

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

102ND MEETING

Panama City, Panama
2-6 September 2024

PROPOSAL IATTC-102 D-2 REV 1

SUBMITTED BY JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES, CHINESE TAIPEI AND MEXICO

PROPOSAL ON A RESOLUTION ON MONITORING AND CONTROL MEASURES FOR THE BLUEFIN TUNA FISHERY IN THE EPO

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Japan proposes a new framework to strengthen monitoring, control and surveillance measures (MCS measures) for Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and farming, in order to ensure the proper implementation of the conservation and management measure of Pacific bluefin tuna established by Resolution C-21-05.

The proposed framework consists of two components: 1) reporting requirements on the implementation of MCS measures that have been taken by each CPC, and 2) establishment of review process by the joint IATTC-WCPFC NC Working Group of the reports submitted by CCMs to consider necessary revisions of the relevant Resolutions with a view to enhancing harmonized MCS measures for Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and farms.

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered on the occasion of its 102nd Meeting:

Taking into account that the stock of Pacific bluefin tuna is caught in both the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) and the Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO);

Recalling the outcomes of the 9th session of Joint IATTC-WCPFC Northern Committee (NC) Working Group meetings;

Noting that, Resolution C-21-05 establishes measures for the conservation and management of Pacific bluefin tuna including biennial catch limit of Pacific bluefin tuna,

Resolves as follows:

Objectives

1. The purpose of this Resolution is to establish a regime for the monitoring and control of the conservation and management of the Pacific bluefin tuna fishery in the EPO set out in Resolution C-24-xx.

~~2.~~ Each CPC that has Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and/or farming shall report to the Executive Secretary by 15 June each year on the implementation of its monitoring and control measures it has taken in the previous calendar year to ensure its compliance with Resolution C-~~21-05~~24-xx that include the following components:

(1) Monitoring and control measures for fisheries

a. Registration of commercial fishing vessels ~~and~~ in the IATTC Vessel Registry in accordance with Resolution C-18-06 on the Regional Vessel Register

~~a.~~b. Registration of set nets that are authorized to fish for Pacific bluefin tuna (e.g. registration scheme, number of registered set nets)

~~b.~~c. Allocation of catch limits by fishery within the ~~CCMs, as appropriate~~ CPCs, where such allocation exist

- ~~e~~.d. Reporting requirements for catches for fisheries (targeted, incidental, and discards), including Resolution C-03-05 on data provision
- ~~e~~.e. Measures to monitor catch (e.g. landing receipts, landing inspection, observer program, etc.)
- f. Measures to monitor landings, including Resolution C-21-07 on port state measures
- ~~e~~.g. Measures to monitor domestic transactions

(2) Monitoring and control measures for farming

- a. Registration of farms that are authorized to farm Pacific bluefin tuna (e.g. registration scheme, number of registered farms, number of registered 'holding pens' or 'cages')
- b. Reporting requirements for caging of fish
- c. Reporting requirements for harvest of farmed fish
- d. Measures to monitor ~~farmed fish (e.g. stereovideo camera~~ farming activities (e.g. Rules, standards, and procedures to monitor transfer and caging activities)

3. ~~The Joint IATTC-WCPFC NC Working Group~~ CPCs that do not have Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and/or farming, shall report to the IATTC Secretariat annually any by-catches of Pacific bluefin tuna under footnote 1 of Resolution C-24-XX.

Review

4. The Committee for the Review of Implementation of Measures Adopted by the Commission (COR) shall review the implementation of monitoring, control and surveillance measures reported by CPCs in accordance with ~~paragraph 1 and the outcomes of the review~~ this Resolution. The COR shall ~~be reported~~ receive any considerations from the Joint IATTC-WCPFC NC Working Group on the implementation of this Resolution and provide recommendations to the ~~IATTC for their consideration~~ Commission, including on ~~necessary revisions of IATTC~~ possible amendments to this Resolution and Resolution C-24-XX on measures for the conservation and management of Pacific bluefin tuna.

5. CPCs shall coordinate with the WCPFC through the Joint IATTC-WCPFC NC and discuss any additional MCS measures, as appropriate, at their upcoming meetings, consistent with its other objectives outlined in Resolution C-16-03 on Pacific bluefin tuna.

Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS)

6. IATTC shall establish a catch documentation scheme (CDS) for Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries in the EPO compatible with other CDSs for Pacific bluefin tuna by 31 December 2026. This CDS should build, inter alia, on the outcomes of the Joint IATTC-WCPFC Northern Committee Working Group.