

**INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION**

**WORKING GROUP ON BYCATCH**

**TENTH MEETING**

*(by videoconference)*

05 May 2021

**10th Meeting of the Bycatch Working Group  
Draft Recommendations to the SAC**

1. That IATTC staff host a virtual workshop prior to its 11th meeting to analyze scientific information regarding different circle hooks sizes and their effectiveness at mitigating on bycatch and target species with the specific goal of defining the characteristics of an adequate hook for the purpose of mitigating bycatch of sea turtles in accordance with Resolution C-19-04.
2. That IATTC staff, based on Resolution C-19-08, consider a work plan to gradually increase the coverage of longline observers to 20% on vessels >20 m LOA.
3. To consider procedures to complement the existing observers system by implementing electronic monitoring (EMS) to be gradually incorporated over time, as appropriate according to regional fleet standards.
4. That the IATTC adopt a provisional Terms of Reference for the next workshop on electronic monitoring (EMS), as well as the adoption of a Work Plan, aimed at adopting definitions and minimum standards for EMS (installation, minimal data, image review, etc.)
5. That CPCs with missing or unavailable longline observer data, as described in document BYC-10 INF-D, provide additional information to IATTC staff explaining the way and timeframe when such CPCs shall improve data provision.
6. To encourage further research on methods of handling and releasing of elasmobranchs (sharks, mantas, rays) from purse-seine vessels to maximize the survival of bycatch species, through structural changes aimed at good management practices.