative HCRs should be considered that include hard and soft limit reference points, that use reference points based on biomass, and that establish well-defined scientific management recommendations in the case that the reference points are exceeded,

Resolves as follows:

1. For the purposes of this Resolution, the following definitions¹ apply:

¹ Other definitions:

F_{MSY} : fishing mortality rate corresponding to the maximum sustainable yield; adopted at the 87th meeting of the IATTC;

$F_{proxy-MSY}$: fishing mortality rate proxy of maximum sustainable yield;

- a. A limit reference point is a conservation reference point based on a level of spawning biomass (S_{LIMIT}) or fishing mortality (F_{LIMIT}) that should be avoided because going beyond it could endanger the sustainability of the stock; $F_{0.5R0}$ and $S_{0.5R0}$ assuming steepness $h = 0.75$ were adopted by the 87th meeting of the IATTC as interim limit reference points for tropical tunas in the EPO.
 - b. A target reference point is a management objective based on a level of spawning biomass (S_{TARGET}) or a fishing mortality rate (F_{TARGET}) that should be achieved and maintained, and shall be defined as:
 - S_{MSY} and F_{MSY} respectively, when they can be reliably estimated (or otherwise specified) from parameters estimated within the assessment model. S_{MSY} and F_{MSY} were adopted by the 87th meeting of the IATTC as interim target reference points for tropical tunas in the EPO.
 - $S_{proxy-MSY}$ and $F_{proxy-MSY}$ respectively, when they cannot be reliably estimated (or otherwise specified) from parameters estimated within the assessment model. $S_{proxy-MSY}$ and $F_{proxy-MSY}$ shall be considered proxies target reference points of MSY for tropical tunas in the EPO, until a reliable estimate shall obtained from the assessment model.
 - c. The selection of the proxies for S_{MSY} and F_{MSY} must take into account the uncertainty in the assessment model and the resilience (or lack thereof) of the species.
 - d. The scientific staff, the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) shall establish and define specific methods for obtaining estimates of the reference points S_{MSY} and F_{MSY} , and an associated S_{LIMIT} and F_{LIMIT} , or their proxies, which shall be recommended to the Commission.
 - e. Harvest Control Rules (HCRs) are decision rules that aim to achieve the target reference point and avoid the limit reference point by specifying pre-agreed management actions.
2. The recommendations of the IATTC scientific staff on conservation measures for the stocks of tropical tunas (yellowfin, bigeye, and skipjack), shall take as their technical basis the limit and target reference points adopted provisionally.
 3. The harvest control rule (HCR) recommended by the scientific staff for the purse-seine fishery for tropical tunas shall be adopted, in accordance with the following principles:
 - a. The scientific recommendations for establishing management measures in the fisheries for tropical tunas, such as closures, which can be established for multiple years, shall attempt to prevent the fishing mortality rate (F) from exceeding the best estimate of the rate corresponding to the maximum sustainable yield (F_{MSY}) for the species that requires the strictest management.
 - b. If the probability that F will exceed the limit reference point (F_{LIMIT}) is greater than 10%, as soon as is practical management measures shall be established that have a probability of at least 50% of reducing F to the target level (F_{MSY}) or less, and a probability of less than 10% that F will exceed F_{LIMIT} .
 - c. If the probability that the spawning biomass (S) is below the limit reference point (S_{LIMIT}) is greater than 10%, as soon as is practical management measures shall be established that have a probability of at least 50% of restoring S to the target level (dynamic S_{MSY}) or greater, and a probability of less than 10% that S will descend to below S_{LIMIT} in a period of two generations of the stock or five

S_{MSY} : spawning biomass corresponding to the maximum sustainable yield; adopted at the 87th meeting of the IATTC;

$S_{proxy-MSY}$: spawning biomass proxy of maximum sustainable yield;

$S_{0.5r0}$: spawning biomass corresponding to that which produces a 50% reduction in recruitment as calculated in a Beverton-Holt spawner-recruit model with steepness of 0.75;

$F_{0.5r0}$: fishing mortality that causes spawning biomass to be reduced to $S_{0.5r0}$

years, whichever is greater.

- d. For fisheries that use gears other than purse-seine nets, the recommendations by the IATTC scientific staff on additional management measures shall be as consistent as possible with those adopted for the purse-seine fishery, while taking account of the impact of those fisheries on the species compared with that of purse-seine fishery.
4. The scientific staff of the Commission shall carry out additional assessments of these HCRs and alternatives, which shall be presented to the Scientific Advisory Committee for examination in order to allow the Commission to adopt a permanent HCR.
5. The IATTC shall continue to promote, encourage, and insist on compatibility between the conservation and management measures adopted by the IATTC and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) in their objectives and efficacy with regard to the tropical tuna stocks.
6. The Director shall communicate this Resolution to the Secretariat of the WCPFC.

3h. K-1 Rev 2: Ecuador. Observers on longliners

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

100TH MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona, USA

1-5 August 2022

PROPOSAL IATTC-100 K-1 REV 2

SUBMITTED BY ECUADOR

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION C-19-08 ON
SCIENTIFIC OBSERVERS FOR LONGLINE VESSELS**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

IATTC Resolution C-19-08 requires a 5% observer coverage of the fishing effort made by longline fishing vessels greater than 20 meters length overall.

Taking into account that the 2022 staff recommendation in Document SAC-13-14, item 7.2.1, “Longline fishery observer coverage”, states the following:

“Resolution C-19-08 requires that at least 5% of the fishing effort by longline vessels greater than 20 m length overall (LOA) carry a scientific observer. However, recent analyses undertaken by IATTC staff with the new operational-level data collected by observers onboard large longline vessels showed that, at such a low level of coverage, the data are not representative of the fishing activities of the entire fleet and cannot even be used to produce accurate estimates of total catch of target species such as bigeye tuna and yellowfin tuna (BYC-10 INF-D). Therefore, the staff concludes that 5% coverage is too low for calculating accurate estimates of the total catches of bycatch species caught by these vessels, particularly those species caught infrequently, such as sea turtles, seabirds and some sharks of conservation concern. In fact, several studies of sampling coverage for other longline fisheries have shown that 20% coverage is considered the minimum level required for estimating total catch of bycatch species. Both the staff and the SAC have recommended that this level of coverage be adopted for longline vessels over 20 m LOA (SAC-10 INF-H).”

Taking into consideration the recommendations of the Working Group on Bycatch to the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) at its 9th meeting in May 2019, particularly item 1: “*Revise Resolution C-11-08 to increase longline observer coverage on vessels >20 m LOA to 20% and consider ways to supplement observer requirements with electronic monitoring.*”

Furthermore, the recommendations of the tenth meeting of the SAC, Document IATTC-94-02, Section 3. “Data”, item 3.1.a. “Electronic Monitoring”, recommends the following:

*“The SAC recommends that the Electronic Monitoring (EM) initiatives implemented on purse seiners, both Classes 1-5 and Class 6, which will improve data collection for the purse-seine fleet, **are also tested in the longline fleet.**”*

Noting that 100% of the large purse-seine vessels that fish in the Convention Area are required to carry 100% scientific observers aboard, in accordance with the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program. In addition, some CPCs’ shipowners of purse-seine vessels smaller than Class 6 make economic efforts to provide information on their activities and carry observers aboard in support of scientific research.

In this context, it is considered essential that the current resolution be modified to accommodate a complete observer coverage, whether by humans or by electronic means, which is an important action to measure effort in fishing days of the longline tuna fishery.

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Phoenix, Arizona (USA), on the occasion of its 100th Meeting;

Recognizing the need to collect scientific information on target species as well as comprehensive data on interactions with non-target species, in particular, sea turtles, sharks and seabirds;

Noting the need to ensure uniform and equitable treatment of all tuna-fishing vessels operating in the Convention Area;

Noting that all large purse-seine vessels operating in the Convention Area are required to carry scientific observers aboard, in accordance with the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program, and that the Commission has recommended the extension of observer coverage to smaller purse-seine vessels on a voluntary basis;

Taking into account that IATTC scientific staff and the IATTC Working Group on Bycatch have

reiteratedly recommended at least 20% observer coverage on longline vessels fishing for tunas in the Convention Area, and that the Working Group on Bycatch suggested that human observer coverage could be supplemented by electronic monitoring systems (EMS) in order to achieve that goal; and

Noting that the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), at its 10th meeting in May 2019, determined that the appropriate measure of longline fishing effort for calculating observer coverage is “number of hooks.”

Agrees that:

1. Each Member and Cooperating non-Member (CPC) shall ensure that active longline vessels greater than 20 meters length overall carry human observers or electronic monitoring systems, in accordance with the following timeline:

<u>30 June 2024</u>	<u>10%</u>
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2. For the purposes of this Resolution, longline fishing effort is defined as the number of effective days of fishing¹ or hooks deployed.
3. The main task of the scientific observers and/or EMS shall be to record, consistent with data standards established by the SAC, any available biological information, the catches of targeted fish species, species composition, and any available biological information, as well as any interactions with non-target species such as sea turtles, seabirds and sharks.
4. Each Member and Cooperating Non-Member (CPC) shall ensure that at least 5% of the fishing effort made by its longline fishing vessels greater than 20 meters length overall carries a scientific observer.
5. Each CPC shall endeavor to ensure that observer coverage is representative of the activities of its fleet, including in terms of gear configuration, target species and fishing areas.
6. CPCs shall:
 - a. Ensure that the minimum level of coverage is met;
 - b. Take all necessary measures to ensure that observers are able to carry out their duties in a competent and safe manner;
 - c. Endeavor to ensure that observers alternate vessels between their assignments;
 - d. Ensure that the vessel on which an observer is placed provide suitable food and lodging during the observer's deployment at the same level as the officers, where possible. Vessel masters shall ensure that all necessary cooperation is extended to observers in order for them to carry out their duties safely, including providing access, as required, to the retained catch, and catch which is intended to be discarded.
7. The reporting requirements established by the SAC pursuant to resolution C-11-08 can be found in Annex A. The SAC may decide to modify these reporting requirements or establish new ones whenever deemed necessary and shall notify the Commission as appropriate for endorsement at the subsequent annual meeting of the IATTC.
8. CPCs shall submit operational data collected by observers from the previous year, consistent with the Minimum Data Reporting Standards (Annex B), to the Director no later than June 30 of each year.
9. Unless otherwise specified by the SAC, CPCs shall submit other reporting under this Resolution by 31 March of each year.
10. The IATTC Scientific Staff, in consultation with CPCs, shall prepare a draft proposal for the development of minimum standards for the implementation of an EMS for the longline fleets, taking into account the experience of CPCs that are implementing EMS on longline vessels and progress made in other tuna RFMOs, to be submitted to the SAC meeting of 2020.

¹ As defined by SAC-03 in 2012

11. The SAC, in consultation with the IATTC Scientific Staff, shall present recommendations on this proposal to the Commission for its consideration at its annual meeting in 2020.

3i. L-1: Ecuador. Transshipments

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

100TH MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona, USA

1-5 August 2022

PROPOSAL IATTC-100 L-1

SUBMITTED BY ECUADOR

**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A MANDATORY PROGRAM FOR
TRANSSHIPMENTS IN AUTHORIZED PORTS BY LARGE-SCALE**

FISHING VESSELS IN REPLACEMENT OF RESOLUTION C-12-07

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Phoenix, Arizona (USA) on the occasion of its 100th Meeting:

Deeply concerned that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing has a detrimental effect upon fish stocks, marine ecosystems, the livelihoods of legitimate fishers, and particularly on the welfare of developing States;

Conscious of the importance of the Port State to combat illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing and to monitor the compliance with measures adopted by Regional Fisheries Management Organizations for the sustainable use and the long-term conservation of living marine resources;

Bearing in mind that, under the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, the right to fish carries with it the obligation to do so in a responsible manner so as to ensure effective conservation and management of living aquatic resources;

Recognizing that the fight to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing should be based on diligent and coordinated actions among Flag States, Coastal States and Port States, using all their sovereignty and jurisdiction in accordance with international law;

Noting that transshipments of fish on the high seas contribute to hiding illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and degrading labor practices prohibited by the Maritime Labour Convention adopted in Geneva, Switzerland, on 7 February 2006, which threaten food security, the traceability of catches and facilitate the impunity of the perpetrators; while such operations, when carried out in authorized ports, make it possible to adopt and implement effective measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, strengthen the human rights of crew members and ensure the traceability and legality of catches.

Recalling the relevant provisions of the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas of 24 November 1993, the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and the Agreement on Port State Measures aimed at preventing, deterring and eliminating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing, and other relevant international law;

Agrees:

SECTION 1. GENERAL RULES

1. All transshipment operations of tuna and tuna-like species and sharks caught in association with the fisheries covered by the Antigua Convention (hereinafter “tuna and tuna-like species”) must take place in ports.
2. Each Member and Cooperating Non-Member of the Commission (CPC) shall take the necessary measures to ensure that large-scale tuna-fishing vessels¹ (large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels “LSTFVs”) flying its flag comply with the obligations set out in this resolution and in Annex 1 when transshipping their catches in port.
3. This Resolution does not apply to troll vessels, pole-and-line vessels or vessels under 24 meters of length overall engaged in the transshipment of fresh fish² at sea.

SECTION 2. RECORD OF VESSELS AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE TRANSSHIPMENTS AT

¹ For the purposes of this Resolution, “Large-scale tuna fishing vessels” are defined as all vessels fishing beyond areas of national jurisdiction or beyond each CPC-controlled areas and targeting tuna or tuna-like species.

² For the purposes of this Resolution, “fresh fish” means tuna or tuna-like species that are alive, whole or dressed/gutted, but not further processed or frozen.

SEA IN THE CONVENTION AREA

4. The Commission shall establish and maintain a record of carrier vessels authorized by their respective flag governments to receive “tuna and tuna-like species” from LSTLFVs in the Convention Area (IATTC Record of Carrier Vessels). For the purposes of this Resolution, carrier vessels not on this Record are deemed not to be authorized to receive tuna and tuna-like species in transshipment operations in authorized ports.
5. Each CPC shall submit to the Director, in electronic format if possible, the updated list of the carrier vessels that it has authorized to receive transshipments from its LSTLFVs in authorized ports located within the Convention Area. This list shall include the following information for each vessel:
 - a. The flag of the vessel;
 - b. Name of vessel, register number;
 - c. Previous name (if any);
 - d. Previous flag (if any);
 - e. Details of previous deletion from other registries (if any);
 - f. International radio call sign;
 - g. Type of vessel, length, gross tonnage (GT) and carrying capacity;
 - h. Name and address of owner(s) and operator(s); and
 - i. Time period authorized for transshipment operations in authorized ports.
6. Each CPC shall promptly notify the Director of any addition to, deletion from and/or modification of the IATTC Record, at the time such changes occur.
7. The Director shall maintain the IATTC Record and take measures to ensure publicity of the Record through electronic means, including placing it on the IATTC website, in a manner consistent with confidentiality requirements notified by CPCs for their vessels.
8. Carrier vessels authorized for transshipment shall be required to install and operate a VMS in accordance with Resolution C-14-02 on the establishment of a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS).

SECTION 3. TRANSSHIPMENTS IN PORT

9. Transshipments by LSTLFVs in ports under the jurisdiction of the CPCs are subject to prior authorization from the Port State of said port. CPCs shall take the necessary measures to ensure that LSTLFVs flying their flag comply with the following conditions:

Flag State Authorization

10. LSTLFVs are not authorized to transship unless they have obtained prior authorization from their flag State, as evidenced by their inclusion in the Commission's **RECORD OF VESSELS AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE TRANSSHIPMENTS IN THE CONVENTION AREA**.

Fishing vessel:

11. Before the transshipment, the master and/or owner of the LSTLFV must notify the following information to its flag State authorities and the Port State at least 24 hours in advance. When transmitting the following information, the LSTLFV shall provide a copy of this information to the Director of the IATTC and to the relevant coastal State if the transshipment occurs within an EEZ:
 - a. the name of the LSTLFV, its number in the LSTLFV List, and the IMO number of the vessel, if available;
 - b. the name of the carrier vessel, its number in the IATTC Record of Carrier Vessels, its IMO number, and the product to be transshipped,
 - c. the tonnage, by species and product, to be transshipped³,
 - d. the date and location of transshipment, and
 - e. the geographic location of catches of tuna, other pelagic species and sharks.

The LSTLFV concerned shall complete and transmit to its flag State, not later than 24 hours after the transshipment, the IATTC transshipment declaration, along with its number in the IATTC LSTLFV List, in accordance with the format set out in Annex 2.

Receiving carrier vessel:

12. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall complete and transmit the IATTC transshipment declaration to the Director and the flag CPC of the LSTLFV and the coastal States, along with its number in the IATTC Record of Carrier Vessels, within 24 hours of the completion of the transshipment.
13. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall, 48 hours before landing, transmit an IATTC transshipment declaration, along with its number in the IATTC Record of Carrier Vessels, to the Director, to the competent authorities of the State where the landing takes place (Port State) which shall authorize and monitor the operation.

SECTION 4. GENERAL PROVISIONS

14. To ensure the effectiveness of the IATTC conservation and management measures:
 - a. Flag CPCs of LSTLFVs shall ensure that transshipments are consistent with the reported catch amount by each LSTLFV and confirm that the transshipment was conducted in accordance with this Resolution. This confirmation shall be based on the information obtained through the IATTC Observer Program and the information gathered by the CPC of the Port State.
 - b. CPCs shall require that the catches of species covered by the Statistical Document Programs by LSTLFVs in the Convention Area, when imported into the territory or area of a CPC, be accompanied by validated statistical documents and a copy of the IATTC transshipment declaration.
15. Each CPC shall report annually before 15 September to the Director:
 - a. The quantities by species transshipped by their vessels and/or at its ports during the previous year.
 - b. The names and IMO numbers of the LSTLFVs and carrier vessels authorized to receive transshipments, registered with the IATTC, which have transshipped during the previous year; and
16. All tuna and tuna-like species and sharks landed in, or imported into, the territory of a CPC, either unprocessed or after having been processed on board and which are transshipped, shall be

³ Applies to all tuna and tuna-like species and sharks.

accompanied by the IATTC transshipment declaration until the first sale has taken place.

17. Each year, the Director shall present a report on the implementation of this Resolution to the annual meeting of the Commission, which shall review compliance with this Resolution.
18. These provisions shall apply from January 2023.
19. The Commission shall review and, as appropriate, amend this Resolution at the next annual meeting.
20. This Resolution replaces Resolution C-12-07.

Annex 1

CONDITIONS RELATING TO IN-PORT TRANSSHIPMENT BY LSTFVS

General

1. Transshipment operations in port may only be undertaken in accordance with the procedures detailed below.

Notification obligations

2. Fishing vessel:
 - 2.1. At least 48 hours prior to transshipping, the captain of the LSTFV must notify the following information to the Port State authorities and the Director:
 - g. the name of the vessel and its number in the IATTC Regional Vessel Register,
 - h. the name of the carrier vessel, and the product to be transshipped,
 - i. the tonnage, by species and product, to be transshipped⁴,
 - j. the date and location of transshipment,
 - k. the major fishing grounds of the tuna and tuna like species and sharks catches,
 - l. the IMO number of the vessel.
 - 2.2. The captain of an LSTFV shall, at the time of the transshipment, inform the vessel's Flag CPCs and the Director of the following;
 - e. the products and quantities involved,
 - f. the date and place of the transshipment,
 - g. the name, IMO number, registration number and flag of the receiving carrier vessel,
 - h. the geographic location of the tuna and tuna like species and sharks catches.
 - 2.3. The captain of the LSTFV shall complete and transmit to the vessel's flag CPC and the Director not more than 24 hours after the transshipment, the IATTC transshipment declaration, along with the vessel's number in the IATTC LSTFV List, in accordance with the format set out in Annex 2.

Receiving vessel

3. Not later than 24 hours before the beginning and at the end of the transshipment, the master of the receiving carrier vessel shall inform the Port State authorities of the quantities of catches of tuna and tuna-like species and sharks transshipped to the carrier vessel, and complete and transmit to the Director and the competent authorities of the vessel's flag CPC the IATTC transshipment declaration.

Landing State

4. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall, 48 hours before landing, complete an IATTC transshipment declaration, and transmit it to the Director and the competent authorities of the landing State where the landing is to take place.
5. The Port State and the landing State referred to in the above paragraphs shall take the appropriate measures to verify the accuracy of the information received, and shall cooperate with the flag CPC of the LSTFV to ensure that landings are consistent with the catches reported by the vessel. This verification shall be carried out so that the vessel suffers the minimum interference and inconvenience and that degradation of the fish is avoided.
6. Each flag CPC with LSTFVs shall report each year to the IATTC the details of the transshipments by

⁴ Applies to all tuna and tuna-like species and sharks

its vessels.

**ANNEX 2
IATTC TRANSSHIPMENT DECLARATION**

Carrier Vessel	Fishing Vessel
Name of the Vessel and Radio Call Sign:	Name of the Vessel and Radio Call Sign:
Flag: IMO number: IMO number, if available	Flag:
Flag state license number: ble	Flag state license number:
National Register Number, if available:	National Register Number, if available:
IATTC Register Number, if available:	IATTC Register Number, if available:

Day Month Hour Year

Agent's name: Master's name of LSTV: Master's name of Carrier:

Departure				from	
Return				to	
Transshipment					

Signature: Signature: Signature:

Indicate the weight in kilograms or the unit used (e.g. box, basket) and the bonded weight in kilograms of this unit: kilograms

LOCATION OF TRANSHIPMENT:

Species	Port		Sea	Type of product														
				Whole	Gutted	Headed	Filleted											

If transshipment effected at sea, IATTC Observer Signature:

ANNEX 3

IATTC REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAM

1. Each CPC shall require carrier vessels included in the IATTC Record of Carrier Vessels which transship at sea, to carry an IATTC observer during each transshipment operation in the Convention Area.
2. The Director shall appoint the observers, and shall place them on board the carrier vessels authorized to receive transshipments in the Convention Area from LSTLFVs flying the flag of CPCs that implement the IATTC observer program established by this Resolution.

Designation of the observers

3. The designated observers shall have the following qualifications to accomplish their tasks:
 - a. sufficient experience to identify species and fishing gear;
 - b. satisfactory knowledge of IATTC conservation and management measures;
 - c. the ability to observe and record information accurately; and
 - d. a satisfactory knowledge of the language of the flag of the vessel observed.

Obligations of the observer

4. Observers shall:
 - e. not be, to the extent possible, nationals or citizens of the flag CPC of the receiving carrier vessel;
 - f. be capable of performing the duties set forth in point 5 below;
 - g. be included in the list of observers maintained by the Director; and
 - h. not be a crew member of an LSTLFV or an employee of an LSTLFV company.
5. The observer's tasks shall be, in particular, to:
 - a. on the LSTLFV intending to transship to a carrier vessel, and before the transshipment takes place:
 - vii. check the validity of the fishing vessel's authorization or license to fish for tuna and tuna-like species and sharks in the Convention Area;
 - viii. check and record the total quantity of catch on board, and the quantity to be transferred to the carrier vessel;
 - ix. check that the VMS is functioning, and examine the logbook;
 - x. verify whether any of the catch on board resulted from transfers from other vessels, and check the documentation on such transfers;
 - xi. in the case of an indication that there are any violations involving the fishing vessel, immediately report the violations to the master of the carrier vessel; and
 - xii. record the results of these duties on the fishing vessel in the observer's report.
- b. on the carrier vessel:
 - iv. record and report upon the transshipment activities carried out;
 - v. verify the position of the vessel when engaged in transshipping;
 - vi. observe and estimate products transshipped;
 - vii. verify and record the name of the LSTLFV concerned and its registration number;
 - viii. verify the data contained in the transshipment declaration;

- ix. certify the data contained in the transshipment declaration; and
 - x. countersign the transshipment declaration;
 - f. issue a daily report of the carrier vessel's transshipping activities;
 - g. establish general reports compiling the information collected in accordance with this paragraph and provide the captain the opportunity to include therein any relevant information.
 - h. submit to the Director, the coastal State (where appropriate) and the flag CPCs the aforementioned general report within 24 hours from the end of the period of observation; and
 - i. exercise any other functions as defined by the Commission.
6. Observers shall treat as confidential all information with respect to the fishing operations of the LSTLFVs and of the LSTLFVs owners and accept this requirement in writing as a condition of appointment as an observer.
7. Observers shall comply with requirements established in the laws and regulations of the flag CPC which exercises jurisdiction over the vessel to which the observer is assigned.
8. Observers shall respect the hierarchy and general rules of behavior which apply to all vessel personnel, provided such rules do not interfere with the duties of the observer under this program, and with the obligations of vessel personnel set forth in paragraph 9 of this program.

Obligations of the flag CPCs of carrier vessels

9. The responsibilities regarding observers of the flag CPCs of the carrier vessels and their captains shall include the following, notably:
- f. Observers shall be allowed access to the vessel personnel and to the gear and equipment;
 - g. Upon request, observers shall also be allowed access to the following equipment, if present on the vessels to which they are assigned, in order to facilitate the carrying out of their duties set forth in paragraph 5:
 - i. satellite navigation equipment;
 - ii. radar display viewing screens when in use; and
 - iii. electronic means of communication.
 - h. Observers shall be provided accommodations, including lodging, food and adequate sanitary facilities, equal to those of officers;
 - i. Observers shall be provided with adequate space on the bridge or pilot house for clerical work, as well as space on deck adequate for carrying out observer duties; and
 - j. The flag CPCs shall ensure that captains, crew and vessel owners do not obstruct, intimidate, interfere with, influence, bribe or attempt to bribe an observer in the performance of his/her duties.
10. The Director, in a manner consistent with any applicable confidentiality requirements, shall provide to the flag CPC of the carrier vessel under whose jurisdiction the vessel transshipped and to the flag CPC of the LSTLFV, copies of all raw data, summaries, and reports pertaining to the trip three months prior to the meeting of the Committee for the Review of Implementation of Measures adopted by the Commission.

Obligations of LSTLFVs during transshipments

11. Observers shall be allowed to visit the fishing vessel, if weather conditions permit, and shall be granted access to personnel and areas of the vessel necessary to carry out their duties set forth in paragraph 5.
12. The Director shall submit the observer reports to the Committee for the Review of Implementation of Measures adopted by the Commission and to the Scientific Advisory Committee.

Observer fees

13. The costs of implementing this program shall be financed by the flag CPCs of LSTLFVs wishing to engage in transshipment operations. The fee shall be calculated on the basis of the total costs of the program. This fee shall be paid into a special account of the Director and the Director shall manage the account for implementing the program;

14. No LSTLFV may participate in the at-sea transshipment program unless the fees, as required under paragraph 13, have been paid.

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

100TH MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona, USA

1-5 August 2022

PROPOSAL IATTC-100 M-1 REV

SUBMITTED BY COSTA RICA

ON THE BBNJ PROCESS

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Phoenix, Arizona (USA), on the occasion of its 100th Meeting

Recognizing that the United Nations General Assembly, through Resolution A/72/249, decided to convene an intergovernmental conference, under the auspices of the United Nations, to consider the recommendations of the Preparatory Committee on the elements and to elaborate the text of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ), with a view to developing the instrument as soon as possible;

Recalling that the negotiations shall address the topics identified in the package agreed in 2011, namely, the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, in particular, together and as a whole, marine genetic resources, including questions on the sharing of benefits, measures such as area-based management tools, including marine protected areas, environmental impact assessments and capacity-building and the transfer of marine technology;

Bearing in mind that this process and its result cannot undermine existing relevant legal instruments and frameworks and relevant global, regional and sectoral bodies;

Emphasizing that neither participation in the negotiations nor their outcome may affect the legal status of non-parties to the Convention or any other related agreements with regard to those instruments, or the legal status of parties to the Convention or any other related agreements with regard to those instruments;

Taking into account the provisions of the Convention which, together with international implementing agreements and treaties, including those through which regional fisheries management organizations were

established, guide and develop in a precise and robust manner the conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources without any regulatory gaps that could be identified;

Taking into account that the management of fisheries and fishing activities under the competence of regional fisheries management organizations responds to a robust and comprehensive system of rules, institutions, activities and actions, all aimed at the conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources, their ecosystems and marine biodiversity, in strict application of the international law reflected in the relevant provisions of the Convention and its implementation agreements, including the 1995 United Nations agreement on highly migratory species;

Considering the need to ensure that input from national fisheries management authorities, whether individual or collective, is duly integrated into the preparation of the text of the new agreement, in particular in order to safeguard the principle of not undermining the competencies of RFMOs;

Recognizing the imperative need to ensure that regional fisheries management organizations continue to strengthen their leading role in governance in their geographical area of competence, with a view to ensuring the conservation and sustainable use of fishery resources with an ecosystem and precautionary approach,

Considering that fishing activity is inherent to the protection of biodiversity and therefore should be recognized as an essential element in the scope of this declaration, recognizing and respecting the different RFMOs and the scope of their management measures, protection and promotion of fishing activity.

Bearing in mind that the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Conference will be held in New York City, United States of America, from 15 to 26 August 2022,

Agrees:

1. To urge Members and Cooperating Non-Members of the Commission to include representatives of national fisheries authorities in their delegations that will participate in this fifth session of the Intergovernmental Conference.
2. Request the Secretariat to participate in, and follow up on, the process initiated at the United Nations in order to highlight and preserve the role of RFMOs in all matters related to the conservation, management and sustainable use of fishery resources and fisheries in order to promote the coordination and cooperation necessary for this purpose and based on the respect and preservation of competencies, as a formula to ensure the integration of the relevant international organizations in an orderly manner within the framework of the non-detriment principle.

3. That the Commission express its views to the Intergovernmental Conference on the elements of the text of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction ((BBNJ), to the effect that fishing activities and therefore the work carried out by RFMOs within the field of application of this instrument be considered as binding without being affected by the instrument that is being developed.

4. Reports

4a. Report of the 9th Meeting of the Committee on Administration and Finance

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION
COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE
9TH MEETING
Phoenix, Arizona, USA
28 July 2022

CHAIR'S REPORT

AGENDA

	Documents
1. Opening of the meeting	
2. Adoption of the agenda	
3. Review of the financial audit report	
4. Review of proposed budgets for 2023 and 2024	CAF-09-01
5. Financial contributions of Members:	
a) Regular budget (Resolution C-15-05)	
b) Special Fund for promoting institutional capacity-building (Resolution C-14-03)	CAF-09-02
c) Program to monitor transshipments at sea (Resolution C-12-07)	CAF-09-03
d) Other	
6. Other business	
7. Recommendations to the Commission	
8. Adjournment	

ANNEXES

1. List of attendees

The ninth meeting of the Committee on Administration and Finance was held in Phoenix, Arizona, on 29 July 2022.

1. Opening of the meeting

In the absence of a Chair of the Committee, the meeting was opened by the Director *ad interim* of the IATTC, Ambassador Jean-François Pulvenis, and, at his suggestion, the Committee unanimously appointed Mr. Marco Valleta, of the European Union, to chair the meeting, which he kindly accepted.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda was adopted without any changes.

3. Review of the financial audit report

The Secretariat reported that the financial audit report was delivered to Commissioners and Heads of

Delegation. No comments were presented.

4. Review of proposed budgets for 2023 and 2024

Mrs. Nora G. Roa, from the IATTC staff, presented Document [CAF-09-01](#). She explained the financial activity of the Commission in 2021 and the status of contributions to its 2022 budget; she also made a detailed presentation of the budget requested for 2023, as well as the projected budget for 2024.

She commented that the IATTC requires US\$ 8,904,385 to operate in 2023, that is, the same amount as the previous year's budget, with only an increase to take into account inflation, which impacts all expenses related to the activities of the Commission, both at headquarters and abroad, including the continuing rise in the cost of materials, goods, and services that are necessary for the Commission's operations. In response to a question from the European Union, it was clarified that an inflation increase of 3.3% had been calculated, which was lower than what later proved to be its real value.

She also recalled that these activities continue to grow, not only due to the broader mandate derived from the Antigua Convention, but also in response to the wishes and demands of its Members, which requires a greater amount of budgetary resources to cover the cost of these activities. She emphasized that it was therefore essential that the Commission give due consideration to the level of funding requested and adopt the budget.

Japan highlighted a surplus of around US\$ 1,403,304 between the budget that had been approved for 2021 and what had actually been spent during this year and asked what consequences this could have in terms of the budget under discussion. The Secretariat replied that this surplus represented only a fraction of the contributions in arrears to the Commission's budget, which in June 2022 amounted to approximately US\$ 7.85 million. She also recalled that the issue of short surpluses had been discussed in the past and it had been agreed that they could not be used to finance current and recurring activities, but only for exceptional expenses or investment.

5. Financial contributions of Members to the Commission

a. Regular budget (Resolution [C-15-05](#))

- i. The Secretariat stressed that, in order for the Commission and its staff to carry out their duties fully and effectively in compliance with the Antigua Convention, it is essential that all Member contributions to the budget be paid on time. For this reason, it is particularly important to promptly resolve the situation of outstanding arrears, which as of 30 June 2022 amounted to **US\$ 7,850,740**, almost equivalent to a one-year budget. In addition, three of these Members (Ecuador, Venezuela and Kiribati) are more than two years in arrears, with the consequences derived from the application of Article XV, paragraph 4, of the Antigua Convention, which disqualifies them from taking part in decision-making, unless the Commission decides otherwise.

Panama stated that it recently paid US\$700,000 and plans to pay US\$800,000 more. Panama also reiterated its commitment to keep up with its financial contributions soon. Venezuela also stated that it is committed to settling its debts to the IATTC and it is exploring mechanisms to pay.

- ii. Some delegations made comments on their contributions:
 - Nicaragua requested that the reference to its outstanding contributions in the document that had been presented be corrected, as it did not reflect recent payments.
 - Peru requested that the amount of its estimated contribution for 2023 be reviewed, as it was based on information that had been mistakenly provided to the Secretariat;

- Korea requested that, in the future, the Secretariat circulate more in advance the estimated contributions for the following fiscal year, which must be considered by the Committee and approved by the Commission;
 - To a question raised by China regarding the increase in its contribution, the Secretariat responded that it was due to its change of category in the World Bank table used for the weighting factor applied in the formula for the calculation of contributions.
- iii. Regarding the cost-sharing of the enhanced monitoring program established under Resolution C-21-04, including the definition of the amounts of individual contributions, the discussion showed that there was no agreement among the members of the Committee on this issue. Some argued that these costs should be shared exclusively among the Members actually participating in the program, while others believed that all Members should contribute, albeit in a weighted manner, because the program and its results are beneficial to the Commission as a whole. The Committee was unable to reach consensus and agreed that the Commission should consider this issue in order to seek a solution acceptable to all.
- iv. Ecuador raised the issue of financial contributions to the budget of the Commission from Cooperating non-Members and proposed establishing an obligation similar to that of other RFMOs such as the WCPFC. Although welcomed by several participants, this issue was left for future consideration.

b. Special fund for promoting institutional capacity-building (resolution [C-14-03](#))

Mr. Ricardo Belmontes, from the Commission's staff, presented Document [CAF-09-02 - Special fund for promoting institutional capacity-building](#) in developing Members, established by Resolution C-14-03. He reported that the fund balance was US\$ 389,856 as of 30 June 2022.

The activities planned and approved to be carried out with resources from the fund in 2020 and 2021 were not conducted due to the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic. Thus, the implementation of such activities is pending and is intended to be carried out for the remainder of 2022 and 2023, in addition to continue supporting attendance to meetings of the IATTC and the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC).

In line with the above, the following activities are planned to be carried out with resources from the fund, as the pandemic allows:

1. Development of data collection and scientific infrastructure for fisheries management, especially with work in the shark fishery and with the support of resources from the GEF-ABNJ 2 for up to US\$ 800,000 for 3 years.
2. Capacity-building seminar/workshop for decision makers responsible for IATTC matters from developing CPCs.
3. Capacity-building seminar/workshop for officials in charge of monitoring IATTC and AIDCP matters from developing CPCs.
4. Annual IATTC scholarship for scientific capacity in developing CPCs.
5. Participation of representatives of developing Members in the annual meeting of the IATTC and its subsidiary bodies.

The Committee agreed to recommend to the Commission to approve these activities, highlighting the need to use the Fund primarily to build capacity in developing Members and not only to support attendance to meetings of the IATTC and its subsidiary bodies.

c. Program to monitor transshipments at sea (Resolution [C-12-07](#))

Mr. Ricardo Belmontes, from the Commission's staff, presented Document [CAF-09-03 - Regional program](#)

[of observers for transshipments at sea](#). His presentation was focused on the financial component of the program since the operational section had already been presented at the meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee and the compliance section would be reviewed by the Compliance Committee.

He reported that a decision should be made to renew the contract with MRAG for three more years with an increase in costs, but freezing them for that three-year period. Likewise, a US\$ 1,440,000 budget is requested for 2023, which is the same as that for the previous year. Cost increases would be covered by the surplus from the last few years, which is estimated to be around US\$ 350,000 by the end of 2022.

Japan asked why the cost increase, at about 20%, was much higher than the rate of inflation. The Secretariat responded that, at this time, not only inflation had been taken into account but also the increase in observer salaries according to their experience, from US\$ 250 to US\$ 270 per day at sea.

The Committee agreed to renew the contract with MRAG for three years and approve the requested 2023 budget.

6. Other business

No other business was discussed.

7. Recommendations to the Commission

The Committee agreed to make the following recommendations to the Commission:

1. Approve a budget for the IATTC for 2023 for a total amount of US\$ 8,904,395, on the understanding that the individual contributions would still have to be defined, taking into account that agreement had not yet been reached on how the budgeted cost of the enhanced monitoring program would be distributed in application of Resolution C-21-04.
2. Approve the activities planned for 2022-2023 to be supported by the Special Fund for promoting institutional capacity-building established by Resolution C-14-03, as mentioned in Document [CAF-09-02 - Special Fund for promoting institutional capacity-building](#).
3. Approve a budget of US\$ 1,440,000 for the observer program to monitor transshipments at sea in 2023 and renew the contract with MRAG for three years.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 13:30 on 28 July 2022.

4b. Report of the 13th Meeting of the Committee for the Review of Implementation of Measures Adopted by the Commission (“Review Committee”)

**INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION
COMMITTEE FOR THE REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF
MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION
13TH MEETING
Phoenix, Arizona, USA
29-30 July 2022**

CHAIR’S REPORT

AGENDA

	Documents
a Opening of the meeting	
t Adoption of the agenda	
c Recommendations of the 12 th meeting of the Committee: progress report	COR-13-01
d Compliance with IATTC measures in 2021:	
4a. Report by the staff on compliance	COR-13-02
4b. Review of the questionnaires and additional information submitted by CPCs in compliance with Resolution C-11-07	
e Review of the provisional IUU vessels list	COR-13-04
f Cooperating non-Members	COR-13-03
g Report of the Compliance Workshop (1-2 June 2022)	
h Other business	
i Recommendations for the Commission	
j Adjournment	

The 13th meeting of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of Measures Adopted by the Commission (Review Committee) was held on 29-30 July 2022 in Phoenix, Arizona.

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by the IATTC Director *ad interim*, Amb. Jean-François Pulvenis, who reported that the Chair of the Committee was not present in person due to health reasons. Therefore, he asked for nominations for Chair of the meeting and Mr. Luis Molledo, of the European Union, was elected.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda was adopted without changes. It was announced that, under "Other Business", the European Union would present its proposal on compliance which it submitted for consideration by the Commission at its 100th meeting (see [C-1. EUR - Compliance](#)).

3. Recommendations of the 12th meeting of the Committee: progress report

Mr. Ricardo Belmontes, of the IATTC staff, presented Document [COR-13-01- Recommendations of the 12th meeting of the Committee](#). He commented that there had been good progress in complying with the recommendations adopted by the Committee and approved by the Commission at its meetings the previous

year, as almost all of them had been complied with, as the document shows. He highlighted the holding, pursuant to recommendation 10, of a Compliance Workshop on 1-2 June 2022, with the objective of identifying the main issues and challenges faced by the Compliance Committee in carrying out its work, as well as possible solutions (see Document [COR-13 INF-A](#)).

The Committee acknowledged the report but requested that “*the Secretariat provide information on whether data or reports have been submitted in previous years (e.g., the previous 5 years) as required by several resolutions*”, as it had recommended at its previous meeting, since this information is absent from the compliance report that had been prepared by the staff (see Document COR-13-02).

4. Compliance with IATTC measures in 2021:

4a. Report by the staff on compliance

Mr. Belmontes presented Document COR-13-02, which provides an account of the performance of the tuna fleet operating in the EPO in 2022, as well as compliance with the various reporting and data submission obligations as stipulated in various resolutions adopted by the Commission.

After this presentation, several Members took the floor. In general terms, Members such as [Nicaragua](#) and [Venezuela](#) emphasized that compliance with measures adopted by the Commission had improved over the years up to the good levels that can be observed today, thus echoing the Secretariat's comments.

Most of the interventions were aimed at improving both the procedures followed by the Secretariat for the preparation and presentation of the report or in relation to pending activities, as well as some specific aspects of compliance by the CPCs as referred to in the report.

- i. Regarding the first point, [Japan](#) requested that the Secretariat update its directories to ensure that in the future its communications are directed to the appropriate point of contact, which was not the case this time, which caused the delay in the required responses with the information that Japan requested to be included in a revised and updated version of the report. Likewise, the [United States](#) requested the Secretariat to prepare the format on sea turtles referred to in Resolution C-19-04, paragraph 4a.
- ii. Regarding the second point, the comments addressed several topics:
 - [Nicaragua](#) requested that the report differentiate between possible infractions corresponding to vessels and those that can be attributed to national authorities (e.g., failure to submit reports to the Commission and the Secretariat, in contravention of the provisions of the relevant resolutions).
 - [Ecuador](#) requested that the report reflect the ratio of the number of possible infractions to the size of the corresponding fleet, or the number of sets, to allow for a more objective assessment of the relative magnitude of non-compliance with the Commission's measures.
 - [Venezuela](#) stressed that it is important for CPCs to make efforts to conclude the cases they report as "under investigation".
 - [The United States](#) noted that it was necessary to review the compliance of vessels that operate with different fishing gears but that have in common the fact that they do not carry on-board observers.
 - [The United States, Nicaragua, the European Union and Venezuela](#) pointed out the need to improve the monitoring of longline vessels, taking into account that cases have been reported of not even reaching the 5% established in Resolution C-19-08, by increasing the number of observers or electronic monitoring. In response to these comments, [Costa Rica](#) acknowledged that it had not been able to achieve that percentage and that it was interested in participating in electronic monitoring pilot projects; [Panama](#) mentioned the observer coverage of its longline fleet as it had been able to achieve it to date.

- The United States called for exploring ways to improve compliance by carrier vessels covered by the transshipment observer program.
- The European Union requested that information on compliance with the IATTC system of minimum standards for port inspections, established by Resolution C-21-07, be included.
- The European Union requested that efforts be made to resolve the discrepancies observed in the interpretation of the shark resolutions and also to clarify and specify the reference in Annex II of Resolution C-19-01 to the "mesh size" in terms of its practical application.

4b. Review of the questionnaires and additional information submitted by CPCs in compliance with Resolution C-11-07

For this review, the Chair of the Committee proposed to modify the procedure that had been followed previously, namely, to give the floor to each CPC in turn to make the corresponding presentation. Following his proposal, the Committee decided to proceed with a resolution-by-resolution and measure-by-measure review, giving each CPC identified as having possible infractions the opportunity to respond and clarify what actions it had taken in this regard. As the advantages of this new method became evident, both substantively and procedurally, the Committee decided that it would proceed in this manner in the future.

5. Review of the provisional IUU vessels list

The IATTC staff presented Document [COR-13-04 - REV IUU Vessel List 2022-2023](#), which contains information regarding the provisional IUU vessel list that the Committee should analyze and issue a recommendation to the IATTC. It was reported that the provisional IUU list included the Colombian-flag vessel *Patricia Lynn*, which Ecuador had proposed to be included in that list.

Ecuador stated that they nominated the *Patricia Lynn* to the IUU list because it conducted fishing operations in Ecuadorian waters without proper authorization.

Colombia, on the other hand, clarified that since it had received the information in May of this year, it had been in permanent contact with the Ecuadorian authorities and had undertaken an investigation to determine the responsibility of the vessel. It requested that the corresponding proceedings could be finalized in a timely manner and noted that, in the meantime, the vessel remains in port.

Venezuela expressed its agreement with the information received which fully complies with Resolution C-19-02 [IUU Vessel List](#) and requested that the vessel be removed from the provisional IUU list and that next year, if no progress is made, it be included again. Japan supported Venezuela's comments, as did Nicaragua, which asked Colombia to pay attention to this vessel since this same situation has occurred in the past.

The Committee agreed to recommend the removal of the *Patricia Lynn* from the provisional IUU list and did not find it necessary to consider or recommend any changes to the IUU list, as reflected in Document COR-13-04.

Additionally, the United States asked about the status of the IUU cross-list. Amb. Pulvenis informed him that the list was already published on the IATTC website and that it could be consulted on the IATTC website. [IUU cross-list](#).

6. Cooperating non-Members

Amb. Pulvenis presented Document [COR-13-03 - REV Cooperating Non-Members](#), and reported that the five current Cooperating non-Members (Bolivia, Chile, Honduras, Indonesia and Liberia) had submitted their requests for renewal of their status and that a table in the document showed that they had all complied with the requirements established by Resolution [C-07-02 Cooperating non-party status](#).

The Committee decided to recommend renewing the status of Cooperating non-Member for Liberia, Bolivia and Indonesia, who were present at the meeting remotely, leaving Chile and Honduras pending for when the issue was discussed at the IATTC plenary meeting.

7. Report of the Compliance Workshop

Mr. David Hogan, who chaired the Compliance Workshop, which was held by videoconference on 1-2 June 2022, noted that, despite the format, it had been very constructive, with active participation, which allowed for the formulation of good recommendations to improve, among others, the work of the Committee. He presented those recommendations which are included in document [COR-13 INF-A. Report on Compliance Workshop](#).

After reviewing them, the Committee decided to incorporate them in its own recommendations to the Commission, with a proposed concrete course of action for each of them, depending on their relevance.

8. Other business

a) European Union proposal on compliance

As announced at the time of the adoption of the agenda, the European Union presented its proposal on compliance (see [C-1. EUR - Compliance](#)), with a triple purpose: to provide a better structure for the Committee's discussions, to formalize the adoption by the Commission of a compliance report and to facilitate the follow-up of cases of non-compliance and related matters. The delegation emphasized that this proposal incorporated the results of the workshop held in June 2022. The main change is in the addition of an Annex 2 on categories of compliance status, as a tool to guide the work of the Committee and the Commission.

The Committee took note of the proposal, which would be presented again and discussed in the plenary of the Commission.

b) Presentation by Mr. Masa Miyahara on the compliance workshops organized by Pew and ISSF and their outcomes:

Mr. Miyahara made a presentation via videoconference (see [Introduction to the outcomes of expert group on PEW-ISSF Compliance workshops](#)) on the organization by Pew and ISSF, with the active participation of experts, chairs of the various compliance committees and compliance officers in the various RFMO secretariats, of a series of three workshops on best compliance practices within RFMOs, with the aim of formulating concrete recommendations. A group of experts is working on the recommendations, which will be published with a summary of the discussions in a document that will be made available to RFMOs shortly.

The Commission expressed its appreciation for this presentation, took note of the information and noted that it would look forward to the publication of the document for its future work.

9. Recommendations for the Commission

The Committee adopted the following recommendations:

Recommendations to staff

1. To consistently include in the Compliance Report information on compliance with specific provisions during the previous five years and present it using tables, including color coded ones, to improve its readability.
2. To provide in the Compliance Report general figures and charts on overall compliance in IATTC, including the number of reported infractions versus the total number of sets or the number of trips, or the number of vessels in the EPO in a given year.
3. Include in the compliance report information on the implementation of paragraph 3.d. of Resolution C-19-04, wherever any information on infractions is available.
4. To report the lack of reply by CPCs on the investigation of possible cases of non-compliance identified by the Secretariat under paragraph 3 of Resolution C-11-07.
5. To provide a table indicating the compliance by CPCs with the minimum observer coverage in long-liners over the previous five years.
6. To include in the Compliance Report a table on the implementation of Port State Measures under Resolution C-21-07.
7. Regarding reporting obligations, to provide more concrete information in the Compliance Report on the specific data missing and not only the lack of reporting.
8. To send a Memo to CPCs at the latest 30 days after the conclusion of the 100th meeting of the Commission on the applicable modalities and deadlines for the notification of trips without observers in Resolution C-09-04.
9. To introduce improvements to Table 25 of document COR-13-02, notably to reflect the outcome of investigations and proceedings by CPCs, and consider its potential added value as a tool for CPCs to take action as appropriate. Only vessels with verified and unresolved infractions should be included in Table 25.
10. To provide compliance summary formats that facilitate reviewing CPC compliance per each resolution, as well as per CPC.
11. Implement the cross-listing procedures in Resolution C-19-02 in part by seeking IUU vessel lists from other RFMOs, as appropriate.
12. On cross listing of vessels listed on other RFMO lists under Res. C-19-02, request that the Secretariat to develop procedures to ensure that all required elements relevant to cross-listing under paragraphs 18-24 are implemented, including circulating other RFMO vessel lists and supporting information upon receipt from that RFMO, providing CPCs with 30 days to object to any cross-listing, and upon conclusion of that 30-day period circulate an amended final IATTC IUU vessel list. Further, request that the Secretariat maintain appropriate contacts with the Secretariats of RFMOs listed in para. 21 of Resolution C-19-02 and conduct follow-up as necessary to ensure that their final IUU vessel lists are sent to the IATTC Secretariat in a timely manner after adoption. Finally, request that the Secretariat circulate a list of all vessels added to the final IATTC vessel list to date via cross-listing as well as supporting information and provide CPCs with an opportunity to object within 30 days to their inclusion.

Recommendations to the Committee

13. To structure the discussions by the Committee on the assessment of individual cases on possible non-compliance by resolution instead of by CPC. Ensure this also allows for a review of additional information provided by CPCs in their compliance responses (e.g., information included as “Additional Information” on the compliance webpage or within the Questionnaires).
14. To add a permanent point on the agenda of the Committee to continue working on possible improvements to the compliance process. Further action could also include the amendment of Resolution C-11-07 based on proposals by CPCs or to convene an intersessional meeting aimed at, among other things, identifying improvements to the compliance review process and types of information that would be helpful (as well as revising current information presented to the COR to make it more helpful) for reviewing implementation of IATTC measures. This may include new templates, and automated or online reporting systems and databases that reduce reporting burden for both CPCs and the Secretariat or a ranking of the severity of compliance infractions to guide the activities of the COR.
15. Establish a provisional Compliance Report to which the Commission should outline its response in the final Compliance Report.

Recommendations to the CPCs

16. To ensure that the minimum percentage of observer coverage in longliners is met and recall the importance of data collection to promote the long-term sustainability of the stocks.
17. To encourage the relevant CPCs to notify the Secretariat, at the latest 3 months after the conclusion of the 100th meeting of the Commission, of the conservation measures applicable (i.e., either IATTC or WCPFC ones) for their vessels registered in both organizations and fishing in the overlap area under Recommendation C-12-11.

Recommendations to the Commission

18. To renew Cooperating Non-Member status to Bolivia and Liberia and to defer the decision on the renewal of Indonesia and Chile to the Commission, noting that they did not attend the Committee meeting but that they meet the requirements (COR-13-03). To remind all applicants of the obligation to attend the meetings of the Committee
19. To remove the vessel *Patricia Lynn* from Annex 3 of Document COR-13-04 REV and approve the provisional IUU list, noting the on-going proceedings initiated by Colombia and the commitment by Colombia to report on the status of the investigation at the latest at the 14th meeting of the Committee.
20. To task the IATTC Staff and the SAC with clarifying the most precise reporting metrics (i.e., effective days of fishing vs hooks deployed) in Resolution C-19-08
21. To clarify Resolution C-04-05 and C-05-03 regarding the obligation to retain sharks on-board.
22. To task the WG on FADs with considering and potentially recommending clarifications or revisions to Resolution C-19-01 to facilitate the monitoring of mesh size obligations, the design of the

underwater part or the responsibilities of vessels that have opportunistic interactions with non-compliant FADs.

23. To develop specific measures for repeated offenses by individual vessels in Table 25 of Document COR-13-02.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m. on 30 July 2022.

4c. Report of the 23rd Meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Fleet Capacity

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION
PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON FLEET CAPACITY
23RD MEETING
Phoenix, Arizona, USA
27 July 2022

CHAIR'S REPORT

AGENDA

	Documents
1. Opening of the meeting	
2. Adoption of the agenda	
3. Review of changes in the utilization of fleet capacity in the EPO	CAP-23-01
4. Consultant's report on the proposal to address the management of fishing capacity in the EPO: presentation and discussion of the proposal	
5. Review of pending capacity claims, disputes, adjustments, and requests according to the list presented at the 89 th meeting of the IATTC and referred to in document CAP-17 INF-A REV (14 May 2016)	
6. Recommendations to the Commission	
7. Other business	
8. Adjournment	

The 23rd meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Fleet Capacity was held in Phoenix, Arizona, USA, on 27 July 2022.

1. Opening of the meeting

In the absence of the Chair of the Working Group, Mr. Luis Molledo (European Union), the meeting was opened by the Director *ad interim* of the Commission, Ambassador Jean-François Pulvenis, and, at his suggestion, the Working Group agreed to ask the Chair of the Commission to chair the 23rd meeting, which he accepted.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The Committee adopted the provisional agenda that had been circulated without comments or suggestions.

3. Review of changes in the utilization of fleet capacity in the EPO

The Director *ad interim* briefly recalled the origin and mandate of the Group, initially the limitation on the growth of the purse-seine fleet capacity and, after the entry into force of the Antigua Convention, its reduction. He noted that the Commission had been very successful in limiting the capacity of the purse-seine fleet due to the establishment of the Regional Vessel Register and the adoption of Resolution C-02-03 but had not been successful in limiting the capacity regardless of the adoption in 2005 of a Plan for Regional Management of Fishing Capacity and the numerous efforts and activities that followed the adoption of this plan, for example, exploring the possibility of vessel buyback schemes. While authorized capacity has remained essentially stable in recent years, at 302,863 m³—even though this represents a

somewhat higher figure than the operational capacity (271,723 m³)— the amount of potential capacity, with the total volume of all pending capacity requests listed in document CAP-23-01, would reach 355,530 m³. Hence the importance and urgency of exploring and adopting suitable mechanisms, if not to directly reduce capacity, then to do so indirectly through an alternative approach, for example, as described in the proposal presented by consultant Dr. Dale Squires under agenda item 4.

4. Consultant's report on the proposal to address the management of fishing capacity in the EPO: presentation and discussion of the proposal

Dr. Dale Squires then made a detailed presentation focusing on a proposal to establish a transferable day credit scheme for purse-seine vessels listed in the Regional Vessel Register. Similar to the DML system under the AIDCP, the allocation of transferable days would be made in favor of the CPCs, which would allocate them individually to the vessels in their respective fleet. Day transfers could be made from vessel to vessel. Additionally, a multi-vessel company could freely reallocate the number of transferable days among those vessels, for example, so that best performing and most efficient vessels have a greater number of days.

Dr. Squires emphasized that his proposal was a three-year pilot project, so the Commission could decide whether to continue or modify it based on accumulated experience. The main benefit of the proposed scheme would be eliminating the 72-day closure period and the possibility of fishing year-round, which would also ensure a continuous supply to the processing plants.

From the discussion that followed this presentation stems the need to continue working on the proposal and refining it before it can achieve consensus.

Indeed, several Members raised critical points aimed at the general approach or at particular aspects of the proposal, such as the situation of CPCs that would not have vessels that could receive transferable days; the feasibility of ensuring efficient control and monitoring of how the fishing days would be allocated in practice; the complexity of possible transfers between vessels belonging to different owners (unlike the situation of transfers between vessels belonging to the same company); the implementation of the scheme on fleets with other characteristics such as those fishing on floating objects and those fishing on dolphins. In summary, the main approach of the proposal was criticized for being economic and not considering social and other factors; additionally, its implementation would result in a significant increase in fishing pressure on the resource, in addition to the fact that, ultimately, it does not directly solve the problem of overcapacity in terms of cubic meters of well volume.

For this reason, no final decision was reached on the proposal presented, leaving as pending work, among other things, the elaboration of a draft resolution that would set out very clear regulations, as well as the way to ensure a well-programmed transition from the current scheme to the one that would eventually be adopted.

5. Review of pending capacity claims, disputes, adjustments, and requests according to the list presented at the 89th meeting of the IATTC and referred to in document CAP-17 INF-A REV (14 May 2016)

At the suggestion of the Secretariat, the Working Group first considered two cases that had been submitted for consideration by the Members through memorandums dated 5 July 2022. The first case addressed whether blast freezer rooms should be considered as wells that could be taken into account in the calculation of a vessel's total volume in cubic meters. The second case was on the list of pending cases related to Ecuador's repeated request that this vessel, the Victoria A, be included in the Regional Vessel Register on the list of inactive/sunk vessels. In both cases, the discussion failed to reach a point of agreement and, thus a consensus.

On the other hand, some delegations stressed that, in their view, it was necessary to consider all pending

cases in no order of priority, and several of them reiterated the requests they had already submitted, some of them on several occasions. Statements were also made by Peru, Costa Rica, Colombia, Venezuela, Nicaragua, Vanuatu, and Bolivia, which led other delegations to recall that no capacity should be allocated without establishing the plan for the management of fleet capacity which has been a work in progress for several years.

6. Recommendations to the Commission

In conclusion, the Working Group did not adopt any specific recommendation other than the overall recommendation to continue exploring a satisfactory mechanism to reduce capacity directly or indirectly, including through a draft resolution establishing clear regulations. The Group also called for a future review of only those requests already submitted and included in the list contained in document CAP-23-01 and to take into account the reiteration by Bolivia of its request which is not included on this list.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 13:30 on 27 July 2022.

4d. Recommendations of the 6th Meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on FADs

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

AD-HOC PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON FADS

6TH MEETING

(by videoconference)

12-13 May 2022

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Working Group on FADs recommends:

1.1. Biodegradable FADs:

- (a) to encourage harmonization across t-RFMOs, as much as possible, of the definition of biodegradable FADs, of guidelines and timeline for their construction and implementation, as well as of data collection priorities.
- (b) that the following definition of “biodegradable” be considered; “*Biodegradable: Non-synthetic materials¹ and/or bio-based alternatives that are consistent with international standards² for materials that are biodegradable in marine environments. The components resulting from the degradation of these materials should not be damaging to the marine and coastal ecosystems or include heavy metals or plastics in their composition.*”
- (c) to recognize:
 - i. the need of further large-scale sea trials on an ongoing basis, in order to refine important practical/technical aspects of full implementation of biodegradable FADs (e.g., durability, designs, material availability and acquisition);
 - ii. that, ideally, these trials should be monitored and conducted in collaboration with scientists.
- (d) that fishers supported by shipowners continue trialing bioFAD designs in a continued effort, deploying systematically a percentage of their FADs made of biodegradable materials from 2023 on;
- (e) that the results of biodegradable trials at sea should be made available to the FAD WG;
- (f) to consider a gradual, stepwise process for the implementation of fully biodegradable FADs based on the current state of the art of materials available and on the result of field tests;
- (g) to consider the following categories in this gradual implementation process, in the understanding that the respective definitions do not apply the electronic buoys that are attached to FADs in order to track them and that the categories are preliminary and will be examined by the IATTC scientific staff before their presentation to the Commission:
 - i. Category I. The FAD is made of 100% biodegradable materials.
 - ii. Category II. The FAD is made of 100% biodegradable materials except for plastic-

¹ For example, plant-based materials such as cotton, jute, manila hemp (abaca), bamboo, or animal-based such as leather, wool, lard.

² International standards such as ASTM D6691, D7881, TUV Austria, European or any such standards approved by the Members of the IATTC

based flotation components (e.g., plastic buoys, foam, purse-seine corks).

- iii. Category III. The subsurface part of the FAD is made of 100% biodegradable materials, whereas the surface part and any flotation components contain non-biodegradable materials (e.g., synthetic raffia, metallic frame, plastic floats, nylon ropes).
 - iv. Category IV. The subsurface part of the FAD contains non-biodegradable materials, whereas the surface part is made of 100% biodegradable materials, except for, possibly, flotation components.
 - v. Category V. The surface and subsurface parts of the FAD contain non-biodegradable materials.
- (h) that, within the gradual process of biodegradable FAD implementation, designs try to reduce, as much as possible, the amount of material used, and the non-biodegradable fraction used in their construction;
 - (i) that IATTC data collection methods and tools, including fisheries observer data, be revised as needed, so that the gradual implementation of biodegradable FADs in the EPO can be effectively monitored;
 - (j) that motivating incentives be established, without affecting the fishing effort, in order to encourage the replacement of current FADs with biodegradable FADs.

1.2. Non-entangling FADs: that the following definition be considered for non-entangling FADs: “A FAD that does not include any netting materials for any part of the FAD including both the surface structure (e.g., raft) and subsurface structure (e.g., tail)”.

1.3. FAD data reporting:

- (a) when a CPC has difficulties in reporting the full details described in Annex II and III of Resolution C-21-04 (i.e., deactivations and remote reactivations),
 - i. that this CPC report these data on a temporary basis, using a simplified form to be prepared by the IATTC staff and to be posted on the commission website when available; and
 - ii. that this simplified form contain the following elements: date, buoy code and reason for the reactivation of deactivation
- (b) that the CPCs be encouraged to provide to the IATTC. staff the historic, raw buoy data collected prior to January 1, 2022, and received by original users (i.e., vessels, fishing companies), including both trajectories and acoustic information.

Annex 5. Other

5a. Bolivia statement on capacity request

Ministry of Defense Plurinational State of Bolivia

Statement by the Plurinational State of Bolivia before the 100th meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)

The Plurinational State of Bolivia, in its capacity as a Cooperating Non-Member of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, participates by videoconference as an observer at the 100th meeting, held in hybrid format, and submits to the Plenary a statement which reads as follows:

First of all, Bolivia wishes to remind Members of the Commission of its claim, which it has consistently, permanently and uninterruptedly maintained since 2004, for five thousand eight hundred and thirty cubic meters (5,830 m³) of well volume, which it requests to be restored with new capacity, in a similar manner to the solution coined for the Republic of Guatemala in 2017.

Secondly, Bolivia reiterates its sincere willingness to accept a provisional compromise solution, consisting in the activation of two thousand four hundred and thirty-nine cubic meters (2,439 m³), authorizing new well volume. This solution would allow to start correcting an unfortunate and unfair situation, based on equity as a source of international law and inspired by the clear precedent that made possible, in 2017, an acceptable solution for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

Finally, Bolivia reiterates its 2019 request for the allocation of five thousand cubic meters (5,000 m³) of additional well volume, of new capacity, requesting again that it be considered alongside requests made by other CPCs so that it can be honored when the status of the fisheries is in a position to support increased capacity of the surface fleet.

The basis for Bolivia's three requests lies on its long-standing and permanent interest, which was once significant, in the tropical tuna fisheries covered by the Commission, supported by the subjective rights it is entitled to as a landlocked State under international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982, a geographical and legal circumstance that places it on par with developing coastal States with respect to its special needs. Bolivia invokes its rights to an equitable access to living marine resources, which allows it to pursue its development, while fully exercising its historic and inalienable maritime vocation.

This statement is submitted especially for the purposes recognized by international law and is intended to be attached to the minutes of the meeting.

Issued in the city of Nuestra Señora de La Paz, Department of La Paz, Plurinational State of Bolivia, submitted electronically and read by videoconference at the 100th meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, held in Phoenix, Arizona, United States of America, on 5 August 2022.