

AGREEMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM

19TH MEETING OF THE PARTIES

PANAMA CITY (PANAMA)
18 JUNE 2008

DOCUMENT MOP-19-07

CLARIFICATION OF VESSEL ASSESSMENTS

A few issues have arisen in the implementation of the Resolution [A-06-01](#) on vessel assessments and financing which need clarification.

1. The Resolution needs updating for technical reasons. The Secretariat suggests that paragraphs 1 and 2 be amended to delete the words struck out in Appendix A and replace them with the underlined text. This will clarify the intent of the Resolution regarding the collection of assessments after the dates noted in the Resolution.
2. If a vessel is added to the IATTC Regional Vessel Register during the year, it has been the practice of the Secretariat to charge that vessel the required annual assessment. If a vessel does not fish during the year in which it is added to the Register, should it be eligible for a reimbursement of the amount it has paid, minus the assessment required of the vessel as inactive, or be eligible to have this net amount applied towards the following year's assessment?
3. It has been agreed by the Parties that vessels should pay all costs related to embarking or disembarking observers outside the Agreement Area (west of 150°W), and the Secretariat is implementing this decision by charging vessels for transportation and other costs associated with observers travelling to and from the eastern Pacific region. One of the costs is visas, which need to be obtained in advance; without visas, the logistics of repatriating observers are extremely complicated, and can be expensive. The Secretariat proposes to charge the cost of a visa to the first vessel that is assigned an observer who needs a visa.

Appendix A.

RESOLUTION A-06-01

RESOLUTION ON VESSEL ASSESSMENTS AND FINANCING

The Parties to the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program:

Notwithstanding the relevant provisions of *Resolution A-02-03 on financing the IDCP* of 10 October 2002;

Agree to implement Annex II.12 of the AIDCP as follows:

1. The assessments for those vessels whose well volume has been provided to the Secretariat by 1 August of any given year ~~17 June 2006 and included in the IATTC Regional Vessel Register~~, shall be based on the vessel's verified well volume.¹
2. The assessments for those vessels whose well volume has not been provided to the Secretariat by 1 August of any given year ~~17 June 2006 and included in the IATTC Regional Vessel Register~~, shall be based on the vessel's well volume as calculated by multiplying its carrying capacity, in metric tons, on the Register by a factor of 1.4.
3. All payments for vessels required by the AIDCP to carry observers shall be based on assessments of US\$ 14.95 per cubic meter of well volume, in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Resolution.
4. Payments for vessels with a carrying capacity greater than 363 metric tons on the *Inactive and Sunk Purse-Seine Capacity List* of the Register shall be based on an assessment of US\$1.00 per cubic meter of well volume, in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Resolution.
5. Payments for all vessels contemplated in paragraph 3 that request a DML for a given year shall be made by October 1 of the preceding year, pursuant to the AIDCP.
6. Payments for all vessels contemplated in paragraph 3 that do not request a DML for a given year shall be made by December 1 of the preceding year.
7. Payments for any of the vessels contemplated in paragraph 12 of IATTC *Resolution C-02-03 on the capacity of the tuna fleet operating in the eastern Pacific Ocean of June 2002* that may fish in the EPO shall be made on the basis of the rate established for vessels covered in paragraph 3 of this resolution before entering the EPO to fish.
8. Payments for any vessel contemplated in paragraph 4 shall be made by December 1 of the preceding year.
9. Any required payment for a vessel that is not made by the corresponding date shall be increased by a surcharge of 10% of the assessment, additional to any sanction contemplated in Annex IV of the AIDCP.
10. Unless the Parties decide otherwise, the annual increase in the fixed costs of the IDCP shall not increase by more than the rate of inflation in the United States of America in the previous year.

¹ Until the case of the vessel *Marta Lucía R* is resolved regarding its relationship to the IATTC Regional Vessel Register, its well volume will be that documented with the Secretariat in accordance with the procedures of the *ad hoc* well volume review group. This arrangement will be reviewed at the Meeting of the Parties in June 2007.