

INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM
WORKING GROUP ON VESSEL ASSESSMENTS AND FINANCING
MINUTES OF THE 3RD MEETING (REVISED)

La Jolla, California (USA)
17-18 February 2005

AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Election of Chairman
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Review of Resolution A-03-01 on financing the IDCP
5. Review of AIDCP budget for 2005
6. Status of AIDCP finances for 2005 and beyond
7. Actions necessary to adequately fund the IDCP
8. Possible modifications to the current system for calculating vessel assessments
9. Recommendations for the Meeting of the Parties
10. Other business
11. Date and place of next meeting
12. Adjournment

Documents

[VA-3-05](#)

[VA-3-06](#)

APPENDICES

1. List of attendees
2. Procedures for verifying vessel well volumes

1. Opening of the meeting

Dr. Robin Allen, Director of the IATTC, which provides the Secretariat for the AIDCP, declared the meeting open.

2. Election of Chairman

Ms. Allison Routt, of the United States, was elected to chair the meeting.

3. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda was approved as presented.

4. Review of Resolution A-03-01 on financing the IDCP

Dr. Allen reviewed the implementation of [Resolution A-03-01](#) on vessel assessments and financing. Following his presentation, the Working Group engaged in a discussion of the intent of the first paragraph of the resolution, which states that “. . . until the measurement of well volume agreed by the IRP at its

30th meeting in June 2002 is completed, a factor of 1.4 will be applied to convert the carrying capacity, in metric tons, of all purse-seine vessels on the IATTC Regional Vessel Register (the Register) to well volume, in cubic meters.”

Mexico expressed its view that vessels that have been measured should be assessed based on that measurement rather than using the 1.4 conversion factor.

Other delegations recognized that Mexico’s view seemed equitable, but noted their belief that the resolution calls for continuing the use of the 1.4 conversion factor until a reliable well volume is available for every vessel in the entire purse-seine fleet fishing in the eastern Pacific Ocean.

5. Review of AIDCP budget for 2005

Under this agenda item Dr. Allen presented Document [VA-3-05](#), which describes and explains the invoices sent to the Parties for the 2005 vessel assessments, including the surcharges for late payments.

Mexico expressed its view that surcharges should not apply to its fleet because Mexico does not accept using the conversion factor in the calculation of vessel fees. Mexico also stated that it does not believe that the resolution requires class 5 and smaller vessels to pay any vessel assessments for 2005.

The European Union again called for the full respect of the Finance Resolution, as this had been agreed by all Parties in 2001.

6. Status of AIDCP finances for 2005 and beyond

Dr. Allen presented Document [VA-3-06](#), which describes the background and history of the AIDCP vessel assessments, and provides detailed information on program costs and revenues, as well as the projected deficits for 2005 and 2006.

The document includes several recommendations by the Secretariat, including a proposal that vessel assessments for 2006 be increased by 13 percent. The Secretariat also recommended that the costs of the Secretariat’s participation in any trial sets be paid by vessel owners, and that the Working Group propose a timetable for completing the exercise of measuring the well volumes and using the results as the basis for calculating vessel assessments. The Working Group rejected the proposal to recover the costs of the Secretariat’s participation in trial sets from the vessel owners.

Mexico expressed its concern over the increasingly high costs of salaries for on-board observers.

7. Actions necessary to adequately fund the IDCP, and

8. Possible modifications to the current system for calculating vessel assessments

These two agenda items were discussed together. There was a consensus among the participants that the best way to proceed would be to expedite the completion of the vessel measurement process agreed by the International Review Panel (IRP) at its 30th meeting in June 2002. To this end, a small drafting group was formed which produced a proposal for consideration by the meeting. After some discussion and modification of the proposal, the Working Group adopted the document, entitled *Procedures for verifying vessel well volumes* (Appendix 2).

In addition to setting forth a procedure for completing the measurement process, the document includes Working Group recommendations for the IRP with respect to the calculation of vessel assessments for 2006 and subsequent years.

9. Recommendations for the Meeting of the Parties

The Working Group recommended that the IRP endorse the procedures and recommendations set forth in the *Procedures for verifying vessel well volumes*.

10. Other business

Ecuador raised the matter of the 2005 vessel assessment fee owed by two of its flag vessels, the *Ugavi* and the *Ugavi Dos*. As explained by the Ecuadorian delegation, the well volume of these vessels had been properly measured and should pay on that basis, not on the basis of a calculated volume based on tonnage. The vessel owner had paid on the basis of the vessels' measured well volume, but had been refused an observer by the Secretariat. After discussing the matter, the Working Group decided that the vessels should be assigned observers on the basis on what had been paid, and if it is later determined by the IRP that an additional amount is owed, that amount should be paid by the vessel owner.

11. Date and place of next meeting

Another meeting of the Working Group was not scheduled.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on 18 February 2005.

Appendix 1.

**INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM
PROGRAMA INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACIÓN DE LOS DELFINES
WORKING GROUP ON VESSEL ASSESSMENTS AND FINANCING
GRUPO DE TRABAJO SOBRE CUOTAS DE BUQUES Y FINANCIAMIENTO**

3rd MEETING – 3^a REUNIÓN

17-18 FEB 2005

La Jolla, California (USA)

ATTENDEES – ASISTENTES

BOLIVIA

HANS BELLOTA
JAVIER ROCA

Dirección General de Intereses Marítimos

COLOMBIA

LUIS R. PAREDES
Ministerio de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural
ARTURO VEGA
INCODER

ARMANDO HERNÁNDEZ
Programa Nacional de Observadores

ECUADOR

IVÁN PRIETO
Ministerio de Comercio Exterior, Industrialización,
Pesca y Competitividad

BRUNO LEONE
RAFAEL TRUJILLO
ELISEO VILLAR

EL SALVADOR

SONIA SALAVERRÍA
Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería

MANUEL CALVO

EUROPEAN UNION - UNION EUROPEA

ALAN GRAY
European Commission
CARLOS ALDEREGUÍA
ELISA BARAHONA
Secretaría General de Pesca
JAVIER ARÍZ TELLERÍA
Instituto Español de Oceanografía

AMOR SOLÁ
Embajada de España en Washington
GONZALO PRAT
IMANOL LOINAZ

GUATEMALA

NICOLÁS ACEVEDO
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Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación

MEXICO

MARIO AGUILAR
RICARDO BELMONTES
CARLOS LUKEN
CONAPESCA
GUILLERMO COMPEÁN
MICHEL DREYFUS
LUIS FLEISCHER
Instituto Nacional de la Pesca

LUIS FUEYO
SEMARNAT/PROFEPA

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MARIO CALLEJAS
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MIGUEL A. MARENCO
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GEORGE NOVEY
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA

DAVID HOGAN
JAMES STORY
Department of State
OTHA EASLEY
JESSICA KONDEL
ALLISON ROUTH
JEREMY RUSIN
National Marine Fisheries Service

DAVID BURNEY
SUSAN JACKSON
ROBERT FLETCHER
PETER FLOURNOY
CHARLES HART
JOHN ZUANICH

VANUATU

DAVID JOHNSON
ISMAEL MOREU
Vanuatu Monitoring and Management Services Ltd.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS - ORGANIZACIONES NO GUBERNAMENTALES

CRISTOBEL BLOCK
The Humane Society
NINA YOUNG
The Ocean Conservancy

HÉCTOR LÓPEZ
FUNDATUN

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS – ORGANIZACIONES INTERNACIONALES

RICARDO MENESES
Corredor Marino de Conservación del Pacífico

TUNA INDUSTRY – INDUSTRIA ATUNERA

ERNESTO ESCOBAR
PAUL KRAMPE

RAMÓN MONTAÑO
JULIO MORÓN

SECRETARIAT - SECRETARÍA

ROBIN ALLEN, Director
ALEJANDRA FERREIRA
MÓNICA GALVÁN
JOSHUE GROSS

BRIAN HALLMAN
NORA ROA-WADE
NICHOLAS WEBB

Appendix 2.

**PROGRAMA INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACIÓN DE LOS DELFINES
INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM**

PANEL INTERNACIONAL DE REVISIÓN - INTERNATIONAL REVIEW PANEL

**GRUPO DE TRABAJO SOBRE CUOTAS DE BUQUES Y FINANCIAMIENTO
WORKING GROUP ON VESSEL ASSESSMENTS AND FINANCING**

3ª REUNION -- 3rd MEETING

LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA (USA)
17-18 FEB 2005

PROCEDURES FOR VERIFYING VESSEL WELL VOLUMES

All vessels covered by the AIDCP whose well volume in cubic meters has not yet been documented are subject to the following procedures:

1. As soon as possible, the owner of the vessel shall provide to the flag government documentation that verifies the well volume of the vessel, in cubic meters, certified by a duly qualified entity, company or person;
2. By 2 April 2005, each government shall provide this documentation to the Secretariat.

From 25 to 28 April 2005, an *ad hoc* review group, consisting of representatives of the Parties to the AIDCP, with a limit of two delegates per Party, shall meet to review the well volumes, in cubic meters, of all vessels covered by the AIDCP, and, on the basis of the documentation provided and any other relevant documentation held by the Secretariat, identify possible inconsistencies. For this purpose, the members of the group will need to have access to data on the maximum unloadings of the vessels, which are normally considered confidential.

Cases of possible inconsistencies shall be reviewed individually, and any case that cannot be resolved by the *ad hoc* group shall be reviewed and resolved by an independent company. The cost of this review shall be charged to the vessel.

The *ad hoc* group will report the results of this review process to the IRP.

The Working Group recommends to the IRP that:

1. Any vessel whose documentation has been verified in accordance with these procedures shall pay its annual assessments for 2006 and subsequent years on the basis of its documented well volume, in cubic meters. The annual assessment of any vessel that does not present the required documentation by the specified date, or does not have its well volume in cubic meters verified in accordance with these procedures, shall be calculated by multiplying its carrying capacity recorded in the IATTC Regional Vessel Register by a factor of 1.4.
2. Any vessel covered by the AIDCP that enters the fishery shall be required to present to the Secretariat, for review by the IRP, documentation that verifies the well volume of the vessel, in cubic meters, certified by a duly qualified entity, company or person.